
A competition of Crooked Deeds

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Biographical notes: Rita Koyame-Marsh holds a PhD in Economics. She is currently working as an Associate Professor in the College of Business at Prince Mohammad Bin Fahd University, Al Khobar, Saudi Arabia. Her interest in current global events guides the theoretical direction of her poetry. She is particularly interested in the matters of corruption, poverty, good governance, and economic growth.

'A governing body of an international sport

'Is corrupt,' say news headlines

*'In charge of a global competition of rules, That they turn into a lawless
operation.'*

Sports executives broke all the rules,

Rules of transparency, Rules of ethics,

And the simple rule of decency

As they plotted in darkness,

And hid their shameful crooked deeds

'A global competition of transparency

*Became a competition of corruption,' say news headlines 'Two decades of
corruption,*

Two decades of bribes.'

Bribes paid in exchange for votes,

Votes to win the bidding process

And become the next global sport destination

Bribes paid in exchange for media rights,

Rights to market and broadcast tournaments

And make millions of dollars in advertising fees.

'A global competition of enjoyment

*Became a competition of greed,' say news headlines 'Millions of dollars in
paid bribes,*

Millions of dollars in tax evasion,

Millions of dollars in hidden bank accounts,

*So sports executives can satisfy their insatiable greed for Bigger houses, better
cars, and stylish vacation homes.'*

'A global competition of integrity

Became a cup of deception

Run by a criminal enterprise,' say news headlines

'What the heck?' wonder sports fans.

*'Two decades of fraud, can't believe it,' they say. 'How did the corruption
start?' they ask.*

'Who paid the first bribe?' 'Who accepted the first bribe?'

'We must weed out corruption

*And fraud from this wonderful sport,' Says the American Justice Department,
'The culprits must be arrested, Extradited to the United States*

And face their alleged crimes.'

*'Changes must be made,' says the global community 'Internal governing
process must be reformed,'*

*'An external third party monitoring system must be established.' 'It's only then
that corruption*

And fraud could be eradicated from this sport.'

Then, there will be

No more bribes,

No more hidden bank accounts,

But only decent global citizens,

Sharing good times,

And enjoying a fraud-free global competition.