## THE CONCEPT AND PRACTICE OF *DIAKONIA* IN THE NEW TESTAMENT AND ITS IMPLICATIONS IN THE ZIMBABWEAN CONTEXT

BY

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THESIS SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES, CLASSICS AND PHILOSOPHY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ZIMBABWE IN FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

DEDICATED TO MY MATERNAL GRANDMOTHER, THE LATE MRS P. ZINHUKA, A LIFE- TIME MEMBER OF THE RCZ.