

The 15th Annual

Peace, Safety and Human Rights Memorial Lecture

Hosted by the College of
Human Sciences and its
Institute for Social and
Health Sciences in
collaboration with the
Psychological Society of
South Africa, the
Pan-African Psychology
Union and the
Apartheid-Era Victims'
Families Group

Panellists:

Alegria Kutsaka Nyoka,
Imtiaz Ahmed Cajee and
Motheba Unathi Mohapi from the
Apartheid-Era Victims' Families
Group (AVFG)

Why the Lecture?

The Peace, Safety and Human Rights Memorial Lecture Series (in memory of the late Minister Abdulah Omar and Mr Joe Moabi) is an annual event, which has been endorsed by the Omar and Moabi families. The Lecture Series seeks to highlight the new frontiers and challenges facing the culture of democracy, peace, safety and human rights in South Africa and globally. Abdulah Omar and Joe Moabi fought a vigilant and uncompromising war against inequality and oppression. Their legacies remind us that the fight against oppression and tyranny is never over and that we are required to constantly renew our commitment to the cause of development equality and freedom. The Annual Lecture Series has been forged in the flames of their legacies, and as such, seeks to emblazon the agencies of peace, safety, human rights and social justice for all. The Series aims to deepen our understanding of freedom and prepare us meaningfully to implement the ideals of democracy.



Alegria Kutsaka Nyoka

Alegria is the elder sister of student Activist Caiphus Nyoka who was brutally killed on 24 August 1987 by the apartheid security forces at his parents' home in Daveyton, East Rand. Their father, Abednego Moses Nyoka, was bitterly disappointed that the inquest proceedings in 1988 found no one responsible for his son's death. Mr Nyoka passed away in 1992 without getting justice for his son. As the elder sister, Alegria took over the baton and represented the family at the Truth and Reconciliation Commission hearings in Benoni in 1997. The family was perturbed that the Truth and Reconciliation Commission failed to provide any details of Caiphus' killers and he was declared just another victim of apartheid atrocities. The Nyoka family continues to seek justice for Caiphus and would like answers to several questions. Why was Caiphus not arrested if the Security Police had information that he had explosives in his possession? Why was he silenced before he revealed his alleged sources? How many times was he shot? One of his killers, Sgt Marais, confessed to the murder in a newspaper in 2019. Why has the State taken so long to charge Marais? The family, community and the country demand that those responsible are held accountable for the cold-blooded killing of Caiphus Nyoka.



Imtiaz Ahmed Cajee



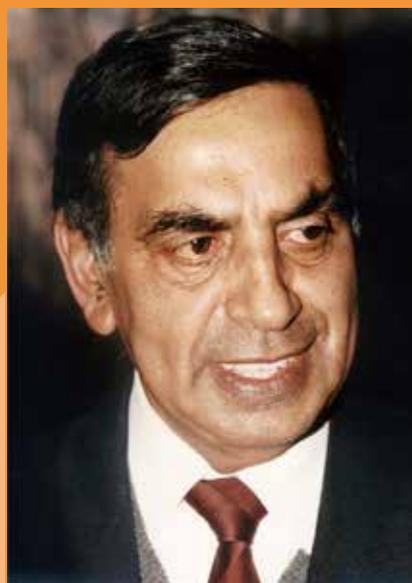
Imtiaz Ahmed Cajee was five years old when his uncle Ahmed Timol was killed in police detention in October 1971. Visiting his grandmother during the school holidays, Ahmed would engage with her about what happened to his uncle Ahmed. From the newspaper cuttings that the family kept and the findings of the subsequent inquest held in 1972, Cajee pieced together a picture of his uncle. In 2005, he published a biography on his uncle titled, *Timol, Quest for Justice*. In 2020, his second book *The Murder of Ahmed Timol, My Search for the Truth*, was published. Cajee disputes the police's account that his uncle was arrested by chance at a police roadblock. He also compares the 1972 inquest findings to those of the 2017 inquest that ruled that Timol did not commit suicide but was murdered in police custody. The legal

team for Timol's murder accused, Joao Rodrigues, has petitioned the Supreme Court of Appeal (SCA) to overturn the 2019 ruling that dismissed his application for a permanent stay of prosecution. A ruling from the SCA is pending. Cajee is now working with other families demanding truth and justice for all martyrs killed by the apartheid regime. Together they have formed the Apartheid-Era Victims Family Group to represent the voices of these families.

Motheba Unathi Mohapi

Motheba Mohapi is the eldest daughter of Mapetla Frank Mohapi, a political activist who died in detention in 1976. Motheba was two years old when her father died and as such has no memory of him. She remembers frequent raids at their home by "the system" (the police of the time, mainly white). She also remembers staying with different aunts before the age of six due to her mother's detainment. Motheba's mother was the first person to testify at the Eastern Cape leg of the TRC. However, the inquest into her father's death found that no one was responsible. As a family, the Mohapi's had hoped that the TRC process would provide some answers about Mapetla's death. If the perpetrator had come forward and shown remorse, the family might have been able to forgive them and find peace. Instead, they have found that it is difficult to forgive someone who does not seek forgiveness. Inspired by the Ahmed Timol case, the Mohapi family's hope and their quest for the truth have been renewed. Motheba and her family would like their father's inquest to be reopened, and the perpetrators to be brought to justice. Their father did not kill himself; he was killed. History must record this correctly and justice must be served.





Dullah Omar

Abdulah Mohamed Omar actively championed the cause of freedom and quality in South Africa for 49 years. He survived harassment and persecution from the apartheid state, served as a defence lawyer for numerous banned organisations and political prisoners, including Nelson Mandela, and played a central role in the ANC delegation that ultimately negotiated a constitutional and political gateway to a democratic and free South Africa. Abdulah Omar was born on 26 May 1934 into a poor family of 11 children. At the time the Conservative United Party, through an oppressive system, formalised into the racist nationalist government that Abdulah Omar would challenge and defeat in the years to come, ruled South Africa. In secondary school, Ben Kies, an English teacher who mentored the young Omar, influenced his political activism. Abdulah Omar went on to become an advocate. In 1957, Abdulah Omar received his LLB through the University of Cape Town. His university years (1953 - 1957) were marked by participation in the New Era Fellowship, a group affiliated to the non-European Unity Movement. In 1960, Abdulah Omar was admitted as an attorney. Twenty-two years later, he was admitted as an advocate of the Supreme Court.

An 'illegal' partnership with a black lawyer, Cadoc Kobus, and a Group Areas Act permit to practice in the Langa Township signaled the beginning of Mr Omar's distinguished career. During the course of his career, Mr. Omar represented the Pan Africanist Congress, prominent members of the African National Congress, and various progressive trade unions, religious and civic organisations. He was often required to take trips to Robben Island where he provided legal counsel, friendships and news from home for his incarcerated colleagues. In his autobiography, Nelson Mandela speaks of awaiting news about the serious car accident his wife had been involved. Abdulah Omar was able to communicate this information on one of his trips, which greatly relieved an anxious husband. When negotiations began for the release of Nelson Mandela, Abdulah Omar was his spokesperson.



In 1983, Abdulah Omar began working with the United Democratic Front (UDF), which resulted in him being restricted to operating within the Wynberg magisterial district. He was also banned from attending any political gathering where the government was criticised. This did not prevent his election to the chair of the UDF in the Western Cape in July 1987. His steady leadership provided the platform from which to reject vocally the tricameral parliamentary system. Abdulah Omar famously stated that working with the tricameral system was like trying to "cross the river on the back of a crocodile".

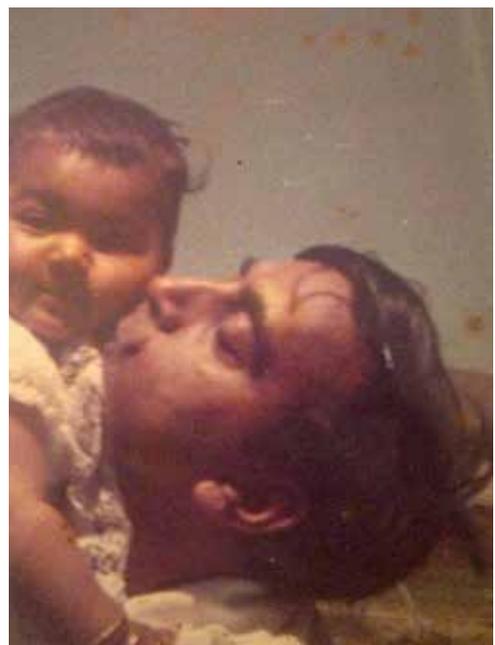


In the same year, Abdulah Omar was elected as the Vice-President of the National Association of Democratic Lawyers, an organisation he helped form. Although he was offered the presidency of this organisation, he turned it down, believing that a black African should take the leadership role. Pius Langa, South Africa's second Chief Justice of the Constitutional Court, assumed the presidency role. Three years later, Abdulah Omar was appointed head of the newly-formed Community Law Centre at the University of the Western Cape. This Centre had close ties with the African National Congress, and much of the legal research that helped shape the Constitution was conducted under the guidance of Abdulah Omar in his capacity as its director. A year later, after having been appointed as an African National Congress National Executive Committee member, he worked on the constitutional committee and was part of the negotiation team that forged the way for a democratic South Africa.



In 1994, Abdulah Omar was appointed by President Nelson Mandela as the first Minister of Justice in democratic South Africa. This daunting portfolio required a complete overhaul of the intelligence services, the fragmented judicial system and the inconceivably damaged social, psychological and political landscape of post-apartheid South Africa. Minister Omar addressed these challenges by establishing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the Judicial Service Commission, the Human Rights Commission, the Office of the Public Protector, and a unified Department of Justice that served all South Africans. In 1999, Minister Omar was appointed as the Minister of Transport in President Mbeki's cabinet. As with the justice system, the transport system also received an overhaul under Abdulah Omar's steady guidance. This took the form of institutional transformation, traffic safety, regulation of the mini-bus taxi industry and improved infrastructure.

Abdulah Omar was a dedicated family man, a loving husband, father and grandfather. Abdulah Omar died on 13 March 2004, after fighting a long battle with Hodgkin's disease. His wife, Farieda, his daughter, Fazlin, and sons, Kamal and Rustum, survive him. Abdulah Omar is remembered for his tireless struggle for justice, democracy and human rights for all South Africans. He transformed South Africa with a spirit of reconciliatory justice and a humble dedication to freeing the most vulnerable and oppressed of society.





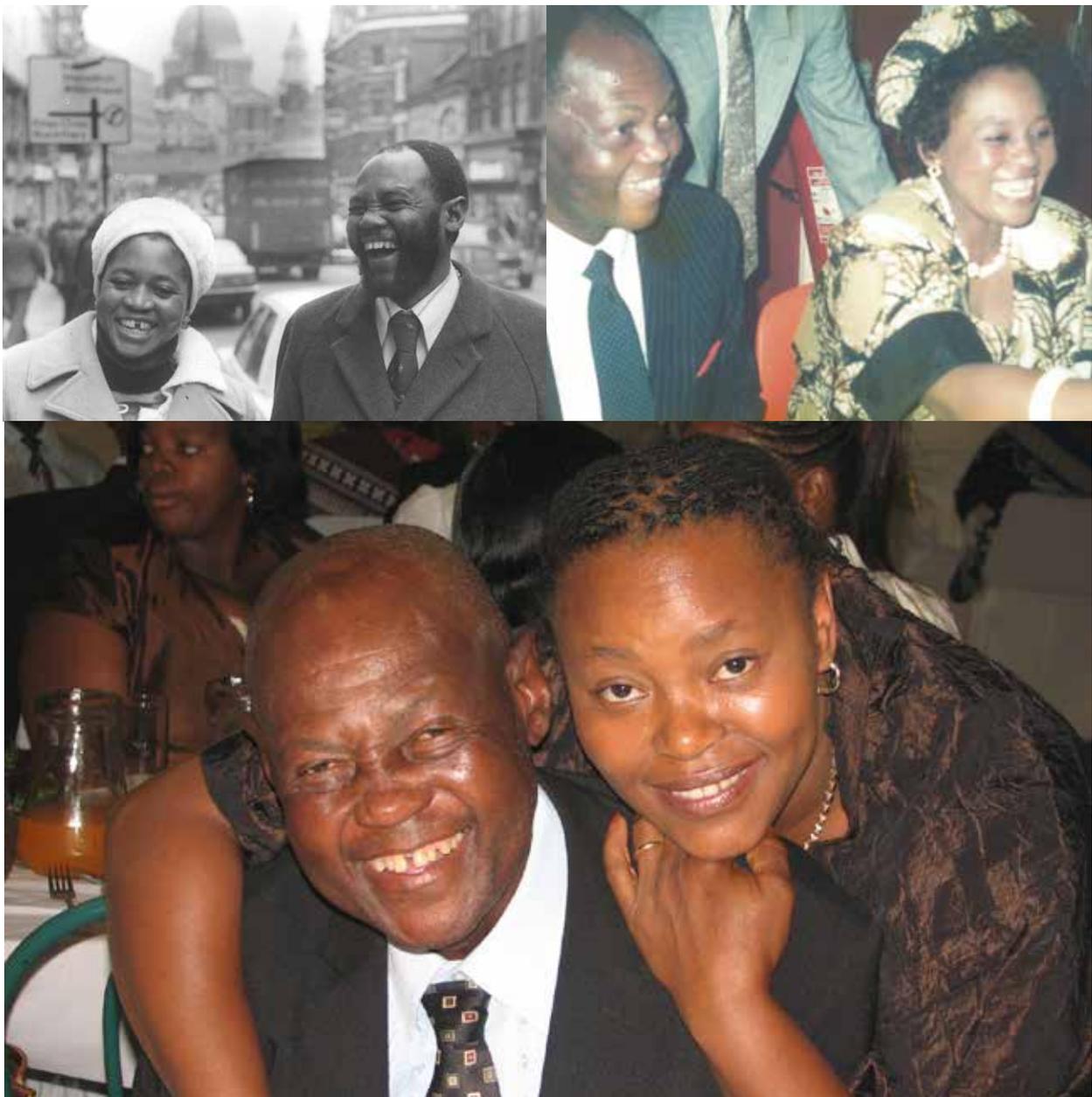
Joe Moabi

Mr Johannes Moabi, affectionately known as Bra Joe, died of heart and other ailments on 7 September 2011. Mr Moabi was a member of the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC). After various acts of harassment by the Security Police in South Africa, Joe Moabi went into exile to Swaziland in 1968 where he led a number of operations for the PAC in collaboration with his long-time friend Mr Joe Mkhwanazi. Because of their activities in Swaziland, Mr Moabi was incarcerated at Matsapa Prison in Manzini for a lengthy period of time. Joe Moabi was subsequently expelled from Swaziland. Joe Moabi found asylum for himself and his family in England where they resided for a period of 16 years. Whilst in England, he obtained a BA degree in Education and Humanities from the University of Birmingham.

Bra Joe spent most of his exile years mobilising resources for the PAC in his capacity as Treasurer General of the PAC and looking after PAC Cadres in Tanzania, Zimbabwe and other African countries. On his return to South Africa in 1993, he joined the University of South Africa's Institute for Social and Health Sciences and worked with vulnerable youth from Eldorado Park until his retirement in 2003.

“Upati Awuna Mali”, as the cadres commonly referred to him, was a strict and thrifty person, who ensured that every cent that he had raised was spent in the interest of the Party for its operations and the provision of clothes and food for the cadres. He counted the pennies and saved the pounds. This character, which earned him the nickname “Upati Awuna Mali”, was a defining streak of his life that characterised all of his operations and how he managed his home.

Joe Moabi was an example of dedication, commitment, honesty, and love for family. His daughter Nana and her husband, and his two sons, Gibson and Khotso and their wives, and five grandchildren survive him.











Previous Speakers

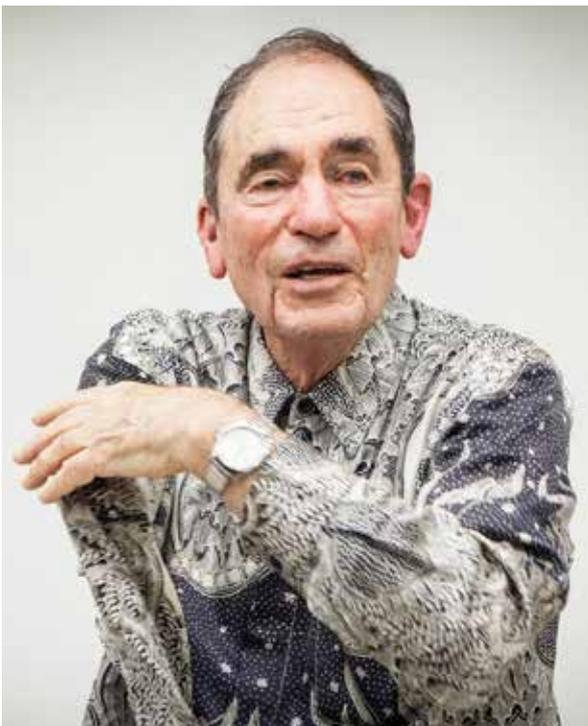
Chief Justice Pius Langa (2006)

Pius Langa (25 March 1939 – 24 July 2013) was Chief Justice of the Constitutional Court of South Africa. He obtained his B Juris from the University of South Africa in 1973 and his LLB in 1976. He was tenured at the Department of Justice as a prosecutor and magistrate, and was subsequently admitted as an advocate of the Supreme Court in Natal in June 1977. He practised at the Durban Bar and became senior counsel in January 1994. He took on civil and criminal matters, but political trials dominated.



Langa was a member of the Democratic Lawyers Association and served on its executive. In 1987, he served on the steering committee that preceded the formation of the National Association of Democratic Lawyers (Nadel); he became a founder member of Nadel and served as its President from 1988 until his resignation in 1994. Langa was appointed judge of the Constitutional Court of South Africa in October in 1994, became deputy president of the court in August 1997, and served as Chief Justice of South Africa from November 2001 until his retirement in October 2009.

Justice Albie Sachs (2007)



Albie Sachs's career in human rights activism started at the age of 17 when, as a second-year law student at the University of Cape Town, he took part in the Deviance of Unjust Laws Campaign. He started practice, aged 21, as an advocate at the Cape Bar. The bulk of his work involved defending people charged under racist statutes and repressive security laws. He himself was raided by the security police, subjected to banning orders restricting his movement and eventually placed in solitary confinement without trial for two prolonged spells of detention. In 1966, he went into exile. After spending eleven years studying and teaching law in England, he worked for a further eleven years in Mozambique as a law professor and legal researcher. In 1988, he was injured by a bomb placed in his car in Maputo by South African security agents, losing an arm and the sight of an eye.

Elinor Sisulu (2008)

Elinor Sisulu was born and educated in Zimbabwe. She also studied in Senegal and the Netherlands. As an academic researcher for the Ministry of Labour in Zimbabwe in the early eighties, she published studies of women's work and development. From 1991 to 1998, Elinor Sisulu worked as a freelance writer and editor and was Assistant Editor of SPEAK, a black feminist publication. Elinor Sisulu's interest in writing for children was sparked by her concern about the declining importance of oral storytelling traditions in African societies. The need for preserving history through stories was her main motivation for writing *The Day Gogo Went to Vote*, which won numerous awards. Through a Fellowship at Radcliffe College in Cambridge, Massachusetts, sponsored by the Ford Foundation, she researched and wrote the biography of Walter and Albertina Sisulu. Her biography of the Sisulus, *Walter and Albertina Sisulu: In our lifetime*, was published in 2002.



Ferial Haffajee (2009)

Ferial Haffajee is Associate Editor at the Daily Maverick. Previously, she was Editor-in-Chief of City Press and the Mail and Guardian. An alumnus of the Africa Leadership Initiative, a project of the Aspen Institute and Barloworld's Issac Shongwe, she tries to practise values-based leadership and is impelled by independence and innovation. Ferial Haffajee sits on the boards of Gender Links and the Inter-Press Service, both of which are geared to improving the media's coverage of development and gender empowerment. She is a previous winner of

the Shoprite Checkers Woman of the Year Award and a Sanlam Financial Journalism Award. In 2008, she was named a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum. Haffajee has also worked at Financial Mail and the SABC in both radio and television. She enjoys spending time with her family, friends, cooking, travelling, reading and, of course, fashion.

Chris van Wyk (2010)

Chris van Wyk (19 July 1957 – 3 October 2014) was an accomplished South African novelist, short-story writer, poet and social activist. He was a master storyteller who uses narratives and spoken and written voices to tell us about the nuances and vibrancy of South African township life. Chris van Wyk won numerous literary awards, including the Maskew Miller Longman Award for black children's literature. His short stories and poems have been published in Denmark, Germany, Sweden, France, Turkey, the UK, the USA and Canada. His childhood memoir, *Shirley, Goodness and Mercy*, was shortlisted for the Sunday Times Alan Paton Award in 2005. In 2003, van Wyk published a series of biographies for children and young teens under the series title, *Freedom Fighters*. These included biographies about Nelson Mandela, Oliver Tambo, Thabo Mbeki, Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, Helen Joseph, Desmond Tutu, Christopher Hani, Sol Plaatje, Albert Luthuli and Steve Biko. This series is used extensively in South Africa.



Zubeida Jaffer (2011)

Zubeida Jaffer is an award-winning South African journalist and author. She has worked for the Rand Daily Mail, the Cape Times, Grassroots and has been part of the movement that gave birth to a number of community newspapers all over the country. Post-1994, she was the founding editor of the parliamentary bureau for Independent Newspapers, the major chain of 14 newspapers, tasked with transforming the formerly whites-only press corps into a non-racial entity. Her short publication, *Not by Dread Alone*, is an essay about the state of journalism in South Africa. Her memoir, *Our Generation*, eloquently tells the story of her emotional journey through the years of South Africa's turbulence into a new democracy. One of her other books, *Love in the Time of Treason*, has been described as a *tour de force* and has been given a special mention at the prestigious Africa-wide Literature Award known as the Noma Awards. She is also the first woman in Africa to have won the coveted Foreign Journalist Award from the National Association of Black Journalists in the USA.



Zwelinzima Vavi (2012)

Zwelinzima Vavi is the former General Secretary of Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), and Vice-Chairperson of the Millennium Labour Council. Vavi's career started in 1987, where he worked as a uranium plant clerk at Vaal Reefs mine and joined the National Union of Mineworkers as an organiser. He was fired from AngloGold in 1987 following a massive mining strike, which crippled the Chamber of Mines. He then joined COSATU as a volunteer. In 1988, Vavi became COSATU's Regional Secretary for the Western Transvaal. In 1992, he took up the position of National Organising Secretary. He then served as COSATU's Deputy General Secretary from 1993 to 1999. Vavi also took centre stage in the four-month negotiation that preceded the 1997 Jobs Summit and served on the International Labour Organisation's (ILO) Commission on Globalisation. In 1999, he became General Secretary of COSATU. As

General Secretary, Vavi repeatedly expressed concern regarding the ANC's approach to Zimbabwe, privatisation, corruption in government and the Tripartite Alliance.

Trevor Andrew Manuel (2013)

Trevor Manuel has served as a minister in the South African Government for over twenty years. He has twice served as Minister of Finance and served as Minister in the Presidency for the National Planning Commission from 2009 to 2014. He was an activist and anti-apartheid leader, serving on the National Executive Committee of the United Democratic Front, a mass movement of anti-apartheid organisations. He was Governor of the Boards of the African Development Bank Group as well as the Development Bank of Southern Africa. He also served as Chairman of the Board of Governors of the International Monetary Fund, as Chair of the Development Committee of the World Bank and has chaired G-20 meetings.

Trevor Manuel was appointed as Special Envoy to the Secretary-General of the United Nations on financing for development in 2002 and 2008. He also served as a commissioner in the International Task Force on Global Public Goods and the Commission for Africa. Mr Manuel has received a number of awards and presentations, including Africa's Finance Minister of the Year and the Woodrow Wilson Public Service Award. He has seven honorary doctorates from South African tertiary institutions and a Doctor of Laws from MacMaster University, Ontario, Canada.



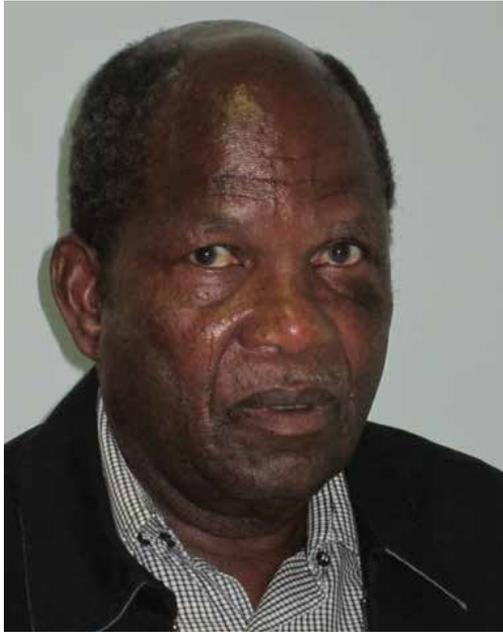
Advocate Thulisile Madonsela (2014)

Advocate Thulisile Madonsela was born in 1962 in Johannesburg to a working-class family. She is a human rights lawyer, professor of law, equality expert, constitutional analyst and policy specialist, who holds a BA Law degree and an LLB degree. Since January 2018, she has held the chair in social justice at Stellenbosch University. Before this, Advocate Madonsela was appointed Public Protector by President Jacob Zuma on the recommendation of Parliament, with effect from 15 October 2010 until October 2016. Before that, she held various leadership positions in civil society and the public sector. Advocate Madonsela was one of the eleven technical experts that assisted the Constitutional Assembly in drafting South Africa's new Constitution. She has played a central role in the drafting of various transformational policies and related instruments. Advocate Madonsela has written extensively, published, and provided training on various aspects of the law, equality and human rights in general. In April 2014, Public Protector Advocate Madonsela was named in Time Magazine's annual list of the most 100 influential people in the world.



Mike Tissong (2015)

Mike Tissong is a writer, social scientist, and investor. He graduated with a BSocSci from the University of Cape Town (UCT) and went on to obtain a Master of Business Administration from the University of Wales. He invests in ideas, people, and companies, and places a high value on ethics and integrity in all spheres of life. He was a student activist at UCT and became an activist journalist at The Star and, later, the Sowetan in the 1980s and 1990s. Mike Tissong's writings attracted the attention of the international community, and he was invited by the UN to address the Committee against Apartheid in New York in 1987. He was co-deputy editor to Dr Aggrey Klaaste who created the Sowetan newspaper's *Nation Building* programme to promote the development of leadership in communities damaged by the repressiveness of apartheid. During this time, he became the managing director of the company that owned Sowetan. Years later, he went back to The Star newspaper as the general manager, and has since managed the Sunday Times, the Herald and Dispatch in the Eastern Cape and Sowetan.



Professor Paulus Zulu (2016)

Professor Zulu originally trained in diagnostic radiography and marketing management. He holds a PhD from the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal. He is now an acclaimed social scientist and a formidable writer, publishing extensively in sociology and politics. Over the course of his career, Professor Zulu has served as a chairperson on a number of boards, including the Centre for Policy Studies, SABC, and the McCord Hospital. Professor Paulus Zulu served as a Director of the Human Sciences Research Council and as the Director and Senior Research Fellow at Maurice Webb Race Relations Unit. He is also currently a member of the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences, Vatican City Rome, and has been so since 1994. In 2013, he published his debut book, *A Nation in Crisis: A Search for Morality*, which addresses the tensions between the notions of democracy and social justice.

Prince Mashele (2017)

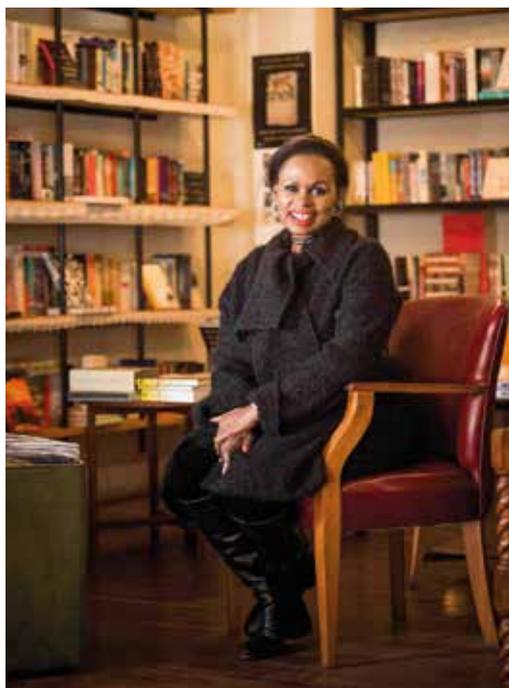
Prince Mashele is the Executive Chairman of the Centre for Politics and Research (CPR), and a well-known commentator on South African politics. He is the co-author of the best-selling book *The Fall of the ANC: What Next?* and authored *The Dearth of Our Society*. Mashele is an influential thinker who has written articles for South Africa's top newspapers, including the Sunday Times,



Sunday Independent, Business Day, Sowetan, and others. He is a sought-after political consultant and public speaker. Prince Mashele has held, among others, the following positions: political analyst for Nedbank Capital; chief executive officer of the Institute for Public Dialogue; speechwriter in The Presidency under former President Thabo Mbeki; head of the Crime, Justice and Politics Programme at the Institute for Security Studies; and executive director of the Centre for Politics and Research.

Thandeka Gqubule-Mbeki (2018)

Thandeka Gqubule-Mbeki is economics editor at the SABC, where she is responsible for economics, business and financial markets coverage of the corporation across TV, radio and digital. She holds a Masters degree in Journalism from Columbia University, New York, and several business qualifications from Wits Business School, London School of Economics and Said Business School, Oxford University. She was involved in a struggle for independent public broadcasting and freedom of expression, joining a group called the SABC8. She has worked in various editorial capacities in the South African Press including, as associate editor at the Financial Mail. She has taught journalism at Rhodes University, Grahamstown and Monash South Africa. Gqubule-Mbeki was awarded the Nat Nakasa press freedom award in 2016.

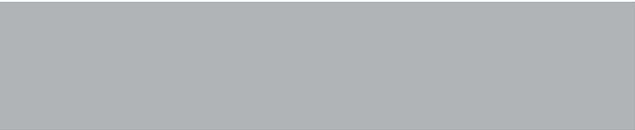


Sibongile Mkhabela (2019)



Sibongile Mkhabela was the Chief Executive Officer of the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund as well as the Nelson Mandela Children's Hospital Trust, an initiative of the Children's Fund for two decades. A social worker by profession, her career and orientation has been driven by a tireless social activism. She is a fellow of both the Rockefeller Centre in Italy and a Public Policy Fellow of Duke University in North Carolina. Sibongile has also completed postgraduate Business Management studies with the University of Witwatersrand Business School. She serves, among others, on the boards of Barloworld, a global company, where she has pushed issues of inclusion and diversity as the Chairperson of the Ethics and Transformation Committee; Nedbank Wealth Foundation; and Global Philanthropy Alliance; and she is the former Chairperson and current Trustee of Black

Sash. In 2019, Sibongile was appointed as a member of the board of trustees of Trust Africa. Sibongile is a recipient of The National Order of Luthuli (Silver), awarded by the President of South Africa, Mr Cyril Ramaphosa in 2018.



About the Institute for Social and Health Sciences

Located within the College of Human Sciences at the University of South Africa, the Institute for Social and Health Sciences functions as an internationally and locally recognised research centre. It pursues social and health equity through the creation of a culture of safety. The ISHS finds expression for its vision, mission, values and objectives through three programmes, the Community Action Research Programme (CARP), the Transdisciplinary African Psychologies programme (TAP), and the Masculinity and Health Research Unit (MaHRU). The vision, mission, objectives and values of the Institute for Social and Health Sciences are based on a recognition of global, continental and national priorities, and its location in Unisa as an ODL institution. The Institute's mission is to commit science and compassion in the service of community.