

CONTESTED SPACES: EPISTEMIC (A)SYMMETRIES, MOBILITIES, IDENTITIES

25-26 February 2021

Virtual symposium organised jointly
by the University of KwaZulu-Natal
and SOAS University of London

Programme

Day 1: 25 February 2021

- 9.00-9.15 **Welcome**
Professor Adam Habib, Director, SOAS University of London
Professor Nana Poku, Vice Chancellor, University of KwaZulu-Natal
- 9.20-10.20 **Keynote Conversation: Decolonising Knowledge Production**
Professor Achille Mbembe, University of the Witwatersrand
Dr Amina Yaqin, SOAS University of London
- 10.30-11.45 **Panel 1: Decolonising Knowledge Production/Africanising Knowledge**
Chair: Dr Wayne Dooling, SOAS University of London
- Dr Awino Okech, SOAS University of London
Africanising Knowledge at SOAS: Reflections on the Africa Review
- Dr Monica Otu, University of KwaZulu-Natal
'What is Good for the World is Good for Africa': Africanisation of Knowledge Production in the Context of Globalisation
- Dr Meera Sabaratnam, SOAS University of London
The Structure-Agency Problem in the Context of Decolonising Knowledge
- Professor Paulus Zulu, University of KwaZulu-Natal
"Decolonisation" and "Africanisation" of Knowledge: Political or Ideological Concepts?
- 11.45-12.00 **Musical Interlude**
Chats Devroop and Jamy-Lee Simons
1. *What a wonderful world (instrumental)*
 2. *Versace on the floor (instrumental)*
 3. *Killing me softly (vocal)*
 4. *Saving all my love for you (vocal)*

12.15-1.45

Panel 2: Mobility, Migration, Diaspora

Chair: Professor Laura Hammond, SOAS University of London

Professor Kalpana Hiralal, University of KwaZulu-Natal

Gendered Migrations in the Political Economy of Natal

Dr Biniam Misgun, University of KwaZulu-Natal

Playing with Sameness and Difference: Ethnography of Transnational Practices of Ethiopian Migrants in Durban

Mr Onyekachi Wambu, AFFORD

Remembrance, Restitution and the 10 'R's: Processing the past and increasing cultural understanding of legacies of enslavement and colonialism in the African World

2.00-3.00

Keynote Conversation: Archives, Museums and Heritage as Contested Spaces of Identity

Professor Paul Basu, SOAS University of London

Ms Elsie Owusu OBE RIBA, Architect, Director of JustGhana Ltd

3.15-4.30

Panel 3: Archives, Museums and Heritage as Contested Spaces of Identity

Chair: Dr Wayne Dooling, SOAS University of London

Dr Kai Easton, SOAS University of London

Curating South-North-South Itineraries: Scenes from the South | an international travelling exhibition on the archives of J. M. Coetzee

Dr Ettore Morelli, SOAS University of London

'Surrounded with Blue Books, photostats of manuscripts and many-volumed histories of South Africa': Collecting the pieces of the scattered archive of Ronald Stretton Webb, 1892-1976

Professor Goolam Vahed, University of KwaZulu-Natal

'Where's Our Monument?' Commemorating Indian Indentured Labour in South Africa

Day 2: 26 February 2021

- 9.00-9.15 **Welcome**
Professor Andrea Cornwall, SOAS University of London
Professor Vivian Ojong, University of KwaZulu-Natal
- 9.15-10.00 **Keynote Conversation**
Chair: Professor Vivian Ojong, University of KwaZulu-Natal
Professor Francis Nyamnjoh, University of Cape Town
- 10.15-11.30 **Panel 4: Decolonisation and Feminist Voice/s**
Chair: Professor Maheshvari Naidu, University of KwaZulu-Natal
- Dr Roselyn Kanyemba, University of KwaZulu-Natal/HEARD
Higher education spaces as radical sites for female resistance and refutation: A case of Great Zimbabwe University
- Dr Lubna Nadvi, University of KwaZulu-Natal
Evaluating Replications of Orientalist forms of Knowledge as Patriarchy: A focus on the Middle East and North Africa (MENA)
- Professor Vivian Ojong, University of KwaZulu-Natal
Decolonizing the church: what should constitute the agenda for African Christian Feminist?
- Dr Sharmla Rama, University of KwaZulu-Natal
Reflecting on the Gender Curriculum Content and Pedagogic Practice in Undergraduate Sociology Courses in the Context of Calls for Decolonization, Africanization and Transformation in South Africa
- Dr Amina Yaqin, SOAS University of London
Contesting Islamophobia Through Islamic Feminism
- 11.30-12.30 **Keynote Conversation: Decolonisation and Feminist Voice/s**
Professor Desiree Lewis, University of the Western Cape
Dr Awino Okech, SOAS University of London
- 12.30-12.45 **Musical Interlude**
Chats Devroop and Jamy-Lee Simons
1. *What a wonderful world (instrumental)*
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 4. *Saving all my love for you (vocal)*

12.45-2.00

Panel 5: Covid-19 - Issues of Human Rights and Social Justice

Chair: Professor Wayne Dooling, SOAS University of London

Professor Mashood Baderin, SOAS University of London

The Covid-19 Pandemic and the Right to the Best Attainable State of Health in Africa: Back to the Roots?

Professor Fareda Banda, SOAS University of London

Who Benefits from the Right to Scientific Progress?

Dr Christina Kgari-Masondo, University of KwaZulu-Natal

Covid-19 and the implications of the Fourth Industrial Revolution principles in Higher Education on the African child in South Africa: Umuntu Akahlwa Pedagogy.

Dr Lukhona Mnguni (University of KwaZulu-Natal

Observing social distancing in the time of COVID-19 and foretelling prospects for social justice

Dr Janet Muthuki, University of KwaZulu-Natal

COVID-19 Issues of Marginalization/Social Justice

Dr Balungile Zondi, University of KwaZulu-Natal

Unpacking marginalization and social justice in the advent of Covid-19 in South Africa: Myth and Reality

2.15-3.15

Keynote Conversation: Forensic museology - restitution and archive

Professor Carolyn Hamilton, University of Cape Town

Professor Ciraj Rassool, University of the Western Cape

3.30-4.00

Closing Remarks

Professor Andrea Cornwall, SOAS University of London

Professor Nhlanhla Mkhize, University of KwaZulu-Natal