

❧ Contributors ❧

Thinandavha Derrick Mashau is a Professor of Missiology and Chair of the Department of Christian Spirituality, Church History and Missiology at the University of South Africa (UNISA). He holds a PhD in Missiology from North West University. His research areas include missiological studies, urban missions and ministry, and African theology. He is a National Research Foundation C-2 rated scholar who has supervised 11 masters and 15 doctoral students to completion. He currently serving as a General Secretary of the Southern Africa Missiological Society (SAMS) and the Deputy President of the International Association for Mission Studies (IAMS). Contact details: mashatd@unisa.ac.za; <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9914=8982>

Christof Sauer is Professor for Religious Freedom and Research on Persecution of Christians at Freie Theologische Hochschule Giessen in Germany, as well as visiting Professor of Religious Studies and Missiology at Evangelische Theologische Faculteit Leuven in Belgium. He is co-founder and co-director of the International Institute for Religious Freedom (Bonn – Cape Town – Colombo – Brussels/Geneva – Brasilia) and Professor extraordinary at Stellenbosch University, South Africa. He lived in Cape Town, South Africa for 20 years and currently resides near Giessen, Germany. He did his DTh in Missiology at Unisa and a post-doc “habilitation” in Intercultural Theology and Mission Studies at the Protestant University Wuppertal/ Bethel, Germany. Contact details: christofsauer@icloud.com; <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4976-7574>

Georgia du Plessis worked as lecturer and researcher at the University of the Free State. Here she also completed her Masters degree in law. In 2014, she obtained a scholarship to do her PhD at the University of Antwerp in Belgium, specializing in human rights and the right to freedom of religion or belief. After the completion of her PhD, she worked as postdoctoral researcher at KU Leuven. She is currently a research fellow at the University of Antwerp and the Evangelical Theological Faculty in Belgium, as well as the University of the Free State in South Africa. Contact details: georgia.myburgh@gmail.com; <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4149-9058>

Contributors

Zuze J Banda is a senior lecturer in the Department of Christian Spirituality, Church History and Missiology, teaching Missiology. He specialises in intercultural communication of the gospel. He holds Masters (cum laude) and Doctoral degrees in Missiology. His research interests are in communication of the gospel through TV, Mass Media and Internet broadcasting, African Renaissance, Gender-based violence, and is currently venturing in engaged scholarship with keen interest in food security and community dialogues. He is a member of Southern African Missiological Society and Church History Society of Southern Africa. Contact details: Bandazj@unisa.ac.za and zuze.j.banda@gmail.com; <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2431-1087>

Mookgo Solomon Kgatle is a Professor at the Department of Christian Spirituality, Church History and Missiology, University of South Africa, and a National Research Foundation (NRF) Y-Rated researcher (2019-2024) in African Pentecostalism. He has published more than 50 peer-reviewed articles and 6 books in the same field. He is the visiting scholar at the Centre for Pentecostal and Charismatic Studies University of Birmingham and Oxford Centre for Religion and Culture at Regent's Park College, University of Oxford (2020-2023). He is the founding President of the Southern African Society for Pentecostal Studies. Contact details: kgatls@unisa.ac.za; <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9556-6597>

Ntokozo Mthembu was an Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of South Africa, before his untimely death. He has served as the Acting Chair of the Department of Sociology, University of South Africa when requested to serve by the College of Human Sciences. Previously, he was affiliated to the Centre for Civil Society and as a lecturer of Sociology at University of KwaZulu-Natal, Howard College Campus in Durban. He holds a Doctor of Literature and Philosophy – Sociology degree – University of South Africa. His research niche ranged from young people, pedagogy, andragogy, survival, livelihoods, indigenous knowledge systems and African ethics and presently engaged in the studies that include the introduction of African centered research analytical framework and the survival strategies of the indigenous medical practitioners – *izinyanga*. He has published a number of articles and books in various reputable publications. In 2019, he has been nominated and awarded the Honorary Doctoral Degree by the London Graduate School – Commonwealth University.

Phillip Musoni is a Research fellow at the University of South Africa (UNISA) in the Department of Christian Spirituality, Church History and Missiology and a senior lecturer at the Zimbabwe Ezekiel Guti University (ZEGU). His PhD was conferred by the University of Pretoria on 06 April 2017, and has published articles and book chapters on various topics including Religion and sustainable development; Religion and gender in selected traditions; Religion and the Zimbabwean politics; and Religion and contemporary ethical/ health issues. In this collection, Musoni's contribution focuses on Religion and gullibility looking at how new Zimbabwean Pentecostal church leaders ride on literal interpretation of scriptures and African cultures described as the 'enchanted worldview' to manipulate the masses. Contact details: mphil2020@gmail.com or emusonp@unisa.ac.za; <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4597-8526>

Olehile A. Buffel is a Professor of Practical Theology at Unisa in the Department of Philosophy, Practical Theology and Systematic Theology. He previously taught at the University of Kwazulu-Natal (UKZN) and the Lutheran Theological Institute (LTI). His teaching areas include pastoral care and counselling, homiletics, liturgy and Christian leadership. His current research interests include pastoral care in a context of poverty and Covid-19, interface between theology and psychology, human sexuality, marriage guidance and counselling and black theology of liberation. He is a member of the Editorial Board of *Theologia Viatorum*. Contact details: Bufffeoa@unisa.ac.za; <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2895-1997>

*** **