

# Migration, and Identity Construction in Africa: Implications for Policy and Practice

Editors

*Hosea Olayiwola Patrick*

*Nene Ernest Khalema*



*Alternation African Scholarship Book Series, Volume #17*







# **Alternation African Scholarship Book Series (AASBS)**

## **General Editors**

Nhlanhla Mkhize; Relebohile Moletsane; Nobuhle Ndimande-Hlongwa;  
Sarah Mosoetsa; Stephen M. Mutula; Labby Ramrathan; Johannes A. Smit

---

## **Lead-Editors**

Nyna Amin *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Vivienne Bozalek *Cape Peninsula University of Technology*; Denzil Chetty *University of South Africa*; Rubby Dhunpath *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Bekithemba Dube *University of the Free State*; Mari Haugaa Engh, *Norwegian University of Science and Technology*; Dipane Hlalale *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Maserole Kgari-Masondo *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Simangaliso Kumalo *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Sam Lubbe *Mangosuthu University of Technology*; Sadhana Manik *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Cheryl Mohamed Sayeed *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Herbert Moyo *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Oliver Mtapuri *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Priya Narismulu *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Maheshvari Naidu *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Joram Ndlovu *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Edmore Ntini *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Beatrice Okyere-Manu *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Kunle Oparinde *Durban University of Technology*; Michael Samuel *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Federico Settler *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Upasana Gitanjali Singh *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Lilian Siwila *University of KwaZulu-Natal*.

*Alternation* research groups have made decisive and far-sighted knowledge production contributions in the interdisciplinary Arts and Humanities arena for more than twenty-five years. From 2020, it adds the *Alternation African Scholarship Book Series (AASBS)* to its research outputs system. Via its incisive thematically-focused inter-, multi-, and trans-disciplinary, as well as digitally-informed, research approaches, the AASBS not only advances the frontiers of knowledge in Africa's institutions of Higher Learning in designated focus areas, but also critically generates scholarship of, by and with the people(s) of our continent. Historically the research draws on the rich traditions of interactive African intellectualisations, from its earliest civilisations, through struggles for liberation and freedom, to independence and growth. It opens up future epistemic opportunities through intellectual initiative and resourcefulness, while critically contributing to the international advancement of knowledge on all relevant levels. Contributing to research-led constructive, transformative and substantial discourse development in our programmes and disciplines, it also aims at impacting the wellbeing of our people foundationally and all-inclusively in the present. All forms of scientific and social challenge which Africa's societies and communities face, need to be problematised and researched in the Arts and Humanities, in the interest of cooperative and conscientious responsible knowledge generation and foundational conceptual and methodological research impacts. We serve the hopes and aspirations of the people of Africa.

AASBS is committed to the highest levels of inclusive, factually correct and critical, socially-responsive and socially-accountable evidence-based research analyses and outputs. Each chapter is reviewed by at least two independent peer reviewers. Through its editing and peer-review system, each volume also builds research leadership, research expertise, and interactive research acumen, capacity and capabilities.

*A list of published and upcoming titles follows overleaf*

## **Alternation African Scholarship Book Series (AASBS)**

- Ramrathan, L., N. Ndimande-Hlongwa, N. Mkhize & J.A. Smit (eds.). 2020. *Re-thinking the Humanities Curriculum in the Time of COVID-19. Volume #01.*
- Ndimande-Hlongwa, N., L. Ramrathan, N. Mkhize & J.A. Smit (eds.). 2020. *Technology-based Teaching and Learning in Higher Education during the Time of COVID-19. Volume #02.*
- Mkhize, N., N. Ndimande-Hlongwa, L. Ramrathan & J.A. Smit (eds.). 2020. *Teaching and Learning in Higher Education in the Time of COVID-19. Volume #03.*
- Smit, J.A., N. Mkhize, N. Ndimande-Hlongwa & L. Ramrathan (eds.). 2020. *Learner and Subject at the Dawn of Digital Research-Led Teaching and Learning in the Time of COVID-19. Volume #04.*
- Manik, S. (ed.). 2020. *From High-risk Sports to Sports as High Risk: Crisis, Capitulation and Creativity during COVID-19. Volume #05.*
- Kumalo, S.R., C. Lynch, A.B. Bangirana & C. Kemedjio (eds.). 2021. *Critical Perspectives on Governance, Religion and Humanitarian Aid in Africa. Volume #06.*
- Singh, U.G., P.S. Reddy, M.W. Phiri & P. Appavoo (eds.). 2021. *Global Trends in Management, IT and Governance in an E-World. (E-MIG 2019 International.) Volume #07.*
- Amin, N. & R. Dhunpath (eds.). 2021. *(Re)Learning to Teach in Contexts of Crises. Volume #08.*
- Bob, U. (ed.). 2022. *The COVID-19 Pandemic: Impacts of the Corona Virus on Sport and Society. Volume #09.*
- Moran, S. 2022. *Primitive Times. Volume #10.*
- Singh, S.B. (ed.). 2022. *Indians in South Africa: Perspectives from 1860 to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Volume #11.*
- Ramrathan, L., R. Hoskins & V.S. Singaram (eds.). 2022. *Assessment through Digital Platforms within Higher Education Studies. Volume #12.*
- Jain, P., N. Mnjama & O. Oladokun (eds.). 2023. *Information and Knowledge Management for Social, Economic and Political Development. Volume #13.*
- Samuel, M.A. & H. Mariaye 2023. *Transforming Postgraduate Education in Africa. Volume #14.*
- Mutula, S.M. (ed.). 2024. *The Diasporean I: The Southern African Perspectives. Volume #15.*
- Mutula, S.M. (ed.). 2024. *The Diasporean II: Perspectives from Beyond Southern Africa. Volume #16.*
- Patrick, H.O. & N.E. Khalema (eds.). 2024. *Migration, and Identity Construction in Africa: Implications for Policy and Practice. Volume #17.*
- Patrick, H.O. & N.E. Khalema (eds.). 2024. *Migration, and Integration in Africa: Implications for Policy and Practice. Volume #18.*
- Mkhize, N. & S. Ehiane (eds.). 2024. *Aspects of African Scholarship in the Humanities and Social Sciences. Volume #19.*

*Migration, and  
Identity Construction in Africa:  
Implications for Policy and  
Practice*

Editors

Hosea Olayiwola Patrick  
&  
Nene Ernest Khalema

2024

CSSALL  
Durban

Published in 2024 in South Africa

CSSALL Publishers (Pty) Ltd  
c/o POSTNET SUITE 158  
Private Bag X9118  
Pietermaritzburg  
KwaZulu-Natal  
3200

Email: [cssall123@gmail.com](mailto:cssall123@gmail.com)  
Editor-in-Chief: Prof J.A. Smit  
University of KwaZulu-Natal  
Email: [smitj@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:smitj@ukzn.ac.za)

*Alternation African Scholarship Book Series Volume #17*  
© CSSALL Publishers (Pty) Ltd

Title: *Migration, and Identity Construction in Africa: Implications for Policy and Practice*

Editors: Hosea Olayiwola Patrick & Nene Ernest Khalema

ISBN: 978-0-9869937-8-7

DOI number: <https://doi.org/10.29086/978-0-9869937-8-7/2024/AASBS17>

BOOK URL: <http://alternation.ukzn.ac.za/books/series/17-Migration-Identity-Construction-and-Integrati.aspx>

Cover design: Personal and online photos.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the copyright holder and publisher.

CSSALL has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this volume, and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

Printed and bound by Print Connection, Tel (031) 202-7766



# Preface

How do migrants in foreign countries in Africa, construct their identities, how do they keep and affirm their links to their countries of origin, and what are the dynamics involved in processes of migrant integration in their new countries of adoption? These are just three of the seminal questions *Alternation African Scholarship Book Series (AASBS) volumes 17 and 18* raise.

As they are engaged, the topic-related relevant data also provides the opportunity to trace migration dynamics and complexities, related to the questions articulated with identity construction. Questions are raised that are pertinent to processes of movement, settlement and integration, but also development paradigms, and ideas on human rights, and development and environmental issues, in the specific contexts of the research.

The implicit or explicit approach shared by all studies, is that migration discourse registers the continuing impacts of the historical realities of colonisation on migration, in various forms, while simultaneously integrating global knowledge perspectives in local knowledge productions among and about migrants and their identities, as well as their forms of integration in their new communities of belonging. Generically, decolonial history and theory provide the parameters within which the research questions were raised, the research conducted, and reviewed and written up.

AASBS #17 principally engages migrant identity formation. Acknowledging that it is stratified and multidimensional and fluid, the main focuses are on,

- The articulation of migration and identity construction with public policy research and development, as well as policy implementation and evaluation;
- The identity construction significance of names and naming, as evident in Khelobedu and Tshivenda naming practices;
- The role of music for migrants, that represent both cultural links with countries of origin as well as countries of adoption, and the diversity and unifying aspects of the continental sharing of religious music;
- Negotiated identities as impacted by modern cultural influences and the articulation with religion and cultural tourism;
- The COVID-19 impacts on xenophobia; and

- The relevance of the intersectional study of the nature of gender-based rights, and especially women’s rights, articulated with refugee and asylum seeking migrants, for refugee law and public policy reform.

Following the first volume’s study of a sample of aspects of both personal and social contexts of migrants’ identity construction practices, AASBS #18, focuses more directly on the matter of migrant integration in host countries. It is assumed that much of the concerns raised about the presence and lives and activities of migrants in host countries in Africa do not only derive from forms of personal and social misunderstandings of the nature and dynamics of migration, but also the dearth of systems and practices that invite and allow migrants to integrate in host country communities. Some of the seminal topics addressed are,

- The role of social media in cultural identity formation, and social integration, e.g. Twitter/ X;
- Security and legal protection concerning the integration of migrants in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Zimbabwean sources for the mitigation of forms of xenophobia;
- The structural dynamics impacting migrants in South Africa;
- The role of gender in migratory realities in foreign countries;
- The articulation of refugee rights with development policies in SADC;
- Mobility poverty as obstacle to social integration;
- The impacts of climate change on inter-state migration and conflicts in West-Africa; and
- Peace-building challenges and opportunities in the context of migrant conflicts in Nigeria.

In addition to the excellent research and publications led by the late Katie Mutula and Stephen Mutula, in *The Diasporean I: The Southern African Perspectives (AASBS #15)*; and *The Diasporean II: Perspectives from Beyond Southern Africa (AASBS #16)*, these volumes by H. Patrick and E. Khalema, on identity construction and host country integration, significantly add to the AASBS scholarship on migration. We strongly recommend these 4 volumes to our scholars, our South African government, SADC, and further afield.

Prof Johannes A. Smit  
 Chair: College of Humanities Institute  
 University of Kwazulu-Natal

# Contents

*Johannes A. Smit*

Preface ..... v

Contents ..... vii

Contributors ..... ix

*Hosea Olayiwola Patrick and Nene Ernest Khalema*

Chapter 1: Editorial

Migration, and Identity Construction, in Africa:

Implications for Policy and Practice ..... 1

*Itani Peter Mandende, Tebogo Jacob Rakgogo and Madoda Cekiso*

Chapter 2: The Pragmatic Impact of Names in Africa: A Case Study

of the Khelobedu and Tshivenda Naming Practices ..... 8

*Rhoda T.I. Patrick and Ruth Teer-Tomaselli*

Chapter 3: Our Music and Their Music: Issues on Identity in

Christian Music Use among South Africans and Nigerians in

Durban ..... 31

*Aboshioke Umejei*

Chapter 4: Identity Negotiation and the Impact of

‘Modernization’ on Migrants’ Religious Affiliation and Cultural

Tourism Participation ..... 52

*Steven Lawrence Gordon*

Chapter 5: Did the ‘Coronavirus Crisis’ Period Fuel Xenophobia

in South Africa? Assessing the Early COVID-19 Pandemic Period

as an Explanatory Variable ..... 75

*Vivian Nasaka John-Langba*

Chapter 6: Realising Rights for Women and Gender-related

Refugees and Asylum Seekers: Exploring Intersectionality as an

Analytical Tool for Refugee Law and Policy Reform in

South Africa ..... 101

*Gift Masengwe and Bekithemba Dube*

Chapter 7: Migrants, Criminals and State Security Concerns in  
Contemporary South Africa: The Implications of Labelling on  
Migrant Policy and Practice in South Africa ..... 124

Acknowledgements ..... 148



## ∞ Contributors ∞

**Madoda Cekiso (PhD)** is a full professor at Tshwane University of Technology, Department of Applied Languages. He has published widely in the fields of reading, writing, discourse analysis, and onomastics with a significant number of his recent research projects and publications focusing on University students' reading challenges. [CekisoMP@tut.ac.za](mailto:CekisoMP@tut.ac.za); <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7681-077X>

**Bekithemba Dube (PhD)** is a full Professor in Curriculum Studies and Director for the Centre for Diversity in Higher Education at Central University of Technology. He holds PhD in Curriculum Studies from UFS. He has written extensively in the area of Curriculum, Politics and Religion in Post colonial African countries. He has published more than 140 articles and book chapters in accredited journals in the past 7 years. He has successfully edited four books on curriculum, politics and religion and edited 6 special issues on education. He is currently section editor for *Alternation* journal, Section Editor for the *Research in Social Science and Technology Journal*, Associate Editor *E Journal of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences* and associate editor for the *e Journal of Religious and Theological Studies*, all accredited with DHET. He has served as a Head of Department for Education Foundation and department of Curriculum Studies at UFS. He is a visiting Professor at Appalachian State University (USA) and he has received funding such as Thuthuka, USDP award with Colorado State University (USA) and UKS ADP with University of Highlands and Inlands (Scotland). He has received various excellence awards for being exceptional in research, teaching and engaged scholarship. [bdube@cut.ac.za](mailto:bdube@cut.ac.za); <http://orcid.org/0000-0002-9742-0604>

**Steven Gordon (PhD)** is a Senior Research Specialist at the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) in South Africa; and part of the Developmental, Capable and Ethical State division. Before taking a position at the HSRC in 2012, Dr. Gordon was a lecturer in the Faculty of Humanities at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN). He has a doctorate from the UKZN in Human Geography; a Master's Degree in Global Studies from the

## Contributors

University of Freiburg; and a Master's Degree in Population Studies from the UKZN. Dr. Gordon is also a Research Associate at the University of Johannesburg's Faculty of Humanities. [sgordon@hsrc.ac.za](mailto:sgordon@hsrc.ac.za);  
<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6393-2118>

**Vivian Nasaka John-Langba (PhD)** is a Post-Doctoral Fellow at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, in the School of Built Environment & Development Studies. She holds a PhD in Public Law from the University of Cape Town and an LL.M in Public International Law and the Law of International Organisations from the University of Groningen, The Netherlands. Her current research interests are in forced migration and development policy, mental health and human rights, with a focus on displaced populations and national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and the protection of refugee rights in Africa. [johnlangbav@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:johnlangbav@ukzn.ac.za);  
[nasaka.makunda@gmail.com](mailto:nasaka.makunda@gmail.com); <http://orcid.org/0000-0002-0142-904x>

**Nene Ernest Khalema (PhD)** is the Dean and Head of School of the School of Built Environment and Development Studies (BEDS) at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) in South Africa. Before joining UKZN, he was a professor in various Canadian universities since 2001 and served as Chief/Senior Research Specialist (CRS) of the Human Sciences Research Council (2011 - 2016) where his seminal work on participatory action mixed methodologies, migration and mobilities, sexual reproductive health and rights, demography of vulnerable populations, and social epidemiology received (inter)national recognition. He is co-editor of eight books including the recent: *Decolonizing African Studies Pedagogies: Knowledge Production, Epistemic Imperialism, and Black Agency* (2023, Palgrave MacMillan); and *The Oxford Handbook of the Sociology of Africa* (2023, Oxford University Press). He has published over 45 articles in accredited academic journals; 30 peer-reviewed book chapters; 40 technical research reports and policy/research briefs; and presented 75 papers and 25 academic posters at local, national, and international conferences. [khalema@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:khalema@ukzn.ac.za);  
<http://orcid.org/0000-0002-6353-4689>

**Itani Peter Mandende (PhD)** is a Senior Lecturer at the Tshwane University of Technology, Department of Applied Languages, based on the Soshanguve South campus. He holds a DLitt et Phil degree in African Languages with a specialisation in Onomastics. His research interests include Sociolinguistics,

Modern and Traditional literature. He teaches Applied Linguistics, Literature (modern and traditional), and Terminology Development in undergraduate programmes. His research interests are in onomastics, language planning, language contact and language maintenance, and Literary onomastics. He has more than 30 years of professional experience in research and work at institutions of higher learning. [MandendeIP@tut.ac.za](mailto:MandendeIP@tut.ac.za);  
<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2656-0482>

**Rev. Gift Masengwe (PhD)** is a Research Fellow at the Department of Education, University of Free State, South Africa. He has research interests in Religion and Politics in close reading with contemporary new world dynamics of Industrialization, Globalization, Decolonization and Post-humanism. His publications cover interests across disciplines of theology, religion, politics, health, philosophy, culture, development, gender and environment. Topics of currency in recent publications are on religious education, land reform, general elections, paternalism, church legends, public leadership and leadership formulas, church conflicts, church women, and COVID-19 in Zimbabwe. [masengweg@ufs.ac.za](mailto:masengweg@ufs.ac.za); [masengweg@gmail.com](mailto:masengweg@gmail.com);  
<http://orchid.org/0000-0003-1222-9067>

**Hosea Olayiwola Patrick (PhD)** is a postdoctoral fellow at the Africa and Black Diaspora Studies Program, McMaster University, Canada. He is also a Research Associate at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, and holds a PhD in Political Science from the University. His research focuses centrally on the United Nations' sustainable development goals application and implications in the areas of climate change (SDG 13), human security – conflict, water, and food (SDG 2 and 6) – as well as social and environmental justice (SDG 16). He also works on public policy, decolonization, peace and conflict, and academic exclusion research areas. Dr. Patrick has published book chapters with Palgrave Macmillan, Routledge, and Springer Nature. He has also published in journals such as *African Insight*, *African Renaissance*, and *Journal of Transformation in Higher Education*, among others. He was the editor of a special issue of the *Journal of Inclusive Cities and Built Environment* on *(De)-Coloniality, Autonomy, Identity, and Spatial Justice in Africa* and editor for the *Alternation* special issue on *Migration, Identity Construction, and Integration in Africa*.  
[patrickukzn2016@gmail.com](mailto:patrickukzn2016@gmail.com); <http://orcid.org/0000-0001-8022-9099>

## *Contributors*

**Rhoda T.I. Patrick (PhD)** is an Assistant Professor at the Redeemer University, Canada. Her research interests are in media and cultural studies with an emphasis on media and cultural representations, ethnomusicology, participatory methods and social injustices. She addresses sociocultural imbalances such as issues that relate to identity and othering, among diverse communities within the society. She is heavily invested in the transformative agenda that teaches values and morals for a balanced society.

[rtpatrick@redeemer.ca](mailto:rtpatrick@redeemer.ca); <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1384-8233>

**Tebogo J. Rakgogo (PhD)** is a Senior Lecturer and Head of the Department of Applied Languages at the Tshwane University of Technology. He holds a PhD in Onomastics from the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. His research interests encompass Onomastics, Sociolinguistics, Dialectology, Language and Law, Historiography, Language Policy, and Planning. He has published more than 10 articles in DHET-accredited journals and presented more than 20 paper presentations at local and international conferences. His role extends beyond academia, as he serves on various committees and boards, including the Sesotho sa Leboa National Language Body, and serves on the Board of Directors for the Sesotho sa Leboa National Lexicography Unit. He has been appointed to serve on the DHET Review Panel on the Implementation of the Language Policy Framework for Public Higher Education Institutions. Lastly, he chairs the National Terminology Policy Steering Committee instituted by the Department of Sport, Arts, and Culture. [RakgogoTJ@tut.ac.za](mailto:RakgogoTJ@tut.ac.za); <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8693-2559>

**Ruth Teer-Tomaselli (PhD)** is a Professor Emeritus at the Centre for Culture and Media in Society (CCMS), University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. She is a National Research Foundation (NRF) Rated Researcher and a UNESCO Chair in Communications for Southern Africa. She is a past Vice-President of the International Association for Media and Communications Research (IAMCR). Ruth has also served as the President of the South African Communications Association (SACOMM). She has supervised over 24 doctoral and 40 Master's candidates to completion and has published over 40 peer-reviewed articles and chapters in peer-reviewed books altogether. Her research interests are history, regulation and content of television in South Africa and across Africa, visual communication, memory studies and heritage sites. [teertoma@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:teertoma@ukzn.ac.za); <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0275-1006>



**Aboshioke Lillian Umejei (PhD)** is a travel enthusiast, researcher, and Lecturer in Tourism. She has a mix of experiences in the tourism industry from years of working, teaching and consulting in the field. Her research interest lies in preserving and promoting cultural tourism with a concentration on business tourism, tradition, spirituality, and cultural conservation from an African perspective. Affiliation: University of KwaZulu Natal, Durban, S.A. [shiokethomas@msn.com](mailto:shiokethomas@msn.com); <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4226-7841>



