

***Alternation* Call for Papers**

South Africa: Re-imagining the Rainbow Nation

Editors: Dr. Syeda Lubna Bano Nadvi, Dr. Cheryl Mohamed Sayeed, and Prof Johannes A. Smit

The birth of a democratic South Africa in 1994 gave impetus to the idea of the possibility of crafting a new, and just post-apartheid society, one that was formed on the values of equality for all, human rights and economic prosperity. The idea of the creation of a rainbow nation which would incorporate the diverse communities that resided in the country, was advanced by many in the leadership structures as the perfect ideology underpinning the new South Africa.

However 24 years later South Africa remains very far from the ideal society that had originally been envisioned and while some of the initial objectives may have been achieved, there are many that have been either abandoned or have not materialised due to failures in leadership, institutionalised corruption, maladministration and a lack of implementation of policies.

With the end of the highly controversial Jacob Zuma presidency and the beginning of the Cyril Ramaphosa era, the nation finds itself on somewhat unstable terrain, struggling to let go of its past and battling to carve out a future haunted by the legacy of 2 decades of unfulfilled political promises and dreams.

In his recent inaugural address as President of South Africa, Cyril Ramaphosa quoted the words from a famous song sung by the late Hugh Masakela, titled Thuma Mina, which translates to “send me”. Some have argued that this was an attempt by the newly appointed president to spark the imagination of a nation that has become disappointed and disillusioned with its leadership, and that he was calling on South Africa’s citizens to play a role in doing their bit to fix what was currently wrong with the country. With echo’s of the late American president JF Kennedy’s equally evocative call where he orated “Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country”, Ramaphosa has through the very powerful imagery of “Thuma Mina”, arguably placed the future of the country in the hands of its citizens. He has strategically called on South Africans and all those who live here to be part of working towards correcting the mistakes of the past and collectively building a new more prosperous future. While there may be those who will say that the responsibility of governing the country and taking care of the needs of the people rests with the government, the concept of a collective civil society approach to re-imagining the future of the rainbow nation is certainly something which has found resonance with many who have expressed hope and a new found sense of optimism.

This issue of *Alternation* intends to explore this dynamic which has brought about the possibility of reviewing both the gains and failures of the last 24 years and analysing these against the backdrop of the ongoing project of carving out a democratic, socially just dispensation. While the formal structures of democracy have been in place over a long enough period, the practice and pursuit of the principles of democracy and social justice have been found wanting, as has become evident on the commentary and analysis pages of both our media and academic publications.

We invite the submission of critically engaging papers that explore this theme of re-imagining South Africa from discipline-specific, and multi-, inter- and trans-disciplinary perspectives. President Ramaphosa’s call of Thuma Mina, opened up the civil society space, as a space for multiple, individual and collective imaginative interventions, creation of opportunities, and projects. It invites greater civil society participation across a wide array of both national, and civil society initiatives. It also challenges individuals and organizations, but also governance and economic structures to not only collectively imagine a new

future, but, especially, to creatively and constructively engage the still untransformed, unreconstructed, and inveterate social systems and structures that stand in the way of a fully free and equal South Africa.

With our first democratic elections in 1994, we realised the hopes, dreams, and aspirations of freedom, justice, and equality, of nearly ten generations of South Africans. With the launching of our Constitution by President Nelson Mandela, on 18 December 1996, and with it coming into effect, on 4 February 1997, we created the instruments to make this dream, a reality. It opened up collective vistas of promise and great expectations. And, to use a conceptual metaphor, much remains to be done, in the building of a rainbow nation.

Suggested Sub-Themes

Accountability
 Civil Society
 Class
 Corruption
 De-colonisation
 Economic Stability
 Education
 Entrepreneurship
 Equality/ Equity
 Freedom
 Gender Justice
 Health
 Housing
 Human Dignity
 Human Rights
 Humanitarian Relief
 International Relations
 Land
 Leadership
 Morality
 Philanthropy
 Political Elites
 Political Economy
 Political Parties
 Power
 Race
 Radical Economic Transformation
 Redistributive Justice
 Religion
 Social Justice
 Social Corporate Responsibility
 Transformation
 Worker's Rights

AND

Thuma Mina

Please submit the proposed titles of your articles, as well as a brief abstract of about 250-400 words, to alternation25years@ukzn.ac.za.

Submission dates:

1. Abstract of 250 – 400 words 30 September 2018
2. A short bio of contributors by 30 September 2018
3. Title and Abstract acceptance notification: 31 October 2018
4. Full chapter due: 28 February 2019
5. Projected publication date 2019

Please submit your abstract in the following format:

Author
Affiliation
Title
Theme
Abstract
Keywords

Please use the Alternation style for article submissions (as below). Cf. Guidelines for Authors at: <http://alternation.ukzn.ac.za/submissions.aspx>.

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Manuscripts must be submitted in English (UK). If quotations from other languages appear in the manuscript, place the original in a footnote and a dynamic-equivalent translation in the body of the text or both in the text.

Contributors must submit one computer-generated copy of the manuscript to the editor(s). The computer-generated copy must be in Word for Windows, and must have an Abstract and Keywords. It must also be submitted in the *Alternation* style.

Manuscripts should range between 5000-10000 and book reviews between 800-1200 words. However, longer articles may be considered for publication.

Attach a cover page containing the following information: The corresponding author's full name, address, e-mail address, position, department, university/ institution, and telephone/ fax numbers. A brief summary of the biodata of all authors must be attached too.

Maps, diagrams and posters must be presented in print-ready form. Clear black and white or colour digitised photos (postcard size) or diagrams in pdf or jpeg may also be submitted.

Use footnotes sparingly. In order to enhance the value of the interaction between notes and text, we use footnotes and not endnotes.

Authors may use their own numbering systems in the manuscript.

Except for bibliographical references, abbreviations must include full-stops. The abbreviations (e.a.) = 'emphasis added'; (e.i.o.) = 'emphasis in original'; (i.a.) or [...] = 'insertion added' may be used.

The full bibliographical details of sources are provided only once at the end of the manuscript under **References**. References in the body of the manuscript should follow the following convention: Mkhize (2017:14) argues or, at the end of a reference/quotation: (Ngwenya 2017:20f).

The surname and initials of authors as they appear in the source must be used in the **References** section.

Review articles and book reviews must include a title as well as the following information concerning the book reviewed: title, author, place of publication, publisher, date of publication, number of pages and the ISBN number.

In the text as well as the **References**, all book, journal, newspaper and magazine titles must be in italics.

The format for the **References** section is as follows:

Journal article by one author

Fulela, B. 2008. Checking the Post: Derrida and the Apartheid Debate. *Alternation* 15,2: 11 – 37. Available at: <http://alternation.ukzn.ac.za/Files/docs/15.2/02%20Fulela.pdf>. (Accessed on 08 May 2017.)

Journal article by two authors

Mkhize, N. & N. Ndimande-Hlongwa 2014. African Languages, Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS), and the Transformation of the Humanities and Social Sciences in Higher Education. *Alternation* 21,2: 10 – 37. Available at: <http://alternation.ukzn.ac.za/Files/docs/21.2/02%20Mkh.pdf>. (Accessed on 08 May 2017.)

Book by one author

Moran, S. 2009. *Representing Bushmen: South Africa and the Origin of Language*. Rochester: University of Rochester Press. (Rochester Studies in African History and the Diaspora, Book 38.)

Book by one editor

Smit, J.A. (ed.) 1999. *Body, Identity, Sub-cultures and Repression in Texts from Africa*. Durban: CSSALL.

Book by two editors

Dhunpath, R. & R. Vithal (eds.) 2012. *Alternative Access to Higher Education: Underprepared Students or Underprepared Institutions?* Cape Town: Pearson Publishers.

Chapter in an edited book

Smit, J.A. & J. van Wyk 2001. Literary Studies in Post-apartheid South Africa. In Zegeye, A. & R. Kriger (eds.): *Culture in the New South Africa after Apartheid*. Volume 2. Cape Town: Kwela Books & History on Line.

Translated book

Foucault, M. 1977. *Discipline and Punish*. Sheridan, A. (trans.). New York: Pantheon.

Online resource

Jansen, J. & P. Vale (Co-chairs.) 2011. Consensus Study on the State of the Humanities in South Africa. Status, Prospects and Strategies. Pretoria: Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf). Available at: <https://www.assaf.org.za/files/2011/09/2011-Humanity-final-proof-11-August-2011.pdf>. (Accessed on 08 May 2017.)