



Prof Ronit Frenkel

The University of Johannesburg acquired *The Thinker* in April 2019 from Dr Essop Pahad. Over the last decade, *The Thinker* has gained a reputation as a journal that explores Pan-African issues across fields and times. Ronit Frenkel, as the incoming editor, plans on maintaining the pan-African scope of the journal while increasing its coverage into fields such as books, art, literature and popular cultures. *The Thinker* is a 'hybrid' journal, publishing both journalistic pieces with more academic articles and contributors can now opt to have their submissions peer reviewed. We welcome Africa-centred articles from diverse perspectives, in order to enrich both knowledge of the continent and of issues impacting the continent.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS EDITION - All contributing analysts write in their personal capacity

Nathan Chapman

Nathan Chapman is a PhD Sociology student at the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine campus, Trinidad and Tobago. His PhD and MSc thesis focuses on Frame Case, a notion whereby rogue police officers maliciously charge or accuse residents of a crime by tampering with evidence. His research interests also include coloniality, gender and migration studies. He theoretically positions within a decolonial lens in the pursuit of social justice and disentangling eurocentrism within praxis.

Samia Chasi

Samia Chasi has more than 20 years of experience in higher education internationalisation as practitioner, scholar and facilitator. She currently serves as Manager: Strategic Initiatives, Partnership Development and Research at the International Education Association of South Africa (IEASA) and is a Research Fellow at the University of the Free State (UFS). Her research interests lie in Global South perspectives on higher education internationalisation, with a particular focus on North-South collaboration and partnerships.

David du Toit

David du Toit is a senior lecturer at the Department of Sociology at the University of Johannesburg. In 2019, he received his PhD in Sociology from the University of Stellenbosch. He is currently teaching third-year Social Science Research Methodology, Honours Sociology of

Work and Labour Markets and SPSS for MA students at UJ. He has supervised ten successful MA students on topics ranging from emotional labour, domestic work and the gig economy. He has published several articles on outsourcing, paid domestic work, the private security sector and emotional labour.

Steven Friedman

Steven Friedman is Research Professor in the Humanities Faculty, University of Johannesburg. He is a political scientist who specializes in the study of democracy. He has written widely on South Africa's transition to democracy and on the relationship between democracy, social inequality and economic growth. He has stressed the role of citizen voice in strengthening democracy. He is the author of *Building Tomorrow Today*, a study of the South African trade union movement and its impact on democracy. His study of South African radical thought *Race, Class and Power: Harold Wolpe and the Radical Critique of Apartheid* was published in 2015, his examination of democratic theory, *Power in Action: Democracy, Citizenship and Social Justice* in 2018 and his discussion of South Africa as a path dependant democracy, *Prisoners of the Past*, in 2021.

Emmarica Houlder

Emmarica Houlder is an MSc. Sociology student at the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine campus, Trinidad and Tobago, Her current research for the MSc. thesis focuses on the pandemic experiences

and realities for marginalised groups in Trinidad and Tobago. She is passionate about the economic instability and injustice tied to social hierarchies and is determined to change such realities.

George Hull

George Hull is a senior lecturer and NRF Y1-rated researcher in the Philosophy Department, University of Cape Town. He lectures on Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Race, Business Ethics and History of Philosophy. Together with Jimmy Winfield and Greg Fried, he co-authored *Business Ethics and Other Paradoxes: How Philosophy Answers Questions About the Ethics of Business* (Fairest Cape Press, 2014). He is editor of *The Equal Society: Essays on Equality in Theory and Practice* (Lexington Books, 2015) and *Debating African Philosophy: Perspectives on Identity, Decolonial Ethics and Comparative Philosophy* (Routledge, 2019). He has published essays in academic journals and collections on topics including transitional justice, democracy, reification, social equality, affirmative action, higher education funding and South African literature.

Samuel Igba

Samuel Igba is a Researcher and PhD student of Political Science at the University of Pretoria, and the Centre for Mediation in Africa. His research focuses on statebuilding, peacebuilding and the use of force by security agencies in Africa. He has a background at undergraduate level in Peace and Conflict studies, and a Masters in Diplomatic Studies. He also has experiences working at government and intergovernmental organizations across Africa including the United Nations (UN), and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

Emmaculate Asige Liaga

Emmaculate Asige Liaga is an associate post-doc researcher at the Centre for African Studies, University of Basel, and a visiting researcher at the Centre for Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP), Graduate Institute Geneva. Her work is on the analysis of conflict resolution mechanisms and nexus of local and adaptive approaches in intervention of

peacebuilding in Africa. Emmaculate is also a senior researcher at the Centre for Conflict and Peace Africa (CCPA), South Africa, where she conducts policy research on peacebuilding in Africa. Her research interests include peace and security from below, conflict resolution, agency of communities in policymaking, and international relations theories (critical theories and marginalized theories).

Sangeeta Maharaj

Sangeeta Maharaj is an MSc. Sociology graduate of the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine campus, Trinidad and Tobago. Her research for the MSc. thesis includes issues of sexual violence, where her focus was on exploring how women work through the socio-cultural trauma associated with that experience. She is an advocate for domestic violence survivors and intends to pursue NGO work to assist victims.

Zilibele Mtumane

Zilibele Mtumane is Professor and Head of the Department of African Languages and School of Languages at the University of Johannesburg. He holds the degree of DLitt et Phil from the University of South Africa, specialising in African languages. He also has the Higher Education Diploma from the University of Fort Hare and Diploma in Translation from the University of South Africa. He has presented a number of academic papers in various national and international conferences, where he chaired sessions as well. He has authored and co-authored over twenty five articles in various accredited journals. He has also authored three books and co-published two. Apart from publishing, he is a regular adjudicator for various accredited journals and has edited (and evaluated) book manuscripts for various publishing houses. Mtumane has supervised a number of postgraduate students, some of whom passed cum laude. He is also external examiner of both undergraduate and postgraduate students for various universities. He is a member of various professional and academic organisations.

Theo Neethling

Theo Neethling obtained a DLitt et Phil in International Politics from the University of South Africa in 1992. He

has held the position of Professor in the Department of Political Studies and Governance at the University of the Free State since 1 April 2009. He also served as Head of Department from April 2009 to June 2020. He is rated as an 'established researcher' by the South African National Research Foundation (since 2009) and his research interests concern Africa's international relations; South Africa's foreign relations; security and politics in the African context; and African futures.

Anton M. Pillay

Anton M. Pillay is a UJ Humanities PDRF. He completed his MA and PhD under the supervision of Prof Chris Landsberg, the South African Research Chair on African Diplomacy and Foreign Policy. He is also affiliated with the Centre for Academic Development based at the Vaal University of Technology.

Melanie Seeberan

Melanie Seeberan is an MPhil Sociology student at the West Indies, St. Augustine campus, Trinidad and Tobago. Her research for the MSc and MPhil thesis include issues of intimate partner violence. Additionally, she focuses on bullying among high school students and advocates for policies to reform social issues plaguing the T&T socio-cultural environment. Ruth Nozibele Tabu is the Principal of Inxiweni Primary School at Tembisa township, in Gauteng. She holds the degree of Master of Arts in African languages, from the University of Johannesburg. She also has the Junior Primary Teachers' Diploma from the former Daveyton College of Education. Her research interests include African literature and culture. She has co-authored one other article published in an accredited journal; South African Journal of African Languages.

Buck Whaley

Buck Whaley is studying toward an MA in Social Impact Assessment at the University of Johannesburg. He completed his Honours Degree in Social Anthropology from the University of Cape Town. Alongside his MA, Buck is a second-year sociology tutor. This would be Buck's first published

journal article. With a strong writing background and varied interests, he hopes this will be his first of many to come.

Tlhabane Mokhine 'Dan' Motaung

Tlhabane Mokhine 'Dan' Motaung is a former student and youth activist. He has published articles in the mainstream media and chapters in edited volumes. He currently works as a civil servant. His interests include classical antiquity, history (South African, African, and world), as well as international political economy, classical and philosophy African philosophy.