



PROGRAM

4th

REGIONAL HISTORY SOCIETY
OF SOUTHERN AFRICA (RHSSA)
CONFERENCE, MAPUTO

26-27 November 2025

Venue: Department of History, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Eduardo Mondlane University

Address: Eduardo Mondlane University, Main Campus, Av. Julius Nyerere No. 3453, Maputo, Mozambique

Independence and post-colonialism in Southern Africa

The year 2025 marks the jubilee of the independences of Angola and Mozambique. The independence of these Portuguese-speaking countries, contributed significantly to end colonialism and apartheid in Southern Africa. It marked a moment of euphoria and hope in regional history. With independence of Angola and Mozambique, freedom fighters in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia, gained a strategic support they needed to advance their struggle for freedom. As result of combined efforts, Zimbabwe became independent in 1980; Namibia in 1990 and South Africa held its first multiracial democratic election in 1994. These long years of struggle for the liberation of southern African countries forged a sense of a common destiny and brotherhood among freedom fighters. This spirit of unity led to the creation of SADC as a stepping-stone towards regional integration aiming at contributing for the wellbeing and human dignity of regional people. However, soon, people became disillusioned with the post-independence period. The earned emancipation has largely remained flag independence because 'development' has not been achieved in most of the countries in Southern Africa and the reason is not far to seek. Coloniality (present day colonialism) is to blame for the apparent poverty and underdevelopment in the region. Reacting to this debilitating phenomenon state actors have resorted to various forms of resistance (decoloniality) to it (coloniality) but with limited success. Because coloniality is sustained by Western modernity, an integral part of the indefatigable worldwide capitalist system can only be managed but not eliminated. As all southern African countries celebrate the jubilee of independence of Mozambique and Angola, it is timely to rigorously debate on strategic interventions against coloniality in Southern Africa. Thus, the Regional History Society of Southern African (RHSSA) is hosting a conference on the theme Independences and post-colonialism in Southern Africa. We cordially invite you to consider joining us for this debate.

REGISTER

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- ◇ [Conference registration fee \(Southern Africa Residents\): R2800](#)
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	Master of Ceremonies: Mr. Aderito Machava				
SAST, UCT+2	Wednesday, 26 November 2025				
8:30-9:00	Registration				
9:00-10:10	Plenary Session I (Venue: Anfiteatro 1502)	Session Chair: Mr Aderito Machava	Institution	Country	Title
9:00-9:10	Opening Address, RHSSA Steering Committee Member	Prof Marlino Mubai	<i>Eduardo Mondlane University</i>	Mozambique	
9:10 - 9:25	Welcome Address	Prof. Samuel Quive, Dean of Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences	<i>Eduardo Mondlane University</i>	Mozambique	
9:25 - 10:10	Keynote Address I	Prof Arlindo Chilundo 	<i>Eduardo Mondlane University</i>	Mozambique	
10:10 - 10:30	Coffee break				
10:30-13:25	Parallel Session II (Venue: Anfiteatro 1502)	Session Chair: Dr Paulo Lopes			
10:30 - 10:55	Presentation 1	Dr Hanky Sereo	<i>University of Eswatini</i>	Eswatini	<i>State Repression and the Fight for Democracy in Swaziland: The PUDEMO Experience, 1983-2013</i>
10:55 - 11:20	Presentation 2	Mr Arnaldo Pinto Teixeira Caliche	<i>Eduardo Mondlane University</i>	Mozambique	<i>The Lusaka Accords and Winner's Democracy: FRELIMO and the Armed Forces Movement (MFA), 1974-1976</i>

11:20 - 11:45	Presentation 3	Mr Mogammad Irshaad Suliman	<i>Stellenbosch University</i>	South Africa	<i>Behind the Frontlines: Cape Muslim Anti-Apartheid Resistance to Everyday Struggles (1950–1996)</i>
11:45-12:10	Presentation 4	Dr Levi Raber	<i>University of Exeter</i>	United Kingdom	<i>'I grew in the army': The Militarization of San Youth along the Angolan-Namibian Border, 1967-1990</i>
12:10-12:35	Presentation 5	Mr Giff Masengwe & Prof Paul H Gundani	<i>Zimbabwe Open University</i>	South Africa	<i>Reassessing the Historiography of the Liberation Struggle in Zimbabwe, 1980-2025</i>
12:35-13:00	Presentation 6	Dr Lazlo Passemiers	<i>University of the Free State</i>	South Africa	<i>Contingent Support: Zambia's Relationship with COREMO, 1965-1974</i>
13:00-13:25	Presentation 7	Robert Benjamim Uys	<i>North-West University</i>	South Africa	<i>Interpreting Dingane's Kraal? Interrogating uMgungundlovu's Multimedia Centre and Post-Apartheid Heritage</i>
13:25-14:15	Lunch				
10:30-13:25	Paralell Session III (Venue: Sala Magna)	Session Chair: Prof Eleusio Filipe			
10:35 - 10:55	Presentation 8	Ms Audrey Kudzai Maringa	<i>University of the Free State</i>	South Africa	<i>The Social and Health Impact of Urban Migration after Zimbabwe's Independence</i>
10:55 - 11:20	Presentation 9	Ms Dakaalo Carol Makhado	<i>University of Johannesburg</i>	South Africa	<i>Friendships and Frictions, 1880–1940: Zanzibari Identities and Encounters in Durban and the Indian Ocean World</i>
11:20 - 11:45	Presentation 10	Ms Tebatso Poee	<i>University of Johannesburg</i>	South Africa	<i>Migrating Men: Consumption, Alcohol and the Marketing of Food and Drink in Southern and East Africa, 1900s to 1980s</i>
11:45-12:10	Presentation 11	Ms Shalote Nyaradzo Nhete	<i>University of the Free State</i>	South Africa	<i>Euphoria, Drug Use and the Well Being of People in Zimbabwe 1980-2000</i>
12:10-12:35	Presentation 12	Mr Clinton Chiruta	<i>University of Eswatini</i>	Eswatini	<i>From Reluctance to Vigilance: The Colonial Government's Evolving Role in TB Control in Swaziland</i>
12:35-13:00	Presentation 13	Dr Shokahle Dlamini	<i>University of Eswatini</i>	Eswatini	<i>The Failure of Tuberculosis (TB) Control Measures to Effectively Eradicate TB in Swaziland, 2015-2024</i>
13:00-13:25	Presentation 14	Mr Emile Coetzee	<i>North-West University</i>	South Africa	<i>A history of the establishment of the Republic of South Africa through the participation of C.R. Swart during his inauguration as State President, 31 May 1961</i>
13:25-14:15	Lunch				

10:30-13:25	Paralell Session IV (Venue: Room 319)	Session Chair: Prof Bernard Mbenga			
10:35 - 10:55	Presentation 15	Mr Francisco Alberto Freitas Mendes	<i>Eduardo Mondlane University</i>	Mozambique	<i>From Colonialism to Coloniality: 'Heretical' Voices of the Catholic Clergy in the Challenge to Power in Mozambique (1940s–2020s)</i>
10:55 - 11:20	Presentation 16	Dr Jamu Nyirenda	<i>Mzuzu University</i>	Malawi	<i>Dialogue in South Africa but Dissidents in Neighbouring Countries: Malawi's Controversial International Relations during Hastings Kamuzu Banda, 1964-1994</i>
11:20 - 11:45	Presentation 17	Prof Inês Raimundo	<i>Eduardo Mondlane University</i>	Mozambique	<i>Mukherista Women and their Role in Regional Integration: Facts That 'History' Insists on Denying</i>
11:45-12:10	Presentation 18	Dr Seane Mabitsela	<i>University of Venda</i>	South Africa	<i>Participation of African Liberation Movements in the UN (1972-1974): An evaluation of the Implications for International Politics, Law and Relations</i>
12:10-12:35	Presentation 19	Dr James Hlongwana	<i>Great Zimbabwe University</i>	Zimbabwe	<i>A Pipe Dream. The Case of the 'Regional Integration genda' in Southern Africa</i>
12:35-13:00	Presentation 20	Ms Denice M Banda	<i>University of the Free State</i>	South Africa	<i>Chinese Mining Companies and Small- Scale Chromite Mining Practices in Mhondoro-Ngezi, Zimbabwe, 2000-2021</i>
13:00-13:25	Presentation 21	Dr Denise Maria Malauene	<i>Eduardo Mondlane University</i>	Mozambique	<i>The Role of Periodicals in the Edification of the Coloniality of Gender in Mozambique During the New State</i>
13:25-14:15	Lunch				
14:15-16:45	Paralell Session V (Venue: Anfiteatro 1502)	Session Chair: Mr Emile Coetzee			
14:15-14:40	Presentation 22	Nyasha Samuel Chikowero	<i>University of the Free State</i>	South Africa	<i>Chavaroyi: The Environmental and Socio- Political Ecologies of African Restorative Justice and Healing in Zimbabwe</i>
14:40-15:05	Presentation 23	Prof Ndivhoniswani Aaron Tshidzumba	<i>University of South Africa</i>	South Africa	<i>Evolution in Biofuels and Bioenergy to Ensure Global Sustainability: A Pathway to South African Digital Communication Transformation</i>
15:05-15:30	Presentation 24	Mr Titus Rukudzo Chideme	<i>University of the Free State</i>	South Africa	<i>Livelihoods and Food Security in a Mining Setting: The Case of Uzumba Maramba Pfungwe, Zimbabwe, 1980-2020</i>
15:30-16:00	Coffee break				

14:15-16:45	Paralell Session VI (Venue: Sala Magna)	Session chair: Dr Shokahle Dlamini			
14:15-14:40	Presentation 25	Dr Charmaine T Modisane	<i>North-West University</i>	South Africa	<i>Debating Youthful Criminality in the Witwatersrand in the 1920s and 1930s: Liberals, Missionaries, and the Press</i>
14:40-15:05	Presentation 26	Mr Makau KL & DP Nare	<i>Stellenbosch University</i>	South Africa	<i>Oh, It Can Be Done! Frelimo Women Combatants, The Inspiration That Fueled the South African Women's 1976 Generation To Combat</i>
15:05-15:30	Presentation 27	Ms Anna Matemana	<i>North-West University</i>	South Africa	<i>Faith in Conflict: Exploring Homophobia Among Christian Gay Male Students in a South African University Context</i>
15:30-16:00	Coffee break				
14:15-16:45	Paralell Session VII (Venue: Room 319)	Session chair: Mr Revolution Dube			
14:15-14:40	Presentation 28	Dr Peter Uledi	<i>University of the Free State</i>	South Africa	<i>"To the People ... Independence Means That They can Plough Everywhere." Environmental Policy, Land Redistribution and State-Peasant Relations in Zimbabwe, c.1980 to 1992</i>
14:40-15:05	Presentation 29	Prof Bernard K Mbenga	<i>North-West University</i>	South Africa	<i>The Impact of Mineral Wealth Upon the Bakgatla ba Kgafela of Rustenburg District, South Africa: Socio-Economic Progress and Conflict, 1990 – 2013</i>
15:05-15:30	Presentation 30	Prof Thula Simpson	<i>University of Pretoria</i>	South Africa	<i>Anti-Apartheid Networks and the ANC's Revolutionary Underground</i>
15:30-16:00	Coffee break				
16:00-17:30	Plenary Session I (Venue: Anfiteatro 1502)	Session Chair: Mr Aderito Machava	Institution	Country	Title
16:00-16:45	Keynote Speaker II (Venue: Anfiteatro 1502)		<i>University of Texas</i>	United States of America	
16:45-17:30	RHSSA Steering Committee Meeting				

Thursday, 27 November 2025

9:00-11:35	Paralell Session VIII (Venue: Anfiteatro 1502)	Session Chair: Prof David Bogopa			
9:00-9:25	Presentation 31	Beaurel Visser	<i>University of Fort Hare</i>	South Africa	<i>Beyond the Franchise: Black Political Agency in the Cape Colony</i>
9:25-9:50	Presentation 32	Dr Leshaba Tony Lechaba	<i>University of South Africa</i>	South Africa	<i>Conscientisation, Black Consciousness and the Significance of Liberation in Biko's Political Thought</i>
9:50-10:15	Presentation 33	Dr Sethuthuthu Lucky Vuma & Medwin Dikwanyane Sepadi	<i>University of Limpopo</i>	Limpopo	<i>Exploring the Indigenous African-Based System of Conflict Resolution: The Case of Bakone ba Ga-Mamefja in Limpopo Province, South Africa</i>
10:15-10:45	Coffee break				
10:45-11:10	Presentation 34	Mr Sibanda Munyika	<i>Great Zimbabwe University</i>	Zimbabwe	<i>Archives and the Politics of Memory in Post-Colonial Zimbabwe</i>
11:10-11:35	Presentation 35	Mr Keaobaka Tsholo	<i>University of the Free State</i>	South Africa	<i>Does the Transition of Liberation Movements into Political Parties Guarantee Good Governance? The Cases of ZANU-PF and the ANC</i>
9:00-11:35	Paralell Session IX (Venue: Sala Magna)	Session Chair: Prof Thula Simpson			
9:00-9:25	Presentation 36	Prof David Bogopa	<i>Nelson Mandela University</i>	South Africa	<i>Decolonization of the Social Sciences Modules: Themes and Perspectives</i>
9:25-9:50	Presentation 37	Mr Eddie Michel	<i>University of Pretoria</i>	South Africa	<i>'The United States is Wholly Committed to Help Bring About a Rapid, Just and African Solution to the Issue of Rhodesia.' Examining How the Collapse of Portuguese Rule in Southern Africa Brought U.S. Diplomatic Power Behind the Goal of Black Majority Rule in Salisbury.</i>
9:50-10:15	Presentation 38	Ms Mbali Layca Ncube	<i>University of Johannesburg</i>	South Africa	<i>Soundwaves of Resistance: Radio Freedom, COSAS, and Underground Media (1982-1985)</i>
10:15-10:45	Coffee break				
10:45-11:10	Presentation 39	Ms Ncebakazi Makwetu	<i>University of Fort Hare</i>	South Africa	<i>Vuyisile Mini: Dockworker, Umkhonto we Sizwe Commander, Freedom Song Writer – the Making of an Anti-Apartheid Martyr</i>
11:10-11:35	Presentation 40	Mr Leroy Maisari	<i>Univerisy of Fort Hare</i>	South Africa	<i>Beyond a Patriotic History: Recovering the Independent Left and the People's Power Movement in 1980s South Africa</i>

9:00-11:35	Paralell Session X (Venue: Room 319)	Session Chair: Dr James Hlongwana			
9:00-9:25	Presentation 41	Dr Domonique-Marie Verkerk	<i>Sol Plaatje University</i>	South Africa	<i>Challenging the Volksmoeder: Decolonial Feminism and the Representation of Black Women in Post-1994 Afrikaans Film</i>
9:25-9:50	Presentation 42	Mr Revolution Dube	<i>University of Johannesburg</i>	South Africa	<i>From Silence to Stories: Transforming Archival Practice in Southern Africa</i>
9:50-10:15	Presentation 43	Prof Marlino Mubai	<i>Eduardo Mondlane University</i>	Mozambique	<i>The 'Blessers' of Electoral Processes: A Critical Analysis of Post-Electoral Conflicts in Africa, 1990-2024</i>
10:15-10:45	Coffee break				
10:45-11:10	Presentation 44	Mr Trinity Tshisevhe & Mr Ayanda Sphelele Ndlovu	<i>University of Johannesburg</i>	South Africa	<i>Silenced Battlegrounds: Reassessing South Africa's Liberation Historiography and the Marginalisation of Armed Struggle Narratives Post-1994</i>
11:10-11:35	Presentation 45	Ms Siphoesihle Phindile Gumede	<i>University of South Africa</i>	South Africa	<i>Solomon Mahlangu in the Archive: Memory, Myth, and the Politics of Commemoration</i>
11:35-12:30	Prelenary Session XI (Venue: Anfiteatro 1502)	Session Chair: Mr Aderito Machava			
11:35-11:55	Report on Conference	Prof Marlino Mubai	<i>Eduardo Mondlane University</i>	Mozambique	
11:55-12:15	Valedictory words	Prof Elize S Van Eeden	<i>North-West University</i>	South Africa	
12:15-12:30	Announcement of 2026 Conference	Prof Ellize S Van Eeden			
12:30	Lunch				

