

MEDIA ADVISORY

The Launch of a new Azanian philosophical society – one that speaks to African knowledge's and experiences

ATTENTION: EDITORS, EDUCATIONAL AND SOCIAL REPORTERS

DATE: 30 / August / 2017

This Year College of Human Sciences School of Humanities Conference and Black August Festival will feature a remarkable step in the world of Philosophy by launching the Azanian Philosophical Society- one that speaks to African knowledges and experiences

The launch of a new philosophical society came as part of the outcome when a group of Black philosophers attended the Philosophical Society of South Africa's annual conference in January of 2017. The group argued in a plenary session on the ethical and political basis for the dissolution of the society. Their argument was that like many academic societies and institutions in South Africa, the society was deeply implicated in a racist history of the subjugation not only of African people but their knowledges as well. Their argument was that the time had surely come to found a new society in which African philosophy rather than a lesser tradition to be "included" would make up the very basis of philosophical practice. The new society which is envisioned as a new vehicle to advance the philosophical agenda of the indigenous conquered people and their engagements with others will be launched during the conference.

The Festival will be observed from 28 – 31 August, with the formal part of the conference occurring in the Kgorong Building at Unisa's Muckleneuk Campus in Pretoria. Several panel discussions on themes such as Pan Africanism, African philosophy and Black Theology will be explored. It will be followed by a day at the Mamelodi Cultural Centre where a film will be screened and a plenary panel on the state of philosophy in South Africa will be heard. After discussions the new society will be constituted. The final day will feature a walking lecture through the Voortrekker monument given by the renowned Professor Mogobe Ramose concerning South African history and its continuity. Please see the attached programme for more information.

Members of Media are invited to attend the event

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ISSUED BY UNISA MEDIA AFFAIRS DIRECTORATE

For RSVP please contact Tommy Huma, on 072 218 6197 / 012 429 3981 and Edgar Rathelele on 082 059 9243 / 012 429 6930

