

**Professor Cheryl Potgieter,
the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and
Head of the College of Humanities
Invites you to the**

2016 John Langalibalele Dube Memorial Lecture

Guest Speaker: Professor Ntongela Masilela

Title: South African intellectual and political culture enabled by John Langalibalele Dube in founding Ilanga lase Natal (The Natal Sun) newspaper in 1903.

John Langalibalele Dube launched Ilanga lase Natal on 10 April 1903 at Ohlange Institute in Phoenix about five weeks after the birth of H. I. E. Dhlomo on 26 February 1903 at Edendale (Siyamu). These two unrelated historical occurrences in the early years of the twentieth century were to intercross each other in an astonishing way 40 years later in the early 1940s when Dhlomo and his brother assumed editorial responsibility of the newspaper with his elder brother R. R. R. Dhlomo. Under their guidance the newspaper became arguably one of the best newspaper in South Africa in the twentieth century.

This is by no means to minimize its remarkable achievements in the preceding four decades: facilitating the transformation of the Zulu Nation from tradition to modernity; being one of the principal organs of the African National Congress before and after the demise of Abantu/Batho newspaper (national horizon); interconnecting New Negro modernity and New African modernity (international perspective); incubated the emergence of the Zulu Intellectuals of the 1940s (including among others, Jordan Ngubane, Anton Lembede, Rueben Caluza, Sibusisiwe Violet Makhanya, S. V. H. Mdluli, Walter M. B. Nhlapo, Rueben Caluza, Vusamazulu Credo Mutwa, Mazisi Kunene) as Benedict Wallet Vilakazi was to anticipate in a seminal essay published in this newspaper in 1933 about his own intellectual formation; enabled the unending duel between conservative New African modernizers (Dube himself) and the progressive New African modernizers (Albert Luthuli); and lastly but not least, the contributions of Robert Grendon, Ngazana Luthuli, A. H. Ngidi and others, in the earlier years of this undertaking. The lecture will attempt to convey rather than capture the complex mosaic of this historic formation made possible by Ilanga lase Natal.

Date: 15 September 2016 | Time: 17h30 for 18h00

Venue: Colin Webb Hall, Pietermaritzburg Campus, University of KwaZulu-Natal

Kindly RSVP by Thursday 01 September

[Click here to RSVP](#)

Biography Professor Ntongela Masilela



Ntongela Masilela is a South African intellectual and independent scholar living in retirement in Bangkok, Thailand. He has taught at different universities in different parts of the world: University of Nairobi in Kenya, University of Lodz in Poland, University of Koblenz-Landau in Germany, University of California in Los Angeles (UCLA), University of California in Irvine (UCI), and Pitzer College in Claremont, California.

He has authored the following books: *The Cultural Modernity of H. I. E. Dhlomo* (2007), *An Outline of the New African Movement in South Africa* (2013), *The Historical Figures of the New African Movement: Volume One* (2014), *A South African Looks at the African Diaspora: Essays and Interviews* (2016), *Présence Africaine and the Emergence of African Film Criticism and Other Selections* (forthcoming, 2016). He is presently assembling the writings of Mazisi Kunene, Clement Martyn Doke and Jordan Kush Ngubane in separate volumes for publication commencing in 2017.



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