



UNIVERSITY OF
KWAZULU-NATAL
INYUVESI
YAKWAZULU-NATALI

COLLEGE OF
HUMANITIES

The School of Education within the College of Humanities is organising a webinar in honour of

MAHATMA GANDHI'S LEGACY AND COMMEMORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA'S FREEDOM DAY.

This event will explore Gandhi's enduring philosophy, emphasizing nonviolence, truth, sustainability, and social transformation and its relevance to South Africa's ongoing pursuit of democracy and equality.

We invite you to participate in this reflective discussion, celebrating Gandhi's contributions and examining their impact on our nation's journey toward freedom and Gandhi's social justice.

DATE Tuesday, 29 April 2025

TIME 14h00 - 16h30 (SAST)

PLATFORM Zoom



CLICK HERE TO JOIN WEBINAR



HOST: Dr L R Maharajh, School of Education | maharajhlr@ukzn.ac.za

SPEAKERS:

Dr Devarakshanam (Betty) Govinden is a prominent South African academic, prolific researcher, author, and poet. She has diverse interests and has published on a wide range of subjects, including education, literature, theology, visual arts, interdisciplinary studies and Feminist Studies. She served as Dean of the Faculty of Education at the (former) University of Durban-Westville and currently serves as a Honorary Research Associate in the School of Social Sciences, UKZN. Betty is deeply engaged in the broad community, being a past member of the Association of Commonwealth Literatures and Languages, several South African literary and language associations, and a founding member of the Circle of Concerned African Women Theologians. She previously served as a member of the Anglican Consultative Council and attended the 1988 Lambeth Conference as a lay delegate from the Anglican Church in Southern Africa.

Professor Suresh Kumar is a distinguished scholar specialising in African Studies, currently holding the position of Professor at the University of Delhi since 2012. With an extensive academic career, he has occupied various teaching and research positions, including associate professorships at the University of Delhi and the Eritrean Institute of Technology and Science Education in Eritrea. Professor Kumar has been actively engaged in international research collaborations. He was the Chief Collaborator for the ICSSR-NIHSS International Joint Research Project on Religion, Yoga, and Education in India and South Africa (2016–2018) and is a member of the UNESCO Research Group on African and Brazilian Knowledge, Education, and Histories. Additionally, he has contributed to the Hashim Mbita Research Project concerning the role of India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, and Yugoslavia in the Southern African liberation struggle. His professional affiliations include membership in prominent academic and policy organisations such as CODESRIA (Senegal), the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Africa Committee, and the Indo-African Chamber of Commerce & Industries (IACCI). Professor Kumar's expertise in African Studies, international relations, and social sciences has made him a key figure in Indo-African academic and policy engagements.

Che Chetty holds a Master of Arts (MA) degree from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa. His research interests encompass Hinduism, Asian Studies, and Comparative Religious Studies. His recent academic work includes his master's dissertation, *The Transgressive Nature of Shiva: An Investigation into the Transgressive Manifestations of the Deity Shiva in Hinduism* (2014), which explores the complex and unconventional depictions of Shiva within Hinduism.

INSPIRING GREATNESS