



UNIVERSITY OF
KWAZULU-NATAL™
INYUVESI
YAKWAZULU-NATALI

COLLEGE OF
HUMANITIES

PROFESSOR FATIMA MEER MEMORIAL LECTURE 2025

30 AUGUST 2025

14H00 – 16H00

HOWARD COLLEGE THEATRE,
HOWARD COLLEGE CAMPUS

**THEME:
LEADERSHIP, ACTIVISM
AND JUSTICE: THE
LEGACY OF PROFESSOR
FATIMA MEER**

[CLICK HERE TO RSVP](#)

INSPIRING GREATNESS

PRESENTER'S BIOGRAPHIES



Keynote Speaker:

Professor Ashwin Desai

Ashwin Desai is Professor of Sociology at the University of Johannesburg. In 2021 he was awarded the National Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences (NIHSS) Prize for Best Non-Fiction monograph for *Wentworth: The Beautiful Game and Making of Place*. He repeated this feat with a 2024 NIHSS Award for Best Non-Fiction Monograph for *Durban's Casbah: Bunny Chows, Bolsheviks and Bioscopes* (co-authored with Goolam Vahed). In 2023 he received the HSRC and USAF Award for Established Researcher and in 2024 the Top Researcher Award, Faculty of Humanities, University of Johannesburg.



Discussant:

Dr Janine Hicks

Dr Janine Hicks is Senior Lecturer at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, School of Law, where she serves as Academic Leader for Community Engagement, and Chairperson of the UKZN Gender Based Violence Committee. Janine is also convenor for the Navi Pillay Research Group, a collective of academics from the School of Law seeking to address critical emergent issues of race, class, gender and disability in post-Apartheid South Africa through research, law and policy reform. Janine further serves as Project Leader for the South African Law Reform Commission's Project 143: Maternity and Paternity Benefits for Self-Employed Workers, and a former Commissioner with the South African Commission for Gender Equality. Janine holds a PhD (UKZN), an MA (Sussex), a post-graduate LLB (Natal) and a BA (UCT). She has published extensively on democracy, public participation, gender equality and access to socio-economic rights.

Enquiries:

Rakshika Sibran - sibran@ukzn.ac.za