



UNIVERSITY OF
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Centre for
**African
Literary Studies**

THE UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU-NATAL LIBRARY SERVICES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO THE

CENTRE FOR AFRICAN LITERARY STUDIES (CALs)

VIRTUAL LECTURE

THEME:
**PROFESSOR BERNTH LINDFORS' STERLING
CONTRIBUTION TO AFRICAN LITERARY STUDIES**

DATE

Tuesday,
07 October 2025

TIME

10h30 - 11h15

PLATFORM

Via Zoom

CLICK HERE TO RSVP

Enquiries Only:

Namisile Zuma | zuman3@ukzn.ac.za | Pamela Adams | Adamsp@ukzn.ac.za

INSPIRING GREATNESS

SPEAKERS



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

PROFESSOR M.Z. MALABA

Professor M.Z. Malaba has made significant scholarly contributions across four key areas: the study of Shakan literature; critical analyses of Charles Mungoshi's works; pioneering research on Namibian poetry written in English; and studies of Marguerite Poland's major novels. His work is grounded in contextual literary analysis—examining texts as products of specific historical periods and as reflective of authors' responses to the defining issues of their times. He was appointed as Administrator of the Commonwealth Writers Prize (1995–1996) by the Commonwealth Foundation. Prof. Malaba has long played a role in promoting African literature on global platforms. He also served as Co-ordinator of the British Council's Pan-African World Words Project in 2010, working closely with the Council's representatives in Zimbabwe and Namibia.

From 1992 to 1994, he was Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Arts at the University of Zimbabwe. Over his 37-year academic career at universities across the sub-region, Prof. Malaba has remained committed to secondary education, notably through his involvement with the English Association in Harare, which organized lectures on set texts to support high school teachers. He also served as Acting Director of the Centre for African Literary Studies (CALS) from July to December 2010.

Prof. Malaba has been a respected External Examiner at institutions including the University of Swaziland (UNISWA), the Polytechnic of Namibia, University of Stellenbosch, University of Johannesburg, and University of Botswana. He has delivered invited lectures at numerous international universities, including the University of Hull, Boston University, University of Düsseldorf, Ohio State University, University of Florida (Gainesville), Washington State University, University of Oviedo, University of Pretoria, University of Mississippi, RWTH Aachen University, and the University of Essen.



RESPONDENT

DR THULANI MKHIZE

Dr Thulani Mkhize is the Academic Leader for Literary Arts at the University of KwaZulu-Natal where she is a Senior Lecturer in English Studies, with a special focus on African literature in historical newspapers. She holds an MA in English Literature and a PhD in African Language Studies (Literature), both from Rhodes University. She is an Andrew Mellon Foundation Scholar, and was the Editor-in-Chief of the South African Journal of African Languages from 2020 until 2023. Her most recent publications include co-editing *African Literature: Beyond the Western Gaze* (2024) and her monograph titled *Nontsizi Mqgqwetho: The Poet of the People* (2025, UKZN Press).