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MISTRA's Monthly Briefing is a newsletter from the Mapungubwe Institute for Strategic Reflection. It aims to inform MISTRA's partners about the Institute's research, strategic reflections, published papers, and other news relating to the network of people and organisations committed to MISTRA's strategic engagement with the issues facing South Africa. The briefing is issued monthly.

In issue **Number#14** we have great pleasure in announcing the completion of MISTRA's two-year research project on the rise and decline of the Mapungubwe civilisation, and a conference to launch the Research Report entitled Mapungubwe Reconsidered.

We also report on the hugely successful public lecture given by **Dr Francis Fukuyama** and organized in partnership between MISTRA and the Graduate School of Development Policy and Practice (GSDPP) at the University of Cape Town.

And we report on a workshop on growth, job creation and financial stability with **Gunter Pauli**, a world-renowned innovator and entrepreneur, jointly hosted by MISTRA and the South African Reserve Bank.

In this issue, we also report on a skafin session between MISTRA and five young South African software entrepreneurs who have made it to the final of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Space App Challenge competition.

Included in this issue is a range of media articles produced by MISTRA staff or about MISTRA, including an opinion piece by **Fumani Mthembu** on MISTRA's annual lectures and their relevance in South Africa's changing landscape. We also have reports on the Francis Fukuyama lecture by Shaun de Waal in the Mail & Guardian and Ray Hartley in The Times; and other articles by MISTRA staff on current issues.

We're happy to celebrate the awarding of the Order of Luthuli to **Dr Mosibudi Mangena**, one of the founding members of MISTRA who serves on our board of governors. And we also announce two new appointments: **Catherine Kannemeyer** who has been appointed as a researcher in the Faculty of Political Economy, and **Molly Gilder**, who has been appointed as an Intern in Directorate Operations.

We hope you find our **Monthly Briefings** informative and invite you to visit our website, where you will find more information on our research, key papers, media on MISTRA, as well as an [Expression of Interest Form](#) if you are interested in participating in any of the Institute's research projects.

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MISTRA STRATEGIC REFLECTIONS

Public Lecture by Dr Francis Fukuyama



On Friday 10th May 2013 MISTRA in partnership with the **Graduate School of Development Policy and Practice (GSDPP)** at the University of Cape Town hosted a lecture by **Prof Francis Fukuyama**, author of *The End of History and the Last Man* (1992), *The Origins of Political Order* (2011) and other titles.

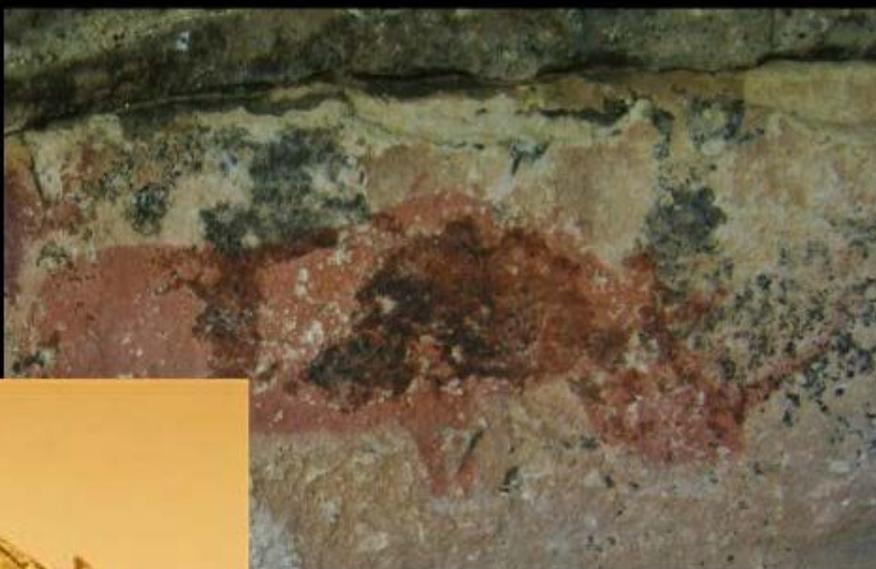
Francis Fukuyama is the Olivier Nomellini Senior Fellow at the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies (FSI), resident in FSI's Center on Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law at Stanford University.

Dr. Fukuyama has written widely on issues relating to democratisation and the international political economy. His books include: *The End of History and the Last Man* (1992), *The Origins of Political Order* (2011), *America at the Crossroads: Democracy, Power, and the Neoconservative Legacy* (2006), and *Falling Behind: Explaining the Development Gap between Latin America and the United States* (2008).

Dr Fukuyama's lecture covered the main themes in his book: *The Origins of Political Order* (2011).

Mapungubwe Reconsidered: Exploring beyond the Rise and Decline of the Mapungubwe State

Frontiers and interaction



MISTRA is pleased to announce the completion of its two-year research project on the rise and decline of the Mapungubwe civilisation.

A conference has been convened to release the integrated Mapungubwe Research Report, entitled: *"Mapungubwe Reconsidered: Exploring beyond the Rise and Decline of the Mapungubwe State"*.

The conference provides a platform to engage with the findings of this study drawing in archaeologists and historians from South Africa's leading universities. Themes covered in the Report include trade and state-formation, the metalworking industry of Mapungubwe, heritage and environmental protection, indigenous knowledge systems (IKS), gender issues and contemporary resonances.

As the continent marks the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the OAU, this is a fitting moment to reflect on pre-colonial civilisations of Africa as well as draw lessons from the Mapungubwe experience.

VENUE: Wits Origins Centre
Cnr. Yale & Enoch Sontonga
Wits University
Braamfontein

DATE: Saturday 25 May 2013

TIME: 9:00am – 2:30pm

[If you are interested in attending the conference, please RSVP here](#)

[Click here for the Conference Programme](#)

Presentation by Joel Netshitenzhe to the Pan-African Parliament

On Thursday 9th May 2013, MISTRA Executive Director Joel Netshitenzhe made a presentation, entitled **Towards Agenda 2063: A Pan-African Renaissance in**



Joel Netshitenzhe, MISTRA Executive Director

the next 50 years?, to the Pan-African Parliament. The presentation has also been published in the May 2013 issue of *The Thinker* magazine.

Towards Agenda 2063: A Pan-African Renaissance in the next 50 years?

Over the past two decades, the conference circuit has been awash with events to reflect on 'Africa strategies'. The irony though is that many of these engagements are organised by, and on, other continents to review other countries' approaches to a region that has started to show much promise. Instructively, Africa itself – and indeed a majority of the countries on the continent – does not have an America or Asia or Europe strategy.

The growing interest in the continent over the past two decades is understandable. Africa is showing great potential and its future development trajectory, undergirded in part by vast natural endowments, is becoming clearer. Countries such as China, India, Russia, Brazil, Turkey, South Korea and Malaysia are enhancing their involvement in Africa and thus reconfiguring the continent's multifaceted international relations that were historically informed by colonialism, neo-colonialism and the dictates of the Cold War. At the same time, the so-called "war on terror" has elevated Africa's strategic significance in international security considerations.

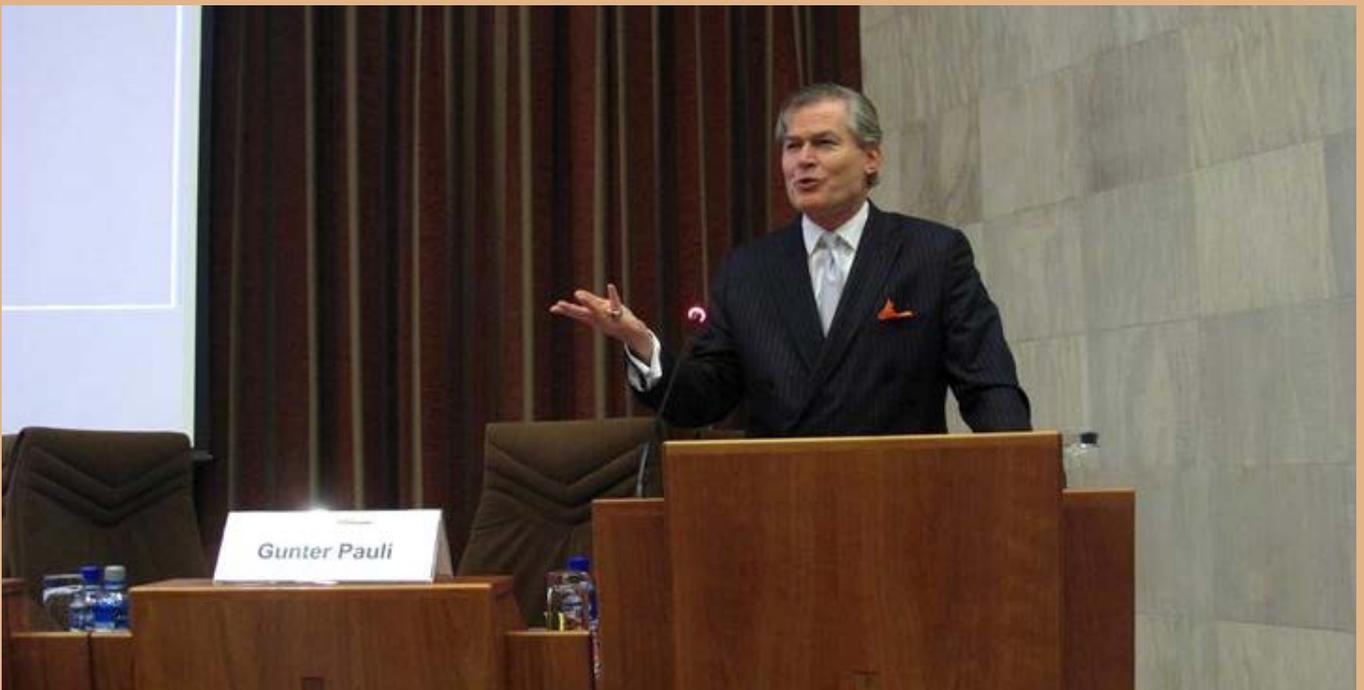
In the context of all this, and on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the OAU, it is appropriate to pose the question: whither Africa! Where will the continent be in another 50 years, in 2063? Africa not only needs to map out scenarios about where it wants to be in the medium- to long-term; it needs to do this proceeding from the premise that it is Africa's own actions or omissions that will define its 50-year rendezvous.

** Paper presented at the Pan-African Parliament on 9 May 2013 and published in the May 2013 issue of The Thinker magazine.*

[To read full paper click here](#)

[To download article in The Thinker click here](#)

The Mapungubwe Institute for Strategic Reflection and the South African Reserve Bank Workshop on growth, job creation and financial stability with Gunter Pauli



On the 2nd May 2013 the Mapungubwe Institute for Strategic Reflection, in partnership with the South African Reserve Bank, hosted **Prof Gunter Pauli** at a one-day workshop that examined opportunities for sustainable growth and job creation.

Prof Gunter Pauli is a world-renowned innovator whose entrepreneurial activities span business, culture, science, politics and the environment.

Prof Pauli specialises in identifying new sectors of the economy at the macro level, designing new competitive strategies for corporations at the micro level, and building social capital for communities at the local level.

The discussion was based on actual cases that have been implemented in different parts of the world that can offer South Africa exciting options for inclusive and sustainable growth.

Under the theme "*Growth, Jobs and Financial Stability*" the workshop considered ways to expand competitive opportunities in the real economy, including mining, manufacturing and agriculture.

Professor Gunter Pauli, an expert in the field with a track record of translating a strategic vision into hands-on initiatives on a large scale, shared his approach and experiences. Other speakers included **Reserve Bank Governor Gill Marcus** and **MISTRA Executive Director, Joel Netshitenzhe**.

[To read more about Gunter Pauli click here](#)



Joel Netshitenzhe and Gunter Pauli

MISTRA Skaftin with Young Entrepreneurs



MISTRA's Velaphi Msimang with Thami Zulu, Melvin Musehani, Klaas Kabini, and Stephen Kobue

On the 9th May 2013, MISTRA had the pleasure of engaging with five young South African software entrepreneurs who have made it to the final 133 applications out of almost 800 applications submitted to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Space App Challenge competition. This competition was entered by 9000 people from 83 cities in 44 countries.

Thami Zulu (Designer), Melvin Musehani (mobile apps developer), Klaas Kabini (mobile developer), and Stephen Kobue (Software Engineer) worked together in creating an app (short for application) called Cosmic Hub, which is implemented into the new Blackberry Z10 phone. This app was designed to share visuals of near earth objects (NEOs) and also provide the simulation of our solar system. A user is able to have a cosmic view of the distance of the planets in relation to the sun. The Cosmic Hub crowd sources the discovery and confirmation of NEOs (such as comets and asteroids) by allowing people to comment, confirm and share the sightings on their favourite social networks.

What inspired these youths into creating the Cosmic Hub app was to improve the public's understanding of science and space exploration. By providing a user friendly app, a visual element was added to help decode some of the science jargon which only a few can understand. This group of young entrepreneurs is led by Mr Nicol Shingange of Ntokoto Holdings, who is their project manager. Mr Shinagage, who has experience in IT, Business Management and Engineering provides support and business advice to these youths.

[To read more click here](#)

MISTRA IN THE NEWS

**South Africa's context has changed
by Fumani Mthembi**



South Africa's context has changed

May 12 2013 at 01:29pm

By Fumani Mthembi.

[Comment on this story](#)

If you've not heard of the Mapungubwe Institute for Strategic Reflection, or have not managed to attend one of its events, you're simply denying your mind a great watering opportunity.

Its annual lecture series has been held together by the same invisible thread and seemingly not by design: the pact upon which South Africa is founded and the need to revisit it.

It is no doubt the question of why a dispensation won in the name of the majority has not gone very far in serving the interests of that very group that warrants serious attention.



Fumani Mthembi.

Independent Newspapers.

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Thus without being prescriptive, both Mkandawire and Mamdani delivered articulate reflections on our past and the rationale underlying the compromises that delivered 1994.

*Originally published in *The Sunday Independent* on 12 May 2013

[To read full article click here](#)

National identity can drive development, says Fukuyama by Shaun de Waal

Speaking to a full Linder Auditorium in Johannesburg on May 10, Francis Fukuyama ticked off the three things he sees as the key elements of a successful modern nation: an "impersonal" state, the rule of law and accountability.

A guest of the University of Cape Town's Graduate School of Development Policy and Practice (where he teaches an intensive course for mid-level civil servants) and the Mapungubwe Institute for Strategic Reflection, he ignored the advertised title of his address (The End of the End of History ...), and sharply but in an easy, conversational style summarised the key points of his 2011 book, *The*



Origins of Political Power, the first of two volumes (the second will be out next year) on how societies develop economically and politically.

[To download full article, please click here](#)

Originally published in *The Mail & Guardian* on 17th May 2013

THE BIG READ: Importance of being earnest

The weekend ended with mass adulation for Justin Bieber at FNB stadium. But there were beliebers of a different kind at the Linder Auditorium on Friday night, writes Ray Hartley

The evening's rock star was Francis Fukuyama, author of *The End of History*, and the world's foremost thinker on liberal democracy. He was delivering a lecture in the series organised by the Mapungubwe Institute. The auditorium was filled to the rafters.

Short, balding and wearing an ill-fitting suit, Fukuyama did not cut a dramatic figure seated in one of three white chairs on the stage. After two introductions he rose to speak, perhaps for the millionth time.

But once he got going it was clear why Johannesburg's intellectuals had given up movie night at the Cinema Nouveau. Fukuyama would explore three pillars - although he never used that word - of democracy: The state, the rule of law and accountability. He would do so without fireworks, power point presentations or gimmicks. He would apply his brain to a problem and think aloud.

Originally published in *The Times* on 13th May 2013

[To read full article, please click here](#)



Africa Urged to Pursue the Interests of Its People by Stephen Odoi-Larbi

Midrand — The Executive Director of the Mapungubwe Institute (MISTRA), Joel Netshitenzhe, on Thursday urged leaders in Africa to be inspired by the need to pursue the interests of peoples in the continent.

While pursuing that, Mr. Netshitenzhe, again, encouraged them to ensure the kind of diversity that transcends the erstwhile relations of colonialism and neo-colonialism, and strive hard "to rebuff external efforts to divide, dominate and rule."

"Improvement in the condition of life of Africa's people should entail attention to all aspects of human rights - political, economic, social, environmental and informational," noted Mr. Netshitenzhe.

The Executive Director of the Mapungubwe Institute made this observation on Thursday, when presenting a report dubbed 'Towards Agenda 2063: A Pan-African Renaissance in the next 50 years?' on the floor of the Pan-African Parliament.

Commenting further, he said the Pan-African renaissance would not come on its own accord, since it required foresight in leadership, activism of society, and renaissance of Africa's 'think industry'.

[To read article click here](#)

Originally published in *The Chronicle (Ghana)* on 13th May 2013

Our sovereignty is slowly slipping away

The Zuma-Gupta affair is a classic example of private capital influencing democratic governance. This capital threatens the very sovereignty of South Africa, writes Mcebisi Ndletyana

Our sovereignty is slowly slipping away

EVER watched the movie, *The Manchurian Candidate*? It's a 2004 thriller that illuminates the insidious influence of American business on politics. In this case, a private firm, Manchurian Global, plots to go beyond merely influencing policies through politicians, whose campaigns it funds, by usurping the American presidency itself.

Their intended usurper is Raymond Shaw (played by Live Schreiber), whose rise they fund from a two-term congressman right up to deputy president. A former soldier turned politician, Shaw rises on account of him being a war hero. He was awarded a presidential Medal of Honour for his exploits in battle. Faced with the threat of terrorism, voters see him as the right person to protect America.

It turns out, however, that Shaw is not quite the hero he's made out to be. This comes to light through the stubborn persistence of his former senior officer, Major Ben Marco (played by Denzel Washington). Marco has recurring dreams that contradict the account of what supposedly happened in that war.

The official account is that they came under enemy attack during which Marco was knocked unconscious and two of their men were killed. They were only saved by the bravery of Sergeant Shaw who repelled the enemy and drove them to safety. Another sign that something might be amiss, Marco realises, is that they all narrate the incident in the same order and use exactly the same words.

On investigating further despite the disapproval of the army whose top brass thinks he suffers from post-war syndrome, Marco uncovers

The Zuma-Gupta affair is a classic example of private capital influencing democratic governance. This capital threatens the very sovereignty of South Africa, writes Mcebisi Ndletyana



“
YOU'RE ABOUT TO
BECOME THE FIRST
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make of our elected president? Could it really be that President Jacob Zuma is South Africa's own "Sabara Candidate"? But, what explains this subjectification of the ordinary perversion of a democratic republic, this atomisation? It is shocking, but not inexplicable. Corporations meddling in politics is nothing new. Democracy has its roots in business. It was business people's answer to the arbitrary rule of the monarchy, which throttled their profits. They sought democracy so that they would elect

vulnerable to manipulation. The Zuma-Gupta affair, however, is clearly an extreme anomaly. It even defies the logic of a bourgeois democracy. This is polytensionalism, self-interest has taken priority over national interests. Just five months ago, the party in government resolved to go the route of economic nationalism, which involves asserting an indigenous bourgeoisie that would prioritise national development. The ANC hoped to emulate the experience of Afrikaner nationalists. What we now have, however, is marginalisation of indigenous business in favour of expatriate capital. This expatriate capital is even the face of South African business on foreign presidential visits. So powerful is this expatriate capital, in what is supposedly a sovereign state led by a national liberation movement, that whoever crosses them gets fired, even if that risks national security. Lam Ntjane, Moe Shadi and Jeff Magotheka were fired from their intelligence jobs because they concluded, upon completing their investigation, that the Gupta's relationship with the president was a threat to national

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[To read full article click here](#)

Mahmood Mamdani: Legal Band-Aid not for deep wounds by Shaun de Waal

Mahmood Mamdani's book *Citizen and Subject: Contemporary Africa and the Legacy of Colonialism* (1995) is now viewed as one of the key texts on citizenship, modernity and post-colonialism in Africa. Last month he delivered the second annual MISTRA lecture at the Mapungubwe Institute for Strategic Reflection, as well as launching his new book, *Define and Rule: Native as Political Identity* (Wits University Press), which was based on his WEB du Bois lectures at Harvard.

It is a study of colonial "indirect rule" and how that affected social identities ("native" versus "settler") and conceptions of "Africanisation" after independence, inflecting arguments about social inclusion or exclusion ("Who belongs?", as

Mamdani puts it in this interview).

Born in Uganda, Mamdani is the director of the Makerere Institute of Social Research, the Herbert Lehman professor of government at the School of International and Public Affairs, and the professor of anthropology, political science and African studies at Columbia University. He also taught at the University of Cape Town for a time. We spoke about the lecture in more detail:



Your Mistra lecture (Beyond Nuremberg: Breaking the Cycle of Violence) talks about how processes such as the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) and the International Criminal Court (ICC) are modelled on the Nuremberg trials of prominent Nazis after World War II. You ask whether such processes can help to build unified political communities in Africa.

[To read full article please click here](#)

Originally published in the Mail and Guardian, 03 May 2013

What would organs of people's power look like today?

By Yacoob Abba Omar

The date April 27 should be used to recapture the spirit of active citizenship which marked our struggle for freedom. If there was a vote for the patron saint of South Africa, my vote would be for Oliver Reginald Tambo.

As we South Africans mark the 19th anniversary of Freedom Day tomorrow, let us raise our flag in honour of a man who embodied humility, who mentored us with deep patience and who led with immense foresight. Let us also console a family who, despite their loss 20 years ago, continues to abide by the very Christian principles which made him a humanist in the truest sense of the word, one who places humanity at the centre of all our endeavours, rationale and aspirations.

Our struggle was for a united, democratic, sovereign South Africa. We need to unpack that in the context of the political developments we have witnessed over the past two decades so that we remain true to those principles.

We need to especially look at what is happening to our civil society, which underpinned our struggle for democracy. The genius of Tambo and the collective leadership of the ANC was to harness and unleash all those forces of civil society.

As our struggle intensified in the late '80s and early '90s, virtually all South Africans had a place in that struggle. I am going to reiterate that a wide array of institutions, some of them transformed into what we called organs of people's power. The important point is that we could see in practise that the people of South Africa had become the sovereign power.

[To Read full article, please click here](#)

Originally published in The New Age, 26 April 2013

Are rituals mainly for those still living?

The recent ceremony at Blouberg beach to capture the spirit of Makhanda kaNxele and take it home raised many issues, writes Mcebisi Ndletyana

Are rituals mainly for those still living?

The recent ceremony at Blouberg beach to capture the spirit of Makhanda kaNxele and take it home raised many issues, writes **Mcebisi Ndletyana**



IF CAPE Town's attraction for Europeans is its resemblance to their motherlands, then the historic event of April 18, 2013, underscored their African location when the tranquil scenic beach of Blouberg was invaded by "real Africa".

Waking up to a morning sea breeze for their usual jog on a normally quiet beach, Blouberg residents were confronted with unusual scenes of amaqgirha - traditional doctors - dancing to the beat of an African drum.

The African imagery was occasioned by the 19th century historic figure, Makhanda kaNxele. The amaqgirha had come so that his spirit could "return home". Nxele drowned near Blouberg in 1820 as he escaped, with 30 other inmates, from Robben Island prison.

He had been arrested for leading an attack against Grahamstown's British settlers in 1819. The attack turned out to be the fourth of 10 frontier wars the natives waged against the invading British.

A military general and later - traditional doctor - to Chief Ndlembu, Nxele's attack was thwarted only by the superiority of the British firepower. The warriors' spears were in search for the cannon. They were slaughtered and their blood turned the Koste River red.

Today that background is called *stencil* - a place of blood - and a memorial has been erected as a reminder of the gallant efforts of African warriors in defence of their freedom. The cannon he has been memorialised by artists in various sites like *William's Place* in



AFRICAN CEREMONY: Traditional healers conducting the spiritual repatriation ceremony of 19th century Xhosa warrior Makhanda kaNxele at Blouberg beach in Cape Town.

PICTURE: BREYTON GRICH

If Cape Town's attraction for Europeans is its resemblance to their motherlands, then the historic event of April 18, 2013, underscored their African location when the tranquil scenic beach of Blouberg was invaded by "real Africa".

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[To read full article please click here](#)

Originally published in the Sunday Independent, 5th May 2013

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MISTRA PEOPLE

Dr Mosibudi Mangena honoured with the Order of Luthuli



Dr Mosibudi Mangena

Dr Mosibudi Mangena, who serves on the MISTRA of board of governors, has been awarded with the Order of Luthuli by President Jacob Zuma.

This order is awarded to South Africans who have made a meaningful contribution to the struggle for democracy, human rights, nation-building, justice and peace, and conflict resolution.

Having fought against the apartheid regime and being sentenced to Robben Island for five years under the Terrorism Act, Dr Mangena proved his commitment in fighting for a free democratic South Africa which we enjoy today.

Catherine Kannemeyer: Researcher in the Faculty of Political Economy



Catherine Kannemeyer holds an Applied Economics Masters from the University of Cape Town. She has worked for the Development Policy Research Unit as a policy researcher, and has lectured in the School of Economics at the University of Cape Town for a number of years. Her interests include development economics, applied microeconometrics, measuring economic wellbeing, poverty, inequality, labour market dynamics, health, education, social protection and social transfers.

Catherine joined the Mapungubwe Institute in April 2013.

Molly Gilder- Operations Intern

Molly first came to the Mapungubwe Institute for Strategic Reflection as a part-time volunteer in January 2012. She assisted various colleagues within the Institute, and this further increased her passion for research and the pursuit of knowledge.

She has recently completed her Bachelor of Arts (Human and Social Science) degree at UNISA. Her research interests include history and sociology. She has been appointed as Intern: Operations Directorate.



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