

Announcing the special issue of the *Journal of African Transformation*

The *Journal of African Transformation* recently published a special edition in honour of Thandika Mkandawire – *Rethinking African Development in the 21st Century* – which was guest edited by Vusi Gumede.

The special issue (Volume 7, Number 1, 2022) reflects on the works and the life of the late Professor Thandika Mkandawire. It has eleven (11) contributors, including the guest editor. Three (3) of the contributors are former Doctoral students of the guest editor, and they have researched works and ideas of the late Professor Thandika Mkandawire. Other contributors are seasoned scholars and activists that very well knew Thandika (as he is affectionately known to them and of course to others who knew the late Professor Thandika Mkandawire well). The special issue is 150 pages in total. It opens with Yusuf Bangura's article titled *Development Discourse in Africa: Thinking about Thandika Mkandawire* and it closes with Fantu Cheru's brief biography of the late Professor Thandika Mkandawire. The guest editor (Vusi Gumede) also contributed an article that juxtaposes ideas from the works of Samir Amin and Thandika Mkandawire as far as development in Africa is concerned. Incidentally, Vusi Gumede is now guest editing a special issue on Samir Amin. Those who can still submit abstracts can email him at vusi.gumede@ump.ac.za – the focus of the Samir Amin special issue is on the works and ideas of Samir Amin and it will be published by *Politikon: South African Journal of Political Studies*.

The following are the contributors to the *Journal of African Transformation*:

- Anis Chowdhury is Adjunct Professor at the School of Business in Western Sydney University. He was Director for UN-ESCAP and former Chief for UN-DESA.
- David Mohale is a Director for Special Projects in the Office of the Vice-Chancellor at the Durban University of Technology in South Africa. He holds a PhD from the University of South Africa.
- Emmanuel Ndhlovu is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Vaal University of Technology in South Africa. He holds a PhD from the University of South Africa.
- Fantu Cheru is Emeritus Professor of International Political Economy at American University, Washington, DC, and adjunct Professor of International Relations at Bahir Dar University, Ethiopia.
- Jomo Kwame was a close collaborator of Thandika Mkandawire while he ran CODESRIA and UNRISD. With others, they started IDEAS <network.ideas.com> in 2001. He was a university professor and senior UN official before returning to work in Malaysia.

- Kagiso (TK) Pooe is a senior lecturer at the School of Governance at the Witwatersrand University. Before joining academia, he worked in various government institutions. He holds a PhD from North-West University.
- Khabele Matlosa is the former Director of the Department of Political Affairs at the African Union Commission. He is the Visiting Professor at Wits School of Governance. He has researched and published widely on issues of democracy, peace and development in Africa.
- Michael T. Clark has worked in the political economy of international development for more than forty years as a diplomat, scholar, researcher and chief executive. Since 2008 he has worked as an international civil servant working for the President of the UN General Assembly, the UN Conference on Trade and Development in New York and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome. He has a PhD from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies.
- Peter Anyang' Nyong'o is a Kenyan political scientist with a PhD and MA from the University of Chicago. He taught at Nairobi University, El Colegio de Mexico, Addis Ababa University and served as Head of Programs at the African Academy of Sciences before joining politics in Kenya. He has held various professorships and he is widely published.
- Siphamandla Zondi is a professor in the Department of Politics and International Relations at the University of Johannesburg. He researches decoloniality as revolutionary political thought, Africa's agency in the world and the global south. He has held various professorships and he is widely published.
- Toyin Falola is Distinguished Teaching Professor and Sanger and Frances Mossiker Chair in the Humanities at the University of Texas at Austin. He is the author of many books, and he has held various professorships.
- Yusuf Bangura was a research coordinator at the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (1990-2012). After retiring from UNRISD he taught International Political Economy to graduate students at Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone (2013-14).

The guest editor (Vusi Gumede) has held various professorships, fellowships and editorships. Prior to that he worked for the South African government in various capacities and in different departments for 12 years. He is the author and editor of 16 books and has guest edited 4 special issues of journals and he is editor-in-chief of two journals.

The plan is to convert articles into essays in a book. Those who would like to contribute to the edited book are encouraged to email the guest editor (vusi.gumede@ump.ac.za).