

UNIVERSITY OF NATAL

DURBAN

Graduation/Diploma Ceremony

Faculties of Law and Architecture and Allied Disciplines

1998

Friday, 24 April

18h00

Durban City Hall

The Chancellor

"Chancellor" is an office that goes back to Antiquity: the original cancellarius regulated access to the Roman Tribune. In medieval times, the office became associated with the heads of the writing departments of the early kings. Because so few people were literate, a chancellor was automatically learned. This explains why the heads and spokesmen of the early universities were also accorded the title. More recently, the office has become largely symbolic. The executive head of a university is its vice-chancellor.

Archbishop Hurley is the fifth Chancellor of the University of Natal. His predecessors were: The Honourable D G Shepstone (1949-1966), Dr G G Campbell (1967-1973), Dr B A Armitage (1973-1983), and the Honourable R N Leon QC (1983-1992).

The Mace

The Chancellor's Mace, generally referred to as "the Mace", is used on ceremonial occasions presided over by the chancellor and is regarded as the Chancellor's "staff of office". It symbolises the University's protection of its Chancellor.

The use of the mace as a symbol of authority has a long history. The head of a copper mace, which apparently dates back to the 12th Century before Christ, has been excavated at Beyce Sultan in Asia. In the early centuries, churchmen who went to war often carried a mace in preference to a sword. One side of the mace-head was beautifully decorated with the owner's emblem and on the other side was a large knob which served as a weapon, and was always round so that the church law never to shed blood was always carefully observed! In the early centuries the mace was a symbol of the king's authority. During the power struggle between the king and the Commons in the 13th Century, the king gave the speaker the mace as a symbol of his indemnity against arrest.

The Mace was designed by Mr G H Atkins, senior lecturer in sculpture in the University's Department of Fine Arts, was made in England and was first used at the 1970 graduation ceremonies.

The Armorial Bearings

(See front cover)

The armorial bearings of the University of Natal were awarded by the College of Arms in London.

The two black wildebeest come from the arms of the Province of Natal. They are shown in full course to symbolise movement and progress. The two open books represent the universal heritage of knowledge and the two centres of the University, Durban and Pietermaritzburg. The five pointed star refers to the naming of Natal by Portuguese navigators when they landed for the first time at Durban on Christmas Day in 1497. Stella Aurorae, star of the dawn, symbolises the role of the University in bringing to light new knowledge and spreading the enlightening influence of education.

Academic Dress

The wearing of gowns by judges, ministers, teachers and scholars is an ancient and impressive custom. When the graduating students at universities receive their diplomas or degrees, they, too, (and perhaps, for some, only this once in their lives), wear the caps and gowns of this long tradition. By wearing the ancient regalia, they hold hands with students past and students present.

In modern times the standard cap and gown are almost universally worn. Of all the components of the costume, the hood conveys the greatest amount of information: it makes clear the level of the degree, the faculty in which it was given, and the institution which awarded it.

Convocation

After being capped by the Chancellor, each graduate moves across the stage and hands to the President of Convocation or his representative a hood incorporating colours that indicate the degree being awarded and the Faculty in which it is being awarded. The President places the hood upon the graduate's shoulders, and, at the end of the ceremony, after the Chancellor's procession has left the stage, leads a procession of the new graduates out of the hall, row by row, to symbolise their acceptance into, and future membership of, the Convocation of the University of Natal, the statutory body through which graduates have the opportunity to play a continuing part in the affairs of the University.

OFFICERS

Chancellor The Most Reverend D E Hurley, OMI, DD

> Archbishop Emeritus of Durban PhL (Rome), STL (Rome)

Vice-Chancellor B M Gourley

CTA (Witwatersrand), MBL (Unisa), Hon LLD (Nott)

Chairman of Council A Rogoff

CA (SA)

Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor D A Maughan Brown

BA (Cape Town), MA (Cantab), DPhil (Sussex)

Deputy Vice-Chancellor A C Bawa

(Academic) BSc (Unisa), BSc(Hons) (Natal), MSc (UDW), PhD (Durham)

Deputy Vice-Chancellor E M Preston-Whyte

(Research and Development) BSocSc(Hons), PhD (Natal)

Deputy Vice-Chancellor E A Ngara

(Students and Transformation) BA(Hons) (Rhodesia), MPhil, PhD (London)

Pro Vice-Chancellor J D Volmink

BSc(Hons) (UWC), PhD (Cornell)

Pro Vice-Chancellor P M Zulu

MA, PhD (Natal)

Registrar G J Trotter

BA(Hons) (Natal), MA (Duke)

Convocation Officer R Burrows

· BA(Hons) (Natal)

Orator D Herwitz

BA(Brandeis), MA, PhD (Chicago)

DEANS OF FACULTIES

Law A J Rycroft, BA(Rhodes), LLB (Natal), LLM (London)

Architecture and Allied D Radford, BArch (Cape Town), MSc (Heriot-Watt),

Disciplines (Acting Dean) PhD (Witwatersrand), MIA ArchSA

PROGRAMME

The Academic Procession enters the Hall

The Chancellor constitutes the Congregation

Welcome to Guests The Vice-Chancellor

Address

The President of the Students' Representative Council

Presentation of Doctoral Graduands
The Dean

Award of Honorary Degree
The Orator will present the Honorary Graduand
ISMAIL MEER

Address Dr Ismail Meer

Musical Interlude
Durban Sings Adult Choir
Goodmorrow to my Lady Fair: John C Grieve

Presentation of Graduands and Diplomates
The Deans

The Chancellor dissolves the Congregation

The congregation is invited to join in the singing of the National Anthem

The Academic Procession leaves the Hall, followed by the Convocation Procession

The congregation is requested to stand and to remain standing while the procession enters and leaves the Hall and to remain seated until the conclusion of the ceremony.

Only officially authorised persons may take photographs during the ceremony.

Doctor of Philosophy in Town and Regional Planning

Discipline

Harrison, Philip John, BSocSc, MTRP...... Town & Regional Planning Re-Imaging Planning - An Engagement with Postmodemism and Pragmatism.

(Dr D Smit)

Todes, Alison Elaine, BSc, MCCP (Cape Town) Town & Regional Planning

Thesis: Restructuring, Migration and Regional Policy in South Africa: The case of Newcastle. (Dr D Smit)

Honorary Graduand

Meer, Ismail, BA (Natal), LLB (Witwatersrand)

Master of Laws

Discipline

Coursework with dissertation: The Limits of Anti-Discrimination Laws changing the South African Workplace.

(Professor A Rycroft)

Coursework with dissertation: A Review of Mediation as a Dispute-Resolving Mechanism in Terms of the Labour Relations Act 66 of 1995.

(Professor A Rycroft)

Coursework with three publishable articles: Religious Equality, Section 15(2) of the Constitution, and Religious Exercises in Public Schools;

The Constitutional Protection of Religious Beliefs and Religious Practices; A Privilege for Members of the Clergy: Smit v Van Niekerk reconsidered. (Professor G Devenish)

Thesis: The Submission of Shipping Documents Under a Documentary Credit. (Professor H Staniland)

Thesis: A Comparative Study of the Right to Picket and the Extent to Which this May Coexist with Conflicting Constitutional Guarantees.

(Professor A Rycroft)

⁺ indicates degree awarded cum laude

I	Hickman, Bruce Vivian, BSocSc(Hons), BCom, LLB
I	Hulme, David Haigh, BA, LLB
+ N	Melville, Neville John, BL (Zambia), LLB
N (Naicker, Pravashini, BA, LLB
N	Naidu, Kasturi Melanie, BA, LLB
	Nakazwe, Mbita, BL (Zambia)
N	Nulliah, Quvashini, BProc, LLB
F	Pillay, Camilla, BA, LLB
Į.	Rajoo, Shalini Kisten, BSocSc, LLB
+ F	Rickard, Carmel Patricia, BA(Hons)

(Professor K Govender)

Coursework with dissertation: Access to Criminal Justice in the Lower Courts (Professor G Devenish)

Coursework with three publishable articles: A Critical Comparison between the Administrative Justice Provisions in the Interim Constitution and Final Constitution:

> Proposing an Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanism for Rates Disputes in South Africa. A Critical Analysis of Present Systems and Submissions for New Innovations:

Equality - Rates and Race. (Professor G Devenish)

van der Poel, Louise, BA, LLB Maritime Law

Thesis: The Marine Insurance Act of 1901: Towards a Marine Insurance Act for South Africa

(Professor H Staniland)

+ indicates degree awarded cum laude

Master of Town and Regional Planning

Discipline

Dissertation: Can Retirement Villages be used to Stimulate the Economic Development of Small Towns?

(A Todes)

Matyumza, Dumisa, BA Town & Regional Planning

Dissertation: An Investigation into the Future Role of Development Forums in Facilitating Participation in the Context of Democratically Elected Local Government (D Osborne)

Dissertation: Factory Relocations from the City Centre and the Southern Industrial Basin to the Phoenix Industrial Park.

(P Harrison)

Mitchell, Laurie-Anne Margaret, BSocSc...... Town & Regional Planning

Dissertation: Planning the Port of Durban: A Case Study of Potential Integrated Management.

(Professor M Kahn)

Dissertation: Integrated Planning and Environment Considerations in KwaZulu-Natal: The Case of Durban's Southern Industrial Basin. (P Harrison) Dissertation: The Outer West/Cato Ridge: The Midrand of KwaZulu-Natal. (P Harrison) Dissertation: The Need for Ancillary Retail near Office Clusters: A Case Study of Essex Terrace, Ridge Road and Anthony Road. (Professor M Kahn) Dissertation: Home-Based Small and Medium Scale Service Industries in Township Residential Areas: Benefits and Disbenefits to Neighbours and Industrialists in Lamontville. (D Osborne) Dissertation: A Closer Look at Residential Regeneration Efforts in Clairwood. (Professor M Kahn) Dissertation: The Establishment of Design Principles for the Integration of a Mixed Land Use Precinct: The Davenport Road Case Study. (Professor M Kahn) Dissertation: Development Frameworks and Implementation problems: A study of the Umbombo/Ingwavuma Development. (Professor P Robinson) Master of Science in Urban and Regional Planning (Development Studies) Discipline Dissertation: Regional Economic Development: A case study of the Dynamic Underlying Richards Bay's Economic Development. (Professor M Morris) Dissertation: Coping Strategies of Women Micro-entrepreneurs: The Case of Women Curio Sellers of the Durban Beachfront. (Dr L Bomstein)

Reid, Kabelo Oresikare, BA Town & Regional Planning

Dissertation: An Assessment of the Impact of Globalisation and Changes to the Regional Industrial Development Programme upon Textile Production in Ladysmith and Ezakheni.

(P Harrison)

Master of Science in Urban and Regional Planning (Housing)

Discipline

Dladla, Simeon Duminsani, BProc. Town & Regional Planning

Dissertation: An Assessment of Tenure Security's Impact on Housing Investment in the informal settlements: Case Study of Besters Camp.

(Professor R Taylor)

Dissertation: The role of non-governmental organisations in low-cost housing provision for the poor. Case study of the Small Projects Foundation (Eastern Cape). (Professor A Adebayo)

Dissertation: The Evaluation of the Extent of Community Participation in the Self Help Housing Process: The case of Zilweleni in Southern Pinetown.

(Professor A Adebayo)

Govender, Sharmla, BA(Hons) Town & Regional Planning

Dissertation: The Group Credit Association: An Innovative Approach to the Realm of Housing Finance using the Wiggins Fast Track Housing Project as a Case Study. (Professor A Adebayo)

Dissertation: Public Rental Housing as a Continued Option for South Africa: A case study of Phoenix and Lamontville.

(Professor A Adebayo)

Dissertation: Low-Income Inner-City Housing as an option in the Housing Delivery Process: A Case Study of the Albert Park and Point Road Inner-City Residential Areas

(Professor A Adebayo)

Dissertation: Consolidation Process in Self-Help Housing Delivery System. The case of Stafford Farm.

(Professor P Robinson)

Dissertation: Low Income Housing Finance: The Missing Links within the Current State Assisted Incremental Delivery Process. (Dr D Smit)

Dissertation: The Extent to which the Mortgage Indemnity Scheme Facilitates Access to Housing Credit from Private Financial Institutions to Low Income Households in the Formerly Redlined Areas: A Case Study of Umlazi Township. (Professor A Adebayo)

Bachelor of Laws

Acharrie, Prenesan, BProc Archary, Shireen Elaine, BProc Badat, Fatima Ahmed, BSocSc Bailey, Craig Warren, BProc Balovi, Portia Nonhlanhla, BProc Bam. Nambita Sinazo, BProc Bamfield, Michael-Jon, BA Beckley, Michael Wayne, BCom Benimadho, Roshiela, BA Bernardis, Bianca Michelle, BA Bhengu, Phumulani Brightson, BCom Bredenkamp, Kenneth John, BCom Budhu, Simla, BProc Buthane, MacDonald Sefularo, BProc Chelin, Sean Denis, BCom Chetty, Nerisha, BA Christodoulou, Sophia, BSocSc Davies, Gwyneth Allison, BA de Fanti, Ivan Rino, BA Dharamraj, Ashika, BProc Dlamini, Langa Hewitt, BProc

+ Crosby, Helen Louise, BSocSc Doorgha, Yaksha Devi, BA Esselaar, Nola, BA Gaoraelwe, Rebaone Nimrod, BProc Gengan, Amsha, BA Gengan, Siyapragashani, BProc

* Gillmer, John Ellis, BCom Goolam Rasool, Fatima Bibi, BProc Gosai, Sadhana, BProc

Govender, Dineshini, BProc Govender, Thavaneethee, BA Govender, Thiloshni, BA Govender, Vinaykarunan, BA (UDW) Neelapithambaran, BA Gwavi, Thandi, BA (UDW) Harikaran, Ushadevi, BCom Lewis, Michelle, BA Hlophe, Immaculate Thokozani, BSocSc

* Jithoo, Tashia, BA(Hons) Kamuhanga-Hoveka, Tjakazenga, BA Kanayee, Anitha, BA Keyzer, Jason Oliver, BSocSc Kunene, Guy Thulani, BProc Latif. Feeroz. BProc Legodi, Tshepo, BA Lewis, Brett Matthew, BSocSc Lundall, Lalashe Louisa, BSocSc Maduna, Bright Bhekithemba, BProc Magardie, Sheldon Graçon, BA Maharai, Jerusha, BProc Maharaj, Mickesh, BA Maharaj, Nalini, BProc Maharaj, Radesh Arjun, BCom(Hons) Maharaj, Subhash, BA Mahomed, Faathima Bibi, BProc Maithufi, Maria, BProc (UNW) Majola, Sikhumbuzo Godfrey, BProc Makhafula, Ronald Lesiba, Bluris (Vista) Manzana, Busisiwe, Bluris (UDW)

* indicates degree awarded summa cum laude + indicates degree awarded cum laude

Matanzima, Solami, BA (UNITRA)
Mbambo, Msizi Elphas, BProc
Mbatha, Nompumelelo, Bhuris (UDW)
Mbina, Vuyani Menzi, BA
Mbongwa, Thandanani Sihle Innocent,
BProc
Misra, Reshini, BProc
Mkhize, Wyna Beretha, BProc
Mofokeng, Lesala Lucas, BA
Mohideen, Ryzwana, BProc
Moodley, Praveni, BA
Moodley, Serisha Azaria, BA
Moorgas, Hillary Trudy, BProc

Masipa, Mokgere Busisiwe, BProc (UNIN)

Motsepe, Maurice, BA (Cape Town)
Naidoo, Easvarie, BProc
Naidoo, Jayashree, BSocSc
Naidoo, Katanya, BSocSc
Naidoo, Natasha, BA (UDW)
Naidoo, Nerisha, BProc
Naidoo, Preasheni, BProc
Naidoo, Saandhri, BSocSc
Naidoo, Vanessa, BA
Naidoo, Videshni, BProc
Naido, Ryanderan, BA
Naiker, Jaisimha, BSocSc
Nayager, Savathree, BA
Nhleko, Sibusiso, BA (UNISWA)
Niklaas, Dorothea Comelia Lindiwe,

Morris, Craig Michael, BCom

Nkala, Buyisiwe Ncebakazi, BSocSc Nongogo, Mongezi, BJuris (UNITRA) Nonkonyana, Tonson Mtotyelwa, B twis (UNITRA)

BJuris (UNITRA)

BProc

Nyoffu, Lesibana Piet, BProc (UNIVEN)

Orator, Nina, BA

Padayachee, Malcolm Evan, BProc

Pillai, Managie, BProc

Pillay, Anashri, BA

Pillay, Pearl Nicolette, BProc

Pillay, Yuthmarani, BProc

Ramdass, Shahir Vinesh Rajkumar, BA Ramdial, Virashmee, BA

Ramjathan, Kaajal, BProc

Ramprotal, Ronitha Bhanpershad, BA

* Reed, Derek Knut, BCom

Sabelo, George Maphindela, *BProc* Sebothoma, Mokgaetsi Meriam, *BProc*

Seccombe, Diane Leigh, BCom

Shaik, Nazreen, BSocSc

Sibiya, Carol Silindile, BProc

Sinclair, Gaylyn, BProc

Sing, Arthi, BA (UDW)

Singh, Nareshia, BProc

Singh, Raksha, BA

Siphuma, Ndivhadzo, BA

Solomon, Samantha Anne, BSocSc

Somers, Mala Margaret, BCom (UDW)

Thipa, Thabo Ernest, BSocSc (Cape Town)

Thomas, Luvuyo Malcolm, BSocSc

Tilbury, Evadne Verena, BA

Uys, Sean Patrick, BCom

van Heerden, Jason Peter, BSocSc

van Zyl, Kerryn Laureen, BSocSc

Vikilahle, Luleka Nomajama, BProc

(UNITRA)

Vuba, Nkokeli Tutuzela, BProc (UNITRA) Warrassaly, Shubnum Delene, BSocSc

★ indicates degree awarded summa cum laude

Baccalaureus Procurationis

★ Aziz, Feroza Basson, Bradley Doane

★ Brijlall, Amitha Chetty, Chrystal Natalie Chetty, Pravesh Chetty, Shakira Chinniah, Jenell Daya, Maduri Dludla, Nompumelelo Precious Dube, Bongiwe Lynette

^{*} indicates degree awarded summa cum laude

Duval, Mervl Anne Ebrahim, Rehan Ganasen, Dhiren Goolam, Nafis Gopaul, Ronel Tiffiny Govender, Nickleshree Govender, Shireen Jabari, Motheo Justice Jagersar, Renisha Jagganath, Prenisha Kgaile, Kgomotso Kikine, Rethabile Itumeleng Matokoloho Kowlas, Namika Luthuli, Lancelord Ndumiso Madho, Reshma Majola, Lungisani Brian Makhanya, Bongumusa Vusumuzi Malinga, Lindiwe Alicia Busisiwe Masemola, Magale Zebulon Mashamaite, Kwena Gideon McMinn, Melba Jov Minty, Muhammad Ameen Younuis Mkhize, Sipho Lancelot Hallelujah Mkhize, Zinhle Mildred Mlaba, Credo Mmeliwesizwe Mokoena, Andries Hlele

Molelle, Motlalekhotso Knorx * Mongalo, Tshepo Herbert Moodley, Daisy Moodley, Shane Mrwetvana, Sisanda Mtembu, Noxolo Zanele Nadasen, Nazreen Naidoo, Omashani Naidu, Sinthamanie Ngwenya, Mfanelo Cedric Xolani Nkosi, Hugh Brandon Ntuli, Robert Fundile Pillay, Sinthamani Radebe, Phiwe Elliot Ramruthan, Vishal Reddy, Indhra Reddy, Marilyn Tanya Rorick, Derick Shawn Sankar, Natasha Devi Sewsunker, Chameen Shazi, Agrippa Mduduzi Singh, Reshika Sithole, Thembinkosi Suleman, Ziaad Thirumudu, Tameshnie van der Merwe, Johanna Wilhelmina

* indicates degree awarded summa cum laude

Bachelor of Architecture

Bellars, Gregory Alan Bishop, Michael Edward Roderick Buzuzi, Pelasia Chiang, Yu-Chi Collingwood, Aidan Vincent, BA Deonarain, Heerandra Dunn, Craig Malcolm Edwards, Joneta Kerry Gardner, Stephen Keith Gumede, Thabani Innes Ivavoo, Marlon Elton Königkrämer, Peter Arthur Lawrence, Hilton Vaughan Lieberum, Rozalind Mary Lucy Makhanya, Minenhle Nobleman Malcolm, Ryan James

Mauze, Clement Sibusiso

Mhlaba, Dumisani Geophrey Molotlegi, Leruo Tshekedi Muvevi, Tapiwa Timothy Naidoo, Gopal Nouwens, John Quarmby, Michelle Christine Reardon, Christopher Cameron Robertson, Brandon Wayne Rory Ryder, Nathan Richard Shacklady, Terence Thomas Singh, Avishaan Singh, Reesh Steyn, Andries Adriaan Thornhill, Philip Clive Watts, Michael Andrew Young, Stuart

Bachelor of Science in Quantity Surveying

Apollos, Lynette Elspeth Blake, Michael John Buddu, Rikash Docrat, Ahmed Mohamed Feek, Ian Edward Stanard Govender, Kubendran Gunasellen Govindasami, Calvin Sivanand Grant, Adjei Alexander Gunput, Jeetendra Harriram, Niraka Hunt, Jason de Vere Moopanar, Mahesvaran

Mutubuki, Mukai Henrieta Ntshangase, Raymond Mfanimpela Patel, Rakesh Aroon Peter, Philip Portela, Lucia Natividade Rampersand, Alvin Samuels, Lawrence Andrew Gordon Schlussas, Philip Sim, Evan Ryan Singh, Shrivaar Ward, Gregory David Whatmore, Lee

Bachelor of Science in Construction Management

Diamond, Robert Jan Jones, Ryan Andrew Maduramuthu, Desigan Mwandira, Paul William Negson Nyaumwe, Hilarius Ben

Bachelor of Architectural Studies

Adrio, Roland Arabi, Nasreen Bahadur, Aisha Moosa Ballim, Zunaed + Beirowski, Marcus George + Boyd, Kevin Patrick Bozzone, Roberta

+ Bush, Lindsay Ann Calaza, Batembu Darby, Nicholas Paul Ditle, Seala Jack Dookhi, Renesh Raipaul du Toit. Hendrik Albertus Gannon, Shaun Harold

Govender, Neelapithambar Mahendran, BA (UDW)

Joubert, Janine Dorothy Kaduya, Price Devie Khoza, Nomazizi Nomusa

Houldin, Wendy-Ann

Lebona, Motsoene Joseph

Manjee, Tejal Mkhize, Sphumelele Muziwamadoda Mogadime, Henry Mokotedi Mootoosamy, Dana Krishna Mtshali, Chukwuma Naidu, Kamal Nkwakhwa, Milton Bhekisisa Nunes, Lindsay Dione Pariola, Abimbola Bolatito Parker-Weekes, Pamela Jeanne Payn, Derry-Lynn Saulick, Jaysing Sewnarain, Sanjeev Socikwa, Madoda Washington Stead, Natalie Jayne Thamburan, Kumarsen Moonsamy

+ Townsend, Gregory Bruce Walker, Georgina Clair Wilkins, Melissa Kay Wingfield, Russell Lowndes Zungu, Sibusisiwe Felicity

+ indicates degree awarded cum laude

Postgraduate Diploma in Environmental Law

Goddard, Glen David, BA, LLB Hornby, Shaun Gilbert, BCom, LLB Jackson, Michael Llewellyn, BCom, LLB, LLM Johnston, Andrew Graham, BA, LLB Madondo, Johannes Moses, BProc, LLB Rutsch, John Peter, BA, LLB van Onselen, David Michael, BProc

Postgraduate Diploma in Architecture

Beier, Barbara Regina Marianne, BArch
Botha, Magritha Johanna Petronella,
BArch
Cope, Ashley Edwin, BArch
de Zeeuw, Julie, BArch
Everitt, Graeme Michael, BArch
Govender, Krishnee Devi, BArch
Harris, Kim Frances, BArch
Jordan, Grayson Clyde, BArch
Jugadoe, Sandhu, BArch
Katsikoyiannis, Stamatia, BArch
Mhlaba, Dumisani Geophrey, BArch

Milne, Craig Ian, BArch
Motsoane, Paballo Phillip, BArch
Mulenga, Martin
Naidoo, Nitesh Dhiren, BArch
Nimmo, Andrew John, BArch
Odjidja, Clementine Tekpeki, BArch
Omar, Yasmin, BArch
Ricart Mubarak, Xochitl Del Carmen
Sarnowski, Anna Maria, BArch
Steyn, Andries Adriaan, BArch
Walker, Harriet Caroline, BArch

· Walters, Edward James, BArch

indicates diploma awarded with distinction



CONFERMENT OF THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF LAWS HONORIS CAUSA UPON ISMAIL MEER

The South African constitution is a marvel of liberal democracy, yet it is timely to recall a former juridical system in this country which made it impossible for persons like the one we are honouring here tonight, Ismail Meer, to practise as lawyers. In recalling such persons as Ismail Meer, we remember that the law has a moral basis, in spite of the glaring example of the United States where the national dress is one of lawyers wearing multiple suits and their clients, multiple countersuits and, as the joke says, "what is 10 000 lawyers at the bottom of the sea; a good start". The moral basis of constitutional liberalism is the picture which grants to each and every person the inalienable right to discover and pursue their own autonomous life scripts, so long as such scripts do not impugn the rights of others to do the same. A different form of dress than the American one, the Madiba shirt, worn by a different lawyer, Nelson Mandela, exhibited that liberal picture during the Rivonia Trial of the early 1960s in which Mandela spoke of equality as a principle he had learned both from his early days in the Transkei, when his elders had reminisced of the old days, and at missionary school. Mandela's grafting of distinct moral traditions onto each other in the name of their shared commitment to equality, his discovery of inner moral likeness between traditions artificially separated by the system of colonialism, stands in direct opposition to apartheid injustice. For it proves the humanist credo that nothing human is foreign to me and nothing different inferior, by discovering deep moral likenesses and deep humanity at the core of all traditions.

It takes the right kind of ear to find such likenesses, and there is none finer than that of the person we are honouring tonight. Meer spoke Urdu, Gujarati, Arabic and Zulu before he spoke English. Grafting Gandhian principles of Satyagraha and Ahimsa onto Islamic Tawhid and Southern African Ubuntu, English law is in Meer's vision synergised by the resonances of these languages and these moral codes. He too wears the Madiba shirt: the dress of one whose dedication to a law synergised from multiple traditions in the name of moral and political equality made it impossible for him to actually practise law in the past. Now it is hardly a coincidence that Ismail Meer has been a friend of Nelson Mandela since the pair met when both attended law classes at the University of the Witwatersrand, which, for those who have not heard of it, is a university about 600 kilometers northwest of here. Meer's legal career was vitiated as a result of his work in organising and sustaining the Passive Resistance Campaign in the 1940s, when he was arrested and imprisoned. As journalist and political figure, he continued to oppose the laws of the regime, serving at various times as an executive member of the Transvaal and Natal Indian Congress and secretary to the Phoenix Trust Settlement. His many journalistic articles not only opposed the regime but also served to recover aspects of neglected or forgotten history. His political life has also exhibited a dedication to that law which stands above the politics of race, communitarianism and fundamentalism and dictates

equality. He stood outside the African National Congress because of its Africanist views - in spite of his sympathy for it - and only joined the Indian Congress when he became convinced that its political goals outweighed its racial definition. He is president of the Natal Schools Grantees Association which represents the schools built by the Indian community, and a member of parliament.

Meer is well-known in University of Natal circles through his work in the Sastri College Alumni Association which marked its 50th anniversary this year. The association has played a major role in reconciling those alumni who were excluded from full participation in the life of the University before and during the apartheid years with the University.

Democratic to the core, Meer searches for inner likenesses between traditions in a world obsessed with the politics of difference and finds these likenesses within the plethora of languages that is himself. His rainbow shirt is really a patina which, having been stained by the rain, exhibits a special bleeding of formerly separate colours each into the other. This process of staining renders each colour opaque, yet resonant with the others. The harmonies dwarf those of a rainbow in their multiplicity. Perhaps this image of staining is as intriguing for the new South Africa as that of a set of distinct colour bands which together constitute a rainbow, since the metaphor of staining accords to each colour new tonalities generated through the physics of intermingling. If so, then Ismail Meer is a new South African in the extreme. We salute his dedication and his work here tonight.

A Brief History of the University of Natal

In 1910, partly on the initiative of the Natal Colonial Government, the Natal University College (NUC) opened its doors in a corrugated iron annexe behind Maritzburg College. Eight professors taught 57 students Classics; English and Philosophy; Law; Modern Languages; Botany and Geology; Chemistry and Physics; Mathematics; and Zoology. In 1912 the Old Main Building in Scottsville opened.

In 1922 the NUC extended its activities to Durban with university level courses in commerce and engineering taught at the Technical College. In 1932 Howard College was opened on the Durban Berea, firmly establishing the dual-based character of the NUC.

As a result of the initiatives of the Fabian Socialist, Dr Mabel Palmer, 19 "Non-European" students were enrolled at NUC in Durban in 1936. This grew to nearly 900 by 1960, thus firmly establishing the principle that the NUC would serve the needs of the whole community. However, like the Medical School, founded in 1951 for African, Indian and "Coloured" students, classes still reflected the segregated nature of the surrounding society. The National Party's Extension of University Act of 1959 limited new enrolments other than those at Medical School to Whites and brought a temporary halt to the University's aim of serving the educational needs of the whole community and severely restricted the autonomy achieved when the NUC became the University of Natal in 1949. Only when racial restrictions were partially lifted in 1983 could the University resume its task of serving the whole community. Since then it has welcomed increasing numbers of Black students who now make up the majority of the student body.

In 1952, Dr E G Malherbe, who had steered the NUC towards being a fully independent University in 1949, moved the administrative function from Pietermaritzburg to Durban. In 1973, in response to mounting travelling costs, the two centres were academically separated. Each centre came to have parallel faculties of Law, Humanities, Commerce, Science and Social Science. The teaching of Architecture, Engineering, Medicine and Music was, however, limited to Durban, and Agriculture, Theology and Fine Art to Pietermaritzburg.

The University of Natal has had some outstanding persons as vice-chancellors and principals. The first principal, John Bews, was a world-renowned botanist and E G Malherbe was known throughout the world as an outstanding educationalist. In 1993 the University of Natal was the first university in South Africa to appoint a woman, Professor Brenda Gourley, as its principal. The largely ceremonial chancellors too, have been distinguished, not least of all the present incumbent, Archbishop Denis Hurley. Alumni include people as diverse as Alan Paton, Steve Biko and Alec Erwin. Honorary Graduates include Roy Campbell, Abdullah Ebrahim and Nelson Mandela.

In its 1989 mission statement the University of Natal affirmed its determination to "serve all sections of its community through excellence in scholarship, teaching, learning, research and development". 1997 and 1998 sees the University creatively responding to the challenge of a fast-changing environment. As a result the possibilities provided by interdisciplinary studies as well as financial constraints it has become possible and necessary to rationalise academic, executive and support functions across the two centres. This will enable the university to become more efficient and fulfil its mission well into the 21st century.

National Anthem of South Africa

Nkosi sikelel' iAfrika Maluphakanyisw' uphondo lwayo Yizwa imithandazo yethu Nkosi sikelela Thina lusapholwayo.

Morena boloka Setjhaba saheso Ofedise dintwa lematshwenyeho.

O se boloke, O se boloke Setjhaba saheso Setjhaba sa, South Afrika, South Afrika.

Uit die blou van onse hemel
Uit die diepte van ons see
Oor ons ewige gebergtes
Waar die kranse antwoord gee
Sounds the call to come together
And united we shall stand
Let us live and strive for freedom
In South Africa our land.

Gaudeamus Igitur

Gaudeamus igitur, juvenes dum sumus; Gaudeamus igitur, juvenes dum sumus; Post jucundam juventutem, post molestam senectutem, Nos habebit humus, nos habebit humus.

Ubi sunt qui ante nos in mundo fuere? Ubi sunt qui ante nos in mundo fuere? Vadite ad superos, transite ad inferos, Ubi jam fuere, ubi jam fuere.

Vita nostra brevis est, brevi finietur; Vita nostra brevis est, brevi finietur; Venit mors velociter, rapit nos atrociter, Nemini parcetur, nemini parcetur.

Vivat Academia, vivant Professores, Vivat Academia, vivant Professores, Vivat membrum quodlibet, vivant membra quaelibet, Semper sint in flore, semper sint in flore.

