

**Khanya History Programme hosts  
IALHI 2008 Annual Conference and conference on  
“The Heritage of Migrant Labour in Southern  
Africa”  
Johannesburg, South Africa  
09<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> September 2008**

Schedule of the IALHI 2008 Conference and the open session on “The Heritage of Migrant Labour in Southern Africa”:

<b>Tuesday 09.09.2008</b>	<b>Wednesday 10.09.2008</b>	<b>Thursday 11.09.2008</b>	<b>Friday 12.09.2008</b>	<b>Saturday 13.09.2008</b>
	08.30 - 09.00 IALHI Registration	08.00 – 09.00 Registration		
	09.00-09.30 Introduction and Welcome	09.00 – 13.30	09.00 – 13.00	09.00-15.00
	09.30 – 11.00: IALHI AGM	The Heritage of Migrant Labour Conference	The Heritage of Migrant Labour Conference	Heritage Tour
	11.30-13.00 IAHLI Projects	14.30-17.00	14.00-17.00	
	14.00-17.00 South African Working Class Archives and Heritage Sites	The Heritage of Migrant Labour Conference	The Heritage of Migrant Labour Conference	
17.00-19.00 IALHI Reception and Registration			19.00 - 22.00 Cultural Evening	

**Aims of the Conference on The Heritage of Migrant Labour in Southern Africa:**

1. To introduce the new generation of activists to the political economy of South African capitalism, and in particular to an understanding of the role and place of migrant labour to the making of modern South Africa.
2. To provide a space for an exchange of views about the place of the working class in South Africa’s heritage today
3. To provide a platform for an exchange of views about regional and international experiences in preserving the memory of the working class in a nationalist and neoliberal world context.
4. To reflect on women’s experiences of the migrant labour system, and how the migrant labour system shaped gender relations in modern South Africa
5. To provide a space for reflection on the impact of migrant labour on modern-day South African culture.

## PROGRAMME

### Tuesday 09<sup>th</sup> September:

- 1700 – 1900 Reception and first registration of IALHI Conference Delegates  
**Venue: Khanya College/The House of Movements**  
Welcome by Luli Callinicos (Khanya College Board)  
Guided Tour around the House of Movements  
Finger Food and Drinks

### Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September:

- 0830 – 0900 Registration for IALHI Conference Delegates  
**Venue: The Workers' Museum in Newtown**
- 0900 – 0930 Welcome and Introduction to IALHI Conference
- 0930 – 1100 **IALHI AGM**
- 1100 – 1130 Tea and Coffee
- 1130 – 1300 **IALHI Projects:**  
i. FES-Library: Partner of GURN-Global Union Research Network  
(Ruediger Zimmermann, FES)  
ii. Facilitate Access to Labour History Archives in Switzerland :  
[www.mouvementouvrier.ch](http://www.mouvementouvrier.ch)  
(Urs Kälin, Schweizerisches Sozialarchiv Zürich)  
iii. The Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches sur les Mouvements  
trotskystes et révolutionnaires internationales: CERMTRI  
(Pierre Francois de Massot)  
i.v. The IISH digitization project (Marien van der Heijden)
- 1300 – 1400 Lunch
- 1400 – 1500 **South African Archives and Heritage Projects:**  
i. The South African History Archives (SAHA)  
(Piers Pigou, SAHA)  
ii. South African History Online (SAHO)  
(Omar Badsha, SAHO)
- 1500 – 1530 Tea and Coffee
- 1530 – 1630 **South African Archives and Heritage Projects:**  
i. The Khanya College History Programme and the Workers  
Museum Development Project (Anne-Katrin Bicher)  
ii. The District Six Museum  
(Bonita Bennet, District Six Museum)  
iii. The Trevor Huddleston Memorial Centre  
(Kenda Knowles, THMC)
- 1700 – 1800 Dinner

## Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September:

0800 – 0900	Conference Registration <b>Venue: The Workers' Museum in Newtown</b>
0900 – 0910	Opening and Welcome to Heritage of Migrant Labour Conference by Petrus Mashishi (Khanya College Board/ SAMWU)
0915 – 1000	Film Screening
1000 – 1100	<b>Keynote Address: “The Social and Cultural Impact of the Migrant Labour System on Modern South Africa”</b> by Ntongela Masilela
1100– 1130	Tea and Coffee

<b>1130 – 1330</b>	<b><i>Plenary Session 1: The Political Economy of Migrant Labour in South and Southern Africa</i></b>
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*Topics and Themes:*

- i. The Legacy of Cheap Black Migrant Labour in the Modern SA Economy (Martin Legassick)
- ii. Worker Responses to the Migrant Labour System: control, coercion, forms of organisation and resistance (Luli Callinicos)
- iii. Labour Migration and HIV/AIDS: Compounds, Living Conditions and HIV/AIDS on South African Mines (Sepetla Molapo)

1330 – 1430	Lunch
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<b>1430 – 1630</b>	<b><i>Plenary Session 2: Gender, Women and the Migrant Labour System</i></b>
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*Topics and Themes:*

- i. Black female domestic workers as migrant workers in Apartheid South Africa (Shireen Ally)
- ii. Single-sex housing for female migrants: An oral history and photography research project on women's Hostels in Gauteng (Davina Jogi, Boitumelo Khunou, Noor Nieftagodien, Doris Nzimande)
- iii. A family legacy - the migrant labour system and the evolution of family forms in 20<sup>th</sup> century South Africa (Maria van Driel)

1700 – 1830	Dinner
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**Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> September:**

**0900- 1100**

***Plenary Session 3: South African Working Class History as National Heritage- the Tangible and the Intangible***

*Topics and Themes:*

- i. Critical Perspectives on the (SA) State's approach to Working Class history as National Heritage (Omar Badsha)
- ii. The Legacy of the Working Class as Intangible Heritage- The oral history approach in South Africa (Philippe Denis)
- iii. Preserving the Historical Memory of the Social Movements (Andreas Kaiser)

1100 – 1130

Tea and Coffee

**1130 – 1330**

***Plenary Session 4: Preserving and Programming Working Class Heritage Sites***

*Topics and Themes:*

- i. Preservation of the Indentured Labour Immigrant Heritage of Mauritius at the Indian Immigration Museum and Immigration Archives at the Mahatma Gandhi Institute (Saloni Deerpalsingh)
- ii. The Workers Museum in Johannesburg – Reviving a heritage site for labour migration (Anne-Katrin Bicher)
- iii. The Lwandle Migrant Labour Museum in the Western Cape – memory work against xenophobia (Lunga Smile)

1330 – 1500

Lunch

**1500 – 1700**

***Plenary Session 5: Culture and Migrant Labour in Modern South Africa***

*Topics and Themes:*

- i. Control, resistance and culture in the lives of black migrant workers in South Africa (Ari Sitas)
- ii. The Music of migrant workers and its impact on popular music in South Africa (Richard Nwamba)
- iii. Black migrant workers in South African literature (Ulrike Kistner)

1700 – 1830

Dinner

1900 – 2200

Cultural Evening

## **Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> September:**

0900 – 1400	History Tour of Johannesburg and Soweto: Theme: Labour Migration and Working Class Resistance in South Africa
1400 – 1530	Lunch in Soweto

## **Contact**

For more information on the conference or participation, please contact the Khanya College conference team in Johannesburg, South Africa, at:  
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