



NELSON MANDELA  
CENTRE OF MEMORY

at the Nelson Mandela Foundation

*Living the legacy*



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AT THE NELSON MANDELA FOUNDATION,  
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THE CENTRE DELIVERS TO THE WORLD AN  
INTEGRATED AND DYNAMIC INFORMATION  
RESOURCE ON THE LIFE AND TIMES  
OF NELSON MANDELA, AND PROMOTES  
THE SEARCH FOR SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS  
TO CRITICAL SOCIAL PROBLEMS THROUGH  
MEMORY-BASED DIALOGUE INTERVENTIONS  
AND TANGIBLE ACTIVATIONS TO REALISE  
THE LEGACY OF MADIBA .

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# THE ELEVENTH NELSON MANDELA ANNUAL LECTURE

EVENT PROGRAMME  
17 AUGUST 2013

NELSON MANDELA  
CENTRE OF MEMORY

107 CENTRAL STREET, HOUGHTON, 2041,  
JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA.

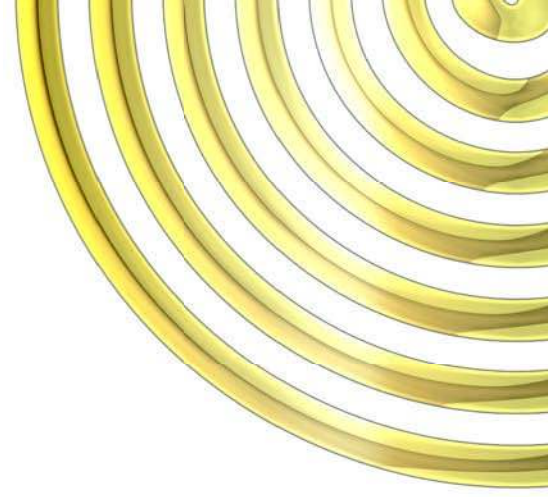
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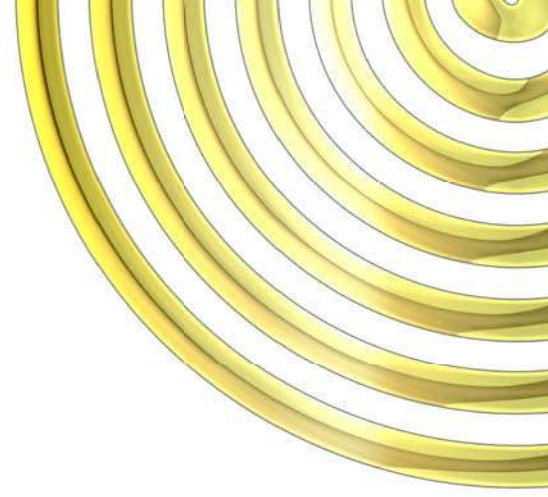
Nelson Mandela's legacy has created the opportunity for our nation to achieve a common future. To this end, dialogue is key. Dialogue is fundamental to the legacy of Madiba and to South Africa's transition from apartheid to democracy. He based his entire life on the principle of dialogue and the art of listening and speaking to others; it is also the art of getting others to listen and speak to each other. It is a vital instrument for addressing critical social issues and the most effective vehicle for sharing memory, for growing it, and for engaging it in the promotion of justice.

Through its mandate, The Nelson Mandela Centre of Memory seeks to contribute to a just society by promoting the vision and work of our Founder and convening dialogue around critical social issues.

The Centre aims to utilise the history, experience, values, vision and leadership of its Founder and key stakeholders to provide a non-partisan platform for public discourse on important social issues, and in doing so, contribute to policy decision-making.

South Africa occupies a unique space in Africa and globally as an example of a country that emerged from the morass of deeply rooted racial, cultural and political divides – primarily because of timely dialogue between all its stakeholders.

**“We as a people chose the path of negotiation, compromise and peaceful settlement. Instead of hatred and revenge we chose reconciliation and nation-building.”** – Nelson Mandela



GUEST SPEAKER  
**MO IBRAHIM**

Dr Mo Ibrahim is the Founder and Chair of the Mo Ibrahim Foundation which he established in 2006 to support good governance and exceptional leadership on the African continent. Sudanese-born, Dr Ibrahim is a global expert in mobile communications with a distinguished business career. He founded Celtel International, one of Africa's leading mobile telephone companies, in 1998 which was sold to Zain in 2005 and was then purchased by Bharti Airtel in 2010. Dr Ibrahim is also Founding Chairman of Satya Capital Limited, an investment fund focused on Africa. Dr Ibrahim has received numerous honorary degrees and fellowships from a range of academic institutions. He is also the recipient of a number of awards including: The GSM Association's Chairman's Award for Lifetime Achievement (2007), the BNP Paribas Prize for Philanthropy (2008), the Clinton Global Citizen award (2010); the Millennium Excellence Award for Actions in Africa (2012), the David Rockefeller Bridging Leadership Award (2012) and the Africare Leadership Award (2013). In 2008 he was listed by TIME magazine as one of the 100 most influential people in the world.



## THE HISTORY OF THE NELSON MANDELA ANNUAL LECTURE

The Nelson Mandela Annual Lecture is a unique platform to drive debate on significant social issues. The lecture is an important event on the centre's calendar, and encourages the public, both local and international, to enter into dialogue – often about difficult subjects – in order to address the challenges we face today and remain relevant.

The centre has had the privilege of hosting global thought-leaders and changemakers including: Presidents Bill Clinton and Thambeki; Nobel Laureates Kofi Annan, the late Wangari Maathai, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Desmond Tutu and Mohammad Yunus; Professors Ariel Dorfman and Ismail Serageldin, and former Irish President and human rights activist, Mary Robinson.

Revered businessman, academic, global philanthropist, and Founder and Chair of the Mo Ibrahim Foundation, Dr Mo Ibrahim, will deliver the 11<sup>th</sup> Nelson Mandela Annual Lecture address which will focus on building social cohesion.

Significantly, the venue for the 11<sup>th</sup> Nelson Mandela Annual Lecture is the University of South Africa (Unisa), which this year celebrates its 140<sup>th</sup> birthday and its history of shaping the futures of individuals, leaders, our country and continent at large. Mr Mandela spent much of his 27 years in prison studying law with Unisa and on 17 May 1989, while he was incarcerated at Victor Verster Prison, he graduated in absentia with an LLB from this institution. Unisa provides an apt platform for this year's lecture as Africa's leading distance learning institution nurturing inspiring leaders of tomorrow.

## MARY ROBINSON

### NELSON MANDELA ANNUAL LECTURE 2012

Mary Robinson is President of the Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice. She served as President of Ireland from 1990 - 1997 and UN High Commissioner for Human Rights from 1997 - 2002. She is a member of the Elders and the Club of Madrid and the recipient of numerous honours and awards including the Presidential Medal of Freedom from the President of the United States, Barack Obama. A former President of the International Commission of Jurists and former chair of the Council of Women World Leaders, she was President and founder of Realizing Rights: The Ethical Globalization Initiative from 2002 - 2010. Mary Robinson serves as Honorary President of Oxfam International in addition to being a board member of several organisations including the Mo Ibrahim Foundation and the European Climate Foundation. Mary has been the Chancellor of the University of Dublin since 1998.



**“SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CAN ONLY BE ACHIEVED WHEN THERE IS ZERO TOLERANCE OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND A FULL COMMITMENT TO GENDER EQUALITY.”**



## ISMAIL SERAGELDIN

### NELSON MANDELA ANNUAL LECTURE 2011

The meaning of Freedom is ingrained in the soul of all humans. I think the people of South Africa have given the most striking example of the sacrifice and tenacity of a people yearning to be free, and Nelson Mandela has given the supreme example of a leader's devotion to the cause of his people and his own. He has become the embodiment of wise leadership and of the unstoppable urge to be free. While it is an inspiring lesson for all of Africa, and all of humanity, it is also an invitation to reflect on the meaning of that most fundamental of human rights. Freedom is about the ability to decide, the ability to choose. But we very quickly notice that many in society are not able to choose, even if the law guarantees them that right. Thus, extreme poverty severely limits the choices open to an individual. Lack of education or illness can also be important constraints in an individual's ability to fulfil his or her potential, not to mention social attitudes towards gender or ethnicity. Therefore, the exercise of rights needs the empowerment of individuals with certain capabilities that allow them to effectively practise such rights.

**“NELSON MANDELA HAS GIVEN THE SUPREME EXAMPLE OF A LEADER'S DEVOTION TO THE CAUSE OF HIS PEOPLE...”**

## ARIEL DORFMAN

NELSON MANDELA ANNUAL LECTURE 2010

Memory matters. One of the primary reasons behind the extraordinary crisis humanity finds itself in is due to the exclusion of billions of human beings and what they remember, men and women who are not even a faraway flicker on the nightly news, on the screen of reality. One of the ways out of our predicament is to multiply the areas of participation, create veritable oceans of participation. To offer room and respect to those memories and stories is not a merely charitable, paternalistic initiative, but an act of supreme self-preservation. A nation that does not take into account the multitude of suppressed memories of the majority of its people will always be weak, basing its survival on the exclusion of dissent and otherness. Those whose lives are not valued, not given narrative dignity, cannot really be part of the solution of the abiding problems of our times. We cannot afford to wait twenty-five years, like that carpenter did, for each hidden dream to step into the light of day.



“COMPASSION IS INGRAINED... CREATING THE CONDITIONS FOR A SOCIAL NETWORK WHERE THE SUFFERING OF OTHERS IS INTOLERABLE, WHERE WE NEED TO PITY AND COMFORT THE AFFLICTED.”



“WE GOT RID OF COLONIALISM, WE GOT RID OF SLAVERY, AND WE GOT RID OF APARTHEID... LET’S TAKE THE NEXT IMPOSSIBLE...AND CREATE A WORLD FREE FROM POVERTY.”

## MUHAMMAD YUNUS

NELSON MANDELA ANNUAL LECTURE 2009

Poverty is created by the system. Banks don't want to lend money to the poor people. The banks used to say if you [lend] money to poor people you won't get it back, but today Grameen Bank and microcredit programmes all over the world have shown that poor people are the ones that pay the money back. Why don't the banks do it? They don't have a good answer. That's where the root of poverty is, because of the institutions that make sure that some people remain deprived while some prosper... Policies are also to blame: The only thing that the governments and people can come up with to give to the poor people is charity. Poor people get handouts from the state. But this is not a solution to poverty. Charity freezes poverty, imprisons people. It takes away a sense of responsibility from people; it takes initiative away from them.

## ELLEN JOHNSON-SIRLEAF

NELSON MANDELA ANNUAL LECTURE 2008

There are, today, over 20 democracies in sub-Saharan Africa. Consider the transformation – in the space of a generation, democracy in Africa has spread from a very few countries to more than one third of the continent. Some of these are nascent democracies that are still fragile. But for others, the change more clearly prevails. It is hard to predict the future and the change will not be easy or smooth in every country, but never before in world history have so many low income countries become democracies in so short a period of time...

This enormous change engendered by an empowered citizenry has huge implications for Africa and for those few countries that continue to frustrate the will of the people. This new Africa is being built, every day, by the African people – people who reach out across boundaries – real and imagined.



“IT IS OUR FERVENT BELIEF THAT ANYONE WHO USES STATE POWER TO STEER PUBLIC RESOURCES TO HIS OR HER PERSONAL BENEFIT MUST BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE.”



“I SHARE MADIBA’S BELIEF AND HIS FAITH THAT WE CAN FIND THE STRENGTH WE NEED WITHIN OURSELVES, AS AFRICANS. SUCH STRENGTH AS WE HAVE, AND SUCH WISDOM THESE ARE THE LEGACIES OF NELSON MANDELA. LET US STRIVE ... TO CREATE A FUTURE WORTHY OF OUR CHILDREN.”

## KOFI ANNAN

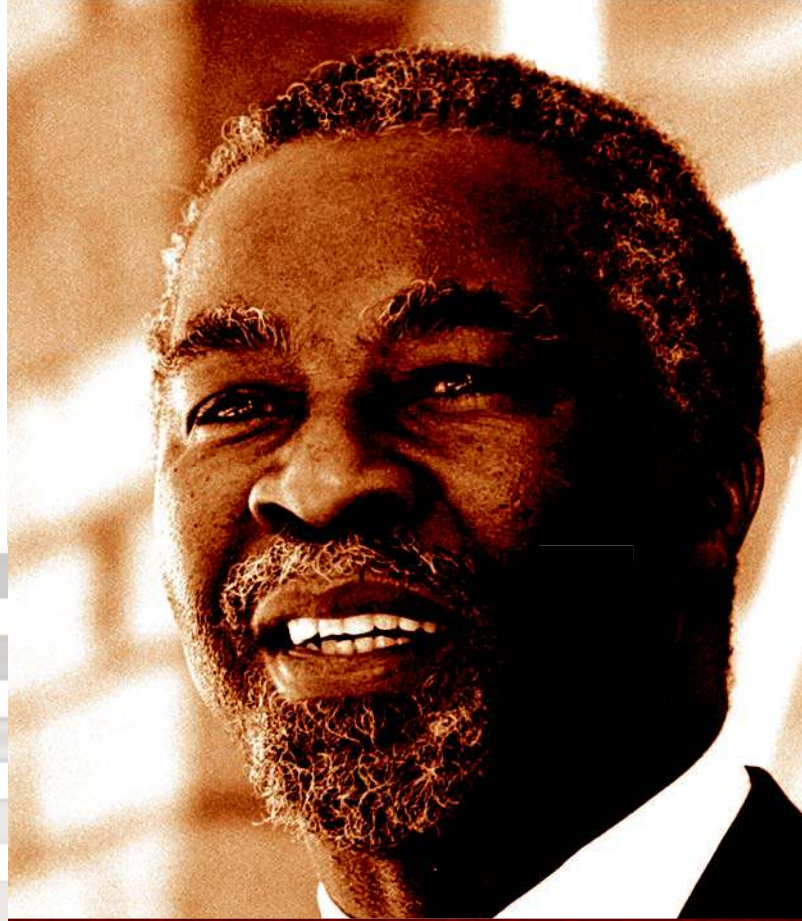
NELSON MANDELA ANNUAL LECTURE 2007

We live in an era of interdependence. That is true everywhere in the world; but in some ways it is more obvious in Africa than anywhere else. We Africans know, perhaps more than most, that problems like water shortages and disease, like environmental degradation and political unrest, cannot be neatly contained within national borders. If some of us are poor, we are all the poorer; if some countries are unstable, we are all less secure. Similarly, we know that solutions to these problems will only come if we work together—across borders, across boundaries of race, religion, language and culture. To accelerate our progress, to extend its reach into every corner of this continent, we must work together toward a comprehensive strategy—one that rests on three pillars: Peace and security; development; human rights and the rule of law. They all reinforce each other; they all depend on each other, just as we do.

## THABO MBEKI

### NELSON MANDELA ANNUAL LECTURE 2006

Many years ago now, Nelson Mandela made bold to say that our country needs an 'RDP of the soul', the Reconstruction and Development of its soul. He made this call as our country, in the aftermath of our liberation in 1994, was immersed in an effort to understand the elements of the Reconstruction and Development Programme that had constituted the core of the Election Manifesto of the ANC in our first democratic elections... . In a world that still suffers from the blight of intolerance, wars, antagonistic conflicts, racism, tribalism and marginalisation, national reconciliation and reconciliation among the nations, will remain a challenge that must occupy the entire human race continuously. In our case, we should say that we are fortunate that we had a Nelson Mandela who made bold to give us the task to attend to the 'RDP of the soul', and lent his considerable weight to the achievement of the goal of national reconciliation and the achievement of the goal of a better life for all our people.



"THE QUESTION MUST THEREFORE ARISE FOR THOSE AMONG US WHO BELIEVE THAT WE REPRESENT THE GOOD, WHAT MUST WE DO TO SUCCEED IN OUR PURPOSES?"



"MADIBA, I KNOW THIS IS THE DREAM YOU HAVE FOR AFRICA. AN AFRICA FREE OF POVERTY. AN AFRICA WITH ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL FREEDOM. AN EMPOWERED AFRICA."

## WANGARI MAATHAI

### NELSON MANDELA ANNUAL LECTURE 2005

The poor people the world is concerned about come from Africa, which is one of the richest continents on the planet. It is endowed with a large number of men and women; it has a lot of sunshine, oil, precious stones, forests, water, wildlife, soil, land and agricultural products. So, why are her people so poor?

The problem is that many Africans lack knowledge, skills and tools to create wealth from their resources. They are unable to add value to their raw materials so that they can take processed goods into the local and international markets and negotiate better prices and better trade rules. Without that capacity, opportunities will continue to slip by or others will continue to take advantage of them without the benefits reaching the people in whose name these negotiations take place.



## DESMOND TUTU

NELSON MANDELA ANNUAL LECTURE 2004

Let us look to the rock from which we are hewn. We should lower the temperature in our public discourse and hopefully thus increase the light. We should not impugn the motives of others but accept the bona fides of all. If we believe in something then surely we will be ready to defend it rationally, hoping to persuade those opposed to change their point of view. We should not too quickly want to pull rank and to demand an uncritical, sycophantic, obsequious conformity.



“WHICH OTHER COUNTRY HAS A MORAL COLOSSUS TO MATCH NELSON MANDELA... HE HAS BECOME AN ICON OF FORGIVENESS, COMPASSION AND MAGNANIMITY AND RECONCILIATION FOR THE ENTIRE GLOBE.”



“ONE LESSON WE ALL HAVE TO LEARN FROM MR MANDELA IS HOW TO BUILD A COMMUNITY ACROSS DIVISIONS OF RACE, RELIGION AND TRIBE.”

## WILLIAM J CLINTON

NELSON MANDELA ANNUAL LECTURE 2003

For the first time in history the rest of the world is interested in working not for or against Africa, but working with Africa, listening to you, looking to you, and learning from you. One lesson we all have to learn from Mr Mandela is how to build a community across divisions of race, religion and tribe. We do live in a world so interdependent that more email is sent everyday than postal mail, and a sneeze in Hong Kong leads to a quarantine in Toronto. But the very advances that have brought our world together – transportation, open borders, the internet – have been exploited by terrorists to tear our world apart. So, this is an exciting, but still unequal and unstable world. Yes, globalisation has lifted more people out of poverty in the last 20 years than any point in history, but half the world's people still live on less than \$2 a day and a billion of them will go to bed hungry tonight.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL AND  
VICE-CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTH AFRICA (UNISA)  
PROFESSOR MANDLA MAKHANYA

The University of South Africa is humbled and honoured by this great opportunity to collaborate with the Nelson Mandela Centre of Memory (NMCM) on the occasion of the 11th Nelson Mandela Annual Lecture. We believe that the lecture is a fitting tribute to the vision and legacy of the father of our nation, Isithwalandwe Nelson Mandela, whose belief and commitment to dialogue as a means of addressing critical social issues is legendary.

Our collaboration with the NMCM on this lecture is also resonant with the vision and practice of our university to provide thought leadership on local, continental and global socio-political and economic issues as well as an intellectual theatre where robust and critical debate on these matters can manifest. Our decision to be a partner in this historic project is a continuation of the long walk we have been taking with this illustrious alumnus of the university in his quest for knowledge and education, culminating in him acquiring three degrees with Unisa.

An equally special honour he bestowed on Unisa was his consent in 2012 to be a recipient of the Unisa Robben Island Alumnus Award, bestowed by the university on former political prisoners who, despite many great odds, studied, persevered and completed their qualifications with Unisa while serving prison terms on the island.

We at Unisa are motivated by Madiba's wise words: 'Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world'; and commit ourselves to honour him by continuing to provide access to quality education to shape the futures of the people of South Africa and Africa and empower them to change their circumstances.

We applaud the decision by the NMCM to invite the internationally respected businessman, academic and global philanthropist, Dr Mo Ibrahim as guest speaker at the eleventh edition of this lecture series and equally appreciate his agreement to honour us with his presence and to share his wisdom on the chosen theme: 'Building Social Cohesion'. There can be no better tribute that this – from two great institutions and a great man to an even greater man!

THE ELEVENTH NELSON MANDELA  
ANNUAL LECTURE  
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