

**School of Education
Community Engagement**

..... Presents

**CREATIVE NETWORK
MAGAZINE**

About This Volume

**Students and Staff from ALL universities and members of the general public were invited to:
'Write about their current experiences in a creative way - a story, lyrics, poem, drawing etc...
including how learning can take place during this time'.**

ABOUT US

Dr Angela James (Coordinator)

Academic Leader: Community Engagement
Senior Lecturer: **Science Education**
School of Education; College of Humanities
University of KwaZulu-Natal (Edgewood Campus)

Email: jamesa1@ukzn.ac.za

Cell: 073 511 4558

Ms Phakamile Mazibuko (Editor)

| Master of Education Student
| **Curriculum Studies**
| School of Education; College of Humanities
| University of KwaZulu-Natal (Edgewood Campus)

| 215029257@stu.ukzn.ac.za

| **Cell:** 079 953 9498

Mr Lihle Mbatha (Editor, Layout & Graphics Designer)

| Teacher
| **Sahlumbe High School**
| Department of Education
| Province of KwaZulu-Natal

| lihlembatha75@gmail.com

| **Cell:** 072 974 9894

Mr Luthando Molefe (Editor)

Bachelor of Education Honours Student
Teacher Development Studies
School of Education; College of Humanities
University of KwaZulu-Natal (Edgewood Campus)

Email: 215029529@stu.ukzn.ac.za

Cell: 078 049 1558

Ms Mandisa Luthuli (Editor)

| Bachelor of Education First Year Student
| **Social Science Education**
| School of Education; College of Humanities
| University of KwaZulu-Natal (Edgewood Campus)

| 215046770@stu.ukzn.ac.za

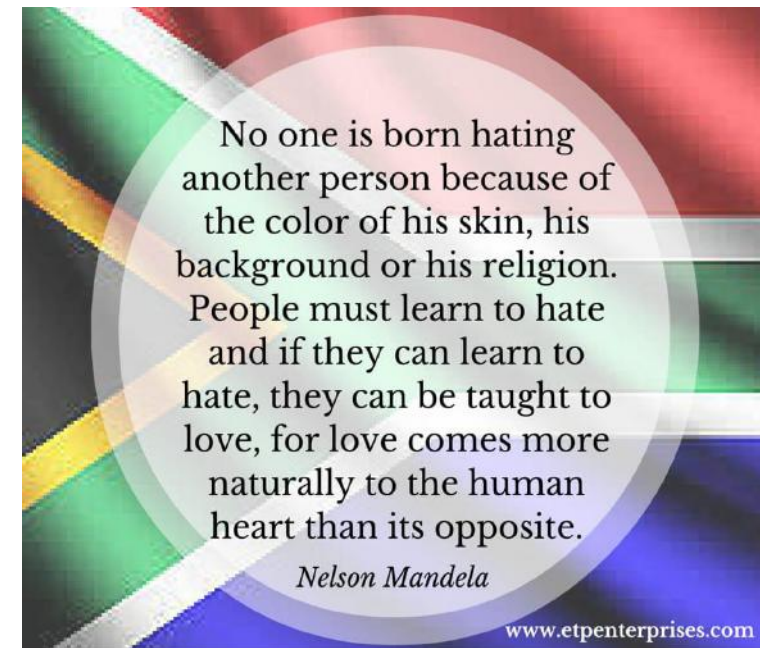
| **Cell:** 067 696 0185

Mr Siphamandla Gumede (Graphics Designer)

| Bachelor of Education Third Year Student
| **Commerce Education**
| School of Education; College of Humanities
| University of KwaZulu-Natal (Edgewood Campus)

| 218017568@stu.ukzn.ac.za

| **Cell:** 063 654 0962



AN ABODE OF HOPE

by

Prof. Desan Iyer

(High Court Judge [South Africa]; University of Zululand; Faculty of Commerce, Administration & Law)

Iyer@unizulu.ac.za

1

The world as we see it will never be the same,
Fresh air and freedom a normalcy no more,
Droplets of terror spreading like a raging storm,
Tears of poison muzzling quarrelsome leaders and strong nations,
We shield our faces yet expose our minds,
Fearing to breathe, paradoxes now rule,
Clocks have stopped, time suddenly stands still,
Doors firmly bolted, resolutely trapped in our thoughts,
It is time to reflect on a world at fault,
No better way than gradually peeling inhibitions away,
The world works in cryptic and mysterious ways,
Locked in an abode of hope to reflect on every second of life,
Help after all came from a devastating source,
Egos destroyed, equality restored,
The time has come to save the dying soul,
An ambience of hope brightens the early sky,
Slowly breathing the morning dews,
I finally learn to appreciate the symphonies of nature's tunes,
To listen, to share, to love and rejoice,
At glancing moments so often missed in the past
A dark cloud shimmering a ray in the horizon,
Worldly means no longer the order of day,
I scan the horizon with lens no longer tainted,

I see beautiful flowers sprouting with renewed courage and hope,
The patter of raindrops on the ground cleansing a once comatose soul,
I count my blessings as I navigate through life's crossroad,
Who would have thought a crisis so pitiable and impalpable,
Could pen countless full-stops on chapters untold.

roshini@creativewellnessconcepts.co.za

The struggle continues as Human Rights violations continue everywhere. A point to ponder, in any circumstance, are you a perpetrator or a part of the solution?

"Human rights are the basic rights and freedoms that belong to every person in the world, from birth until death. ... These basic rights are based on shared values like dignity, fairness, equality, respect and independence. These values are defined and protected by law.

The Human Rights Act. 5 Basic Human Rights.

Article 2: Right to life.

Article 3: Freedom from torture and inhuman or degrading treatment.

Article 4: Freedom from slavery and forced labour.

Article 5: Right to liberty and security.

Article 6: Right to a fair trial.

Article 7: No punishment without law.

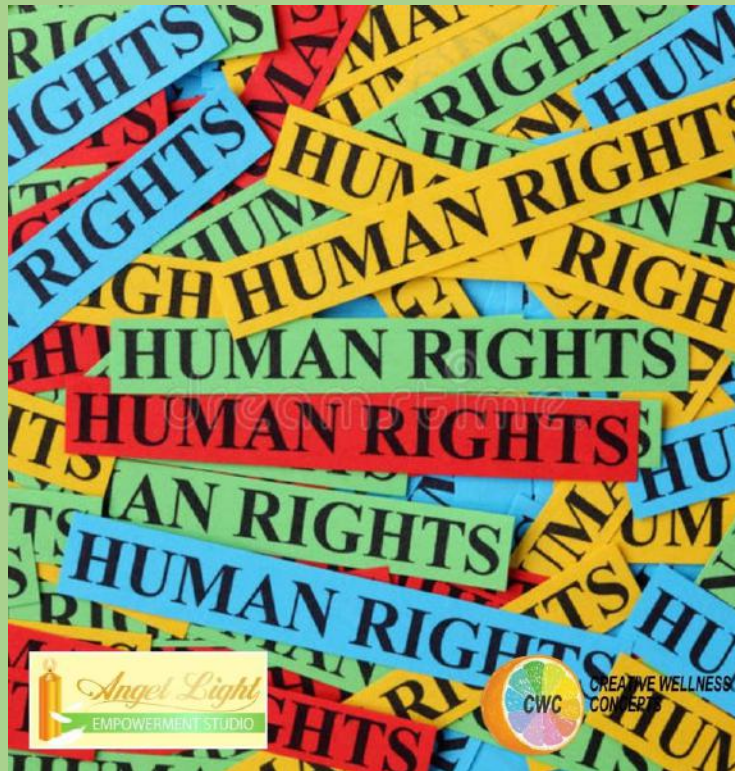
Each year on March 21st, South Africa celebrates Human Rights Day to commemorate the Sharpeville massacre of 1960. In honouring the fight for a democratic South Africa, Human Rights Day pays homage to all of those who fought and lost their lives in the struggle for freedom."

Photo credit: Dreamstime.com

Information: www.equalityhumanrights.com

<http://africantravelcanvas.com>

#creativewellnessconcepts #angellightempowermentstudio #humanrights #humanrightsday



**INTERESTED IN SUBMITTING
A CREATIVE PIECE**

Submit your piece to any team member by e-mail or WhatsApp by Wednesday of every week.

SUBMIT - PERMISSION IS GRANTED TO THE EDITORS TO PUBLISH MY CREATIVE WORK IN THE MAGAZINE.

UMTHWEBULI ZITHOMBE MAKANIKWE ITHUBA

by

Philani Biyela

(University of KwaZulu-Natal; Edgewood Campus)

214585930@stu.ukzn.ac.za

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Kwelakho iphephabhuku lasenyuvesi yakwaZulu-Natali, ngithi ake ngiphakamise umsebenzi wokuthwebula izithombe kaThabiso Ngesi (**osesithombeni**) awenzayo. Lo ngumfanyana osemncane ikakade lakhe liseLindelani eNyakakatho yeTheku. Umsebenzi wakhe waqala ukuwenza esamncane kakhulu wokuthwebula izithombe yize engakaze awuyele emfundweni ephakeme. Njengamanje indlela athatha ngayo izithombe iseqophelweni eliphezulu kanti ikhombisa ukuthi usemnkantshubomvu kule ndima. Miningana yona imicimbi ajwayele ukumenywa ukuzothatha izithombe kuyo okubalwa imishado, imemulo, amaphathi anhlobonhlobo, imembeso kanye neminye imicimbi. Muhle kakhulu umsebenzi wakhe, ngakho ngifisa osomabhezini abazimele, amanyuvesi namakolishi, izinhlaka eziphezulu kuhulumeni, izinhlangazo zokusakaza njenge-SABC, CNN, BBC nezinye zike zithole ithuba lokuba zibone umsebenzi owenziwa ilo mfanyana. Nginesiqiniseko sokuthi lezi nhlanga ngeke zizisole ngokumthatha ukuba athwebule imibukiso eyahlukene. Lokhu kungenza nokuthi agcie esethole amathuba okuthwebula imicimbi emikhulu yomphakathi, ezimele, nekahulumeni njalo njalo. Ngakho uma engathola la mathuba esengiwabalile, angahamba amazwe amaningi angaphandle ngisho kweNingizimu-Afrika kanye naphesheya kwezilwandle ngawo umsebenzi wakhe. Makhulu amava nolwazi lwakhe mayelana ngezithwebuli-zithombe (cameras) ezahlukene ezisetshenziswa ukuthwebula izithombe kuleli.

Kwelakho iphephabhuku lasenyuvesi yakwaZulu-Natali, ngithi ake ngiphakamise umsebenzi wokuthwebula izithombe kaThabiso Ngesi (osesithombeni) awenzayo. Lo ngumfanyana osemncane ikakade lakhe liseLindelani eNyakakatho yeTheku. Umsebenzi wakhe waqala ukuwenza esamncane kakhulu wokuthwebula izithombe yize engakaze awuyele emfundweni ephakeme. Njengamanje indlela athatha ngayo izithombe iseqophelweni eliphezulu kanti ikhombisa ukuthi >>>>>



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Ngale kwalokhu, kukhona umthwebuli zithombe oshamba amazwe amaningi la e-Afrika namazwe aphelela kwezilwandle futhi ohlonishwayo emkhakheni wokuthwebula (*photography*), uSolwazi Zanele Muholi odabuka eMlazi. Njengoba ehlonishwa nje, useze wakhipha nomqingo wezincwadi ngakho ukuthwebula izithombe. Lokhu kungenze ngaba nomcabango ojijile kangangoba ukuthwebula izithombe kuvulelana amathuba amaningi omsebenzi emhlabeni jikelele. Yingakho kumele ungathathwa kancane lo mkhakha kuleli. Lo ngumkhakha ebengiwuthatha kancane kodwa umfana kaNgesi angawuthatha awubeke eqophelweni eliphezulu njengoSolwazi Muholi. Isicelo sami sinye vo sokuthi lo mfana makanikezwe ithuba lokuzibonakalisa kule ndima ukuze ikhono lakhe lokuthwebula lithuthuke futhi libe ngelihlabahlosile uma nje engaxhunyaniswa nezingqungulu ezinolwazi olucokeme kule ndima yezokuthwebula.

Samia Suluhu Hassan
by

Mlungisi Hlabisa

(Master of Education Candidate: University of KwaZulu-Natal; Edgewood Campus)

214536349@ukzn.ac.za

*What is to be done
When the President leaves his people!
What happens when a father dies
And leaves his children behind!*

John Pombe Joseph Magufuli

(The Bulldozer)

*What do you give to mourners
Mourning without faith!
How do you choose your words of support?
How do you establish rapport
To the dispossessed!*

*Where do you gather strength
When everyone is collapsing
Starving for his last entrance!
No!
Not in a rectangular piece of wood!*

*Their hearts throbs,
For a heart that loved them,
A heart that failed him.*

John Pombe Joseph Magufuli

What do you give them?

Give them a Mother!

*Give them mama **Samia Suluhu Hassan.***

Kulea taifa,

Ninyi ni mataifa tumaini.

Walinde kama kuku akilinda virayanga vyake,

Uwape matumaini,

Rais Samia Suluhu Hassan

THE FIRST BLACK FEMALE PRESIDENT.

There is light at the end of the tunnel: My story how I overcame the difficulties of 2020

by

Ivainashe Earnest Nyamutsamba

(Third-Year Law Student, University of Pretoria)

u17066884@tuks.co.za

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2020 was a year that brought me to my lowest and most vulnerable state, a time when I was brought down to the severest level of anxiety and depression. Despite all that, I managed to pick myself up out of the muck, take responsibility for my destiny and give honour and praise to my creator through the works of my hands. Hello, and welcome to my story.

Before, I dive into the core of this narration, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the University of Pretoria (UP) community: the security staff, the cleaners, the groundsman, my lecturers from both the faculties of Law and Humanities, the student body, the UP Library family, my colleagues at TuksFM and PDBY, the faculty houses and student residences, the international student community, and the societies, as well as my best friend Khanyisa Masinge and my family. We have made history and I am proud of us. We have written a new chapter of UP history and we are not stopping here. Our target is the world stage. Congratulations, UP community, we have done it. Our very own self-published literary work has gone against the grain and rewritten the codes of what it means to be a UP student.

My name is Ivainashe Earnest Nyamutsamba and I am a UP BA (Law) student, newsreader for TuksFM, blogger, poet, bookstore owner, writivist, and a self-published author. My debut literary work, soon to drop, is titled I was never ready and many other stories.

The idea of I was never ready and many other stories was birthed in the second semester of 2018. My best friends Khanyisa Masinge and Xihlamariso Mgiba and I were on our way to the Groenkloof Campus to attend an English lecture. It was a late afternoon lecture, and upon boarding the bus Khanyisa exclaimed, 'I was never ready!'. In that moment, I had a eureka moment; I asked if I could use the phrase. The Centre for Human Rights was having an essay competition on the importance of human rights. Entrants were tasked to explore the importance of human rights through creative works. In that moment,

I challenged myself to explore the psychology, emotions, and pain of an African woman, borrowing what I have seen first-hand around me and my mother's journey. The story did not make it to the podium, and in that moment I was whisked away by inspiration to come up with an anthology that explicitly explores the contemporary crisis that has affected our community. I observed that the UP community is a microcosm of our communities. This is how I came upon the idea for the literary work. I am a firm believer in the notion that it takes a community to sit down and solve its own problems. In my submission, I note that she

is helping the UP community in two ways, amplifying (1) the rights of women and children and (2) African literature, ie, improving the literacy of my community through home-grown, relatable stories.

When COVID-19 first waved its ugly head of uncertainty in my face, it startled me I did not know what to do. I am from Zimbabwe, and it is no secret that Zimbabwe is going through a tumultuous episode in her history. The economic upheaval took a turn for the worse in 2020 when the economy shrunk, which meant that money from Zimbabwe to South Africa would not arrive in time for registration.

Upon realising that, the stark truth struck me that I would have to sit out the 2020 academic year. It was difficult for me to come to terms with the reality; I was sucked into a depressive state where I interrogated myself. At times, I would hurt myself so I might feel something. The lockdown took the best of me. I blamed myself for the pain of my mother, who was stressed that I was not at school. One day I was with my best friend she exclaimed, 'Earn, you need a job to meet your daily expenses!'

At my place, alone, it dawned on me that I am a writer; I have a literary work on my hard drive that is done (at that time I thought it was done). A few years back, my brother, Blessing Zana, offered to help me with financing the printing of the book. I reached out to him and asked him if he would loan me some money so I might kickstart this project, and maybe, if I sold 300 units, I might clear my debt with UP and resume my studies in 2021. Unfortunately, within the arts industry, jealousy is rife. A fellow author led me astray to work with a fraudster who unfortunately ran away with my money.

I had to dig deep again, infuse myself with self-belief and the understanding that it is now up to me to save myself and my family. I knew that the story of my life would not only inspire my community, but South Africa and the rest of Africa. It would inspire my fellow countrymen that, although we might be going through a series of unfortunate events for now, if we sit down and understand what we want, we shall get it as a united nation.

The challenges were daunting and frustrating; there were a lot of psychological questions, such as 'Who do you think you are, you are black and a Zimbabwean; who will listen to what you are saying?' 'You are a black man writing about women's issues, what do you know about women's issues?', 'You are a black independent writer, and you think people will listen to you?' Such questions stormed through my mind.

I had to take that leap of faith, harnessing that self-belief. Prayer helped me to conquer my doubts, as did the history of my people, Zimbabwe is a nation, blessed with an array of historical landmarks. I channelled that energy of intimately knowing that I too can achieve great feats like my ancestors. I appreciate my community, the UP community, knowing that we are tight-knit, we are trailblazers and we never tire in rewriting the chapters of history. That is how I overcame these moments of doubt, fear, and inadequacy. In the first three months (1 October to 3 December 2020), I sold 72 copies. However, I noted that the book needed some tinkering and improvements, thus I am re-issuing her in 2021 (on 9 August 2021). Once the logistics have been finalised and the key areas have been put in place, the date will be made known to the public.

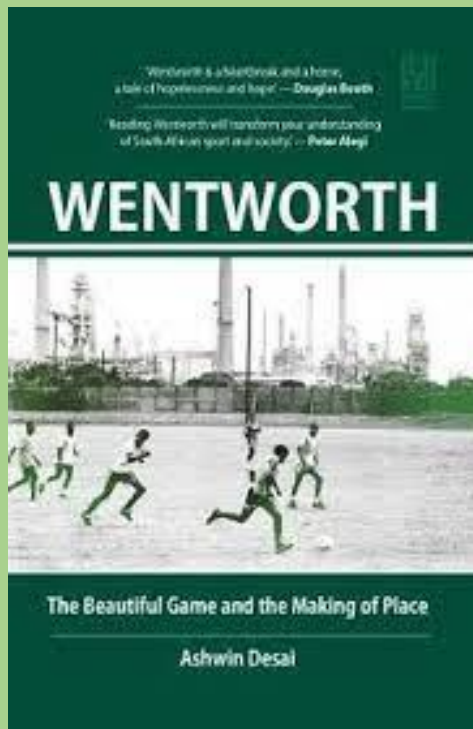
As I conclude my story, I would like to thank the editors and publication team: Thank you so much for the opportunity and platform to share my story with the UP community. To the UP community, once again, congratulations! We have done it. Finally, life is a process, give yourself space to grow and learn from your mistakes and understand your purpose.

WENTWORTH – The Beautiful Game and the Making of Place
by **ASHWIN DESAI**

Reviewed by

Dr. Betty Govinden

(University of KwaZulu-Natal)
bettygovinden1944@gmail.com



Ashwin Desai – The People’s Professor – has painted for us another remarkable portrait of “people and place”. Recounting a community history, through the prism of soccer, Desai shows how Wentworth, in Durban, designated a Coloured area since the 1960’s, spawned soccer talent and so much else.

Ashwin Desai digs deep into this history, bringing to life those who inspired and played the game when Wentworth was nothing more than a jumble of shacks and whitewashed blocks of flats, watched over by plumes of smoke from local factories that blackened the sky and slowly poisoned the body. The book’s power comes from its ability to keep its focus on soccer while situating the game in the broader social relations, as geography and history, spatial and temporal meld into a beguiling narrative. [Back Cover]

Ashwin Desai shows us another amazing example - in the story of Wentworth - of resilience and tenacity, of surviving, coping and resisting, in spite of apartheid. The narratives also show the deep human cost in the face of incalculable structural and everyday injustice. As Prof Douglas Booth, based in Canada, observes, “Wentworth is a heartbreak and a home, a tale of hopelessness and hope” [Book Blurb].

[Ashwin Desai is Professor of Sociology at the University of Johannesburg. Wentworth was published in 2019, by UKZN Press.]





TELEPHONE 072 2 0700 28
EMAIL info@yolab.co.za
WEBSITE www.yolab.co.za
187 Sherwell Avenue, RANDPARK RIDGE

7

MINDFULNESS and WELLBEING (05)

SAWUBONA ... S A : SELF-ACTIVISM and REFORM: [PART 1]

How Mindfulness as a Form of SELF ACTIVISM may Address Our Need for Reform

by

Radhakrishnan D. Moodley

(LSEd; BSc; Hons B Ed; MEd; International Yoga Alliance Certificate – Rishikesh, India)

info@yolab.co.za

INTRODUCTION

South Africa commemorated National Human Rights Day on 21 March 2021 – an initiative to draw awareness to Human Rights violations. Initiatives such as this that call for greater awareness and reform are not peculiar to South Africa.

It is a “sign of the times” in which we live - a time when the level of human consciousness is lower than optimal for communities to thrive.

Conscious awareness is key.

The individual and collective cost of “low-consciousness living” to the global community is staggering.

Consider the myriad instances when the potential for loss exists parenting choices that negatively impact children’s optimal development; teaching choices that negatively impact learners’ optimal development; municipal and service provider choices that ignore the question of quality service provision, government choices that compromise minority groups, the role played by media and social media ...

TINY TWEAKS ...

Broad brush-strokes to address the problem of “human consciousness” generally miss their target.

Neither the cause nor the factors that contribute to “low-consciousness living” can effectively be addressed by general national public appeals. The appeal for awareness is needed in the minds (and hearts ... and gut) of each individual citizen.

How might this be achieved?

Living mindfully: being in touch with essence, being in-tune with what IS and what’s needed.

Any hope of transformational reform requires us to heed simple, apparently insignificant but elegant wisdom like that of Susan David (a former South African - currently professor of psychology (specialist in emotional agility) at Harvard University.

“Tiny tweaks over time can dramatically enhance our ability to thrive.”

JUST WHAT DO WE NEED?

“Amandla awethu” was a popular call throughout South Africa nearly three decades ago! It translates to “Power to the People”.

What is needed is an empowered citizenry - a citizenry that genuinely feels empowered to not just acknowledge the potential impact of its individual choices but also to have the courage to assume ownership of prevalent problems as well as the belief to engage in the solution of the problem.

PAUSE TO CONSIDER

Take a moment to consider how dramatically different each our contexts (home, work, places of worship, places of care) could be if each of us practices mindful living.

WHERE DO WE BEGIN?

A great place to boost efficacy of effort is to begin “tweaking the tiny”:

“tiny ideas” starting with tiny people who, though they are the most vulnerable, also have the potential to be the most powerful in transformational reform initiatives.

The advantage to them is that they are also the most likely benefactors of these efforts.

A SIMPLE GESTURE (“the tiny tweak”) IS IMPACTFUL

A way to embrace and enable each child to engage and invest is to acknowledge each child and then its need/s in the “self-realization” process.

One way of acknowledging a person is the way we choose to greet them:

“Sawubona” is a Zulu greeting which translates literally to:

“I see you.” ... “And, in so doing, I bring you into BEING.” *Susan David*

RESEARCH BYTES

8

Duncan, J. (2021) A close look at how the net has tightened on the right to protest in South Africa. The Conversation
<https://theconversation.com/a-close-look-at-how-the-net-has-tightened-on-the-right-to-protest-in-south-africa-156966>

A close look at how the net has tightened on the right to protest in South Africa

South Africa's public order policing is as ill as it ever was. This has been illustrated in recent student protests spreading across the country's campuses. In Johannesburg police shot dead a pedestrian at a protest outside the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg.

[Research I conducted](#) prior to the lockdown pointed to anti-democratic patterns of behaviour towards protesters. This is despite a 2018 Constitutional Court [judgment](#) in South Africa that affirmed people's right to protest.

I concluded from my findings that much more needs to be done at municipal level to ensure that the judgment changes how the state regulates and polices protests. South Africa's Regulation of Gatherings [Act](#) requires a convener to give notice of their intention to hold a gathering to their local authority, in most cases their municipality.

Municipal over-regulation of protests, coupled with over-policing, suggests a doctrinal shift in how they are viewed by the government. Instead of recognising protests as a democratic right and legitimate form of expression, increasingly protests have been framed as threats to domestic stability and, consequently, national security.

For example, I found no evidence from my research that the national government stepped in to curb abuses.

This shift is not confined to South Africa. It reflects a more conflictual global social order, declining respect for democracy as a political form, and consequently increasingly common framings of protests as riots and protesters as mobs.

State conduct during the lockdown has been yet another sign of this doctrinal decline.

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Adib and Yasar Mansuri designers of the umbrella.
 It protects from the heat, fully charge your phone,
 and provides light at night.



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FUTURE**

KZN PROVINCIAL ONLINE EXPO
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SESSION 1 TIME: 13:00 Meeting ID: 913 1282 8019 Passcode: 057980	SESSION 2 TIME: 17:00 Meeting ID: 914 2119 8983 Passcode: 136569
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Contact: nafini@exposcience.co.za


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IMPORTANT NOTICES TO ALL AUTHORS

NOTICE 1

Dear Authors

Thank you so much to everyone who submitted their great creative piece(s) which were published in Volumes 1 - 44 and to those whose pieces are in the current publication, we are grateful for your amazing work.

Creative pieces in any language are welcome.

Kindly please note that we **ONLY** publish **8-10** “creative pieces” each week.

If your piece is not in the current publication, it will be published the following week.

Kind regards,
Creative Network Magazine Team

NOTICE 2

Dear Authors

Whenever you submit your creative piece to Dr. James, we kindly and warmly request you to please also send the following note with your submission:

I (Full name and Surname) hereby grant permission for the Creative Network Magazine to publish my submission (creative piece).