

**Report on the**  
**IALHI 2008 Annual Conference and open session on "The Heritage of Migrant Labour in**  
**Southern Africa"**  
**hosted by Khanya College History Programme in at the Workers' Museum in Johannesburg,**  
**Newtown, South Africa**  
**09th to 13th September 2008**

**Introduction**

Between the 9th and the 13th of September 2008 Khanya College hosted the IALHI (International Association of Labour History Institutions) Conference 2008 as well as a 3-day open session on the 'Heritage of Migrant Labour in Southern Africa'. The conference was held at the Workers' Museum based in the former Newtown Municipal Workers' Compound in Johannesburg, South Africa.

In 2005 the Annual meeting of the IALHI in Ghent had decided to grant Khanya College the right to host the Annual Conference for 2008. In 2007 Khanya College had decided to take the 2008 conference as an opportunity to introduce the IALHI to a wider South and southern African audience as well as to promote and debate issues related to the heritage of migrant labour and its preservation. Thus, in addition to the IALHI AGM and conference the programme was expanded by 3 public conference days that targeted a diverse audience from the heritage, archives, labour, social movements, CBOs and history sector. 2 days of panel discussions on the Heritage of Migrant Labour were followed by 1 day of heritage tour on working class heritage and resistance around Johannesburg and Soweto. The decision to focus on the "Heritage of Migrant Labour in Southern Africa" must be seen against the following background: Working class heritage in the Southern Africa region cannot be commemorated without acknowledging the enormous significance of migrant labour for the economic, social and political evolution of this entire region. The South African migrant labour system, built by capital and the state along the principles of racial segregation, control, and exploitation

of Africans, was the core of apartheid economy for more than a hundred years. Until today the heritage of the migrant labour system, as the dominant pattern of workers' employment of the 20th century, has left a lasting impact on contemporary South and southern African society. The open session aimed to reflect that impact of the migrant labour system on workers' life and heritage in the Southern African region. In five panels it looked at its economic, social, and cultural dimensions.

### **Aims and Objectives of the Conference**

The aims and objectives of the IALHI/Heritage of Migrant Labour Conference are:

- To introduce the IALHI to South and southern African stakeholders and activists
- 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.
- To provide a space for an exchange of views about the place of the working class in South Africa's heritage today
- 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.
- To reflect on women's experiences of the migrant labour system, and how the migrant labour system shaped gender relations in modern South Africa
- To provide a space for reflection on the impact of migrant labour on modern-day South African culture
- To promote the significance and raise the profile of the Workers' Museum among an international, regional and local target audience

### **Conference Venue**

By hosting the conference at the Workers' Museum in Newtown Khanya College aimed to promote the site as important and unique heritage of the migrant labour system and as a strong tool to educate about the history of migrant labour in the southern African region and its impact on workers today. As the first phase of recent sites' restoration had been completed in time it was possible to host the conference in the former compound and from the feedback given during the event the significance and potential of the site was widely acknowledged by a range of conference delegates.

### **Attendance**

All IALHI members as well as an additional 160 delegates had been invited to the conference. The conference had been designed to host about 110 delegates, 106 had registered and 100 finally attended, attendance levels have thus been very good throughout the week. The 100 delegates came from 69 different organisations, thus a great organisational diversity was achieved. While only 16 IALHI delegates were present, the other organisations included CBOS as well as labour research organisations, NGOs, archives, working class heritage sites, museums, heritage organisations and independent heritage practitioners, public arts and culture services, political activists, academic institutions, as well as donors (see Appendix for list of organisations). Countries represented were Kenya, Mauritius, Namibia, South Africa, Ireland, Netherlands, Italy, France, Germany, Belgium, Switzerland, Norway, Finland, United Kingdom. Considering the regional perspective the conference aimed to achieve, a higher number of delegates from the African region would have been desirable. Also a larger number of female delegates should be encouraged to attend next time.

### **Programme and Debates**

The conference programme lasted from an evening reception on the 9th of September for all IALHI day delegates to a full-day heritage tour on the 13th of September. The 10th of September was a closed conference day reserved for the IALHI AGM, project reports and the introduction of South African archives and heritage sites to the IALHI

and vice versa with about 50 delegates attending (inc. IALHI members and non IALHI members). The 11th and the 12th of September were open conference days containing 5 panels on the heritage of labour migration with an attendance of 100 delegates on each conference day.

#### Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> of September

The evening reception took place at the House of Movements/Khanya College on the evening of the 9th of September. All IALHI members as well as selected archives and heritage organisations from South Africa, Kenya and Mauritius were present. After a welcome by Khanya College Board Member Luli Callinicos and college coordinator Oupa Lehulere delegates got an introduction to the Workers Library and Resources Centre of the House of Movements by librarian Andreas Kaiser. The informal part of the evening then gave delegates the opportunity to get to know each other and socialize.

#### Wednesday, 10th of September

The 10th of September was dedicated to the XXXIX Annual Conference of the IALHI. The day started with a welcome by Oupa Lehulere (Khanya College, South Africa) expressing his delight about the fact that the IALHI meets for the first time in Africa and highlighting the role workers played in bringing about a democratic dispensation in South Africa. He further stressed the significance of the conference city Johannesburg where workers started to organize as early as the 1800s as well as the importance of the conference venue which is a symbol for the struggle to preserve working class heritage.

The IALHI AGM was then opened and chaired by Françoise Blum (CODHOS, France) who apologized for those IALHI members that could not attend and thanking the conference organizers for hosting the conference. As no one opposed to hold the AGM in the presence of non-IALHI members the AGM begun.

First, the financial report was given by treasurer Marien van der Heijden, then the National Archives of Senegal and the University of Campinas, Brasil, were announced as

new members of IALHI and it was confirmed that the IAHLI conference 2009 will be held at the Arus Library in Barcelona, Spain, and in 2010 at the IISG in Amsterdam, Netherlands.

The chair then introduced IALHI's recent activities in Africa. After new links have been established with WITS in South Africa and also partners in Tunisia, attempts are now being made to create co-operations with Gambian and Senegalese institutions. An association of university libraries will be established in Gambia that involves also other neighbouring countries. Columbia University (USA) shall assist in setting up the association. In such way IALHI aims to extend its international network. Richard Temple (Senate House Library, UK) then further explored challenges of the Gambian National Archives' attempt to collect labour archives of the country. Major challenges, he explained, are a lack of resources (staff and space) as well as the expropriation of national archives by former colonial masters. There is some enthusiasm from the Gambian Congress of Trade Unions about the project which can be seen as a positive sign, however, it is not clear if the labour unions will be able to work with the National Archives. Françoise Blum added that state control over archives was also an issue in Senegal and Rwanda, conditions that might be worth addressing by IALHI in the future. After the AGM, IALHI members then had the chance to present their projects. The following were introduced:

- Library of the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung represented by Ruediger Zimmermann (FES, Germany)
- Facilitating Access to Labour History Archives in Switzerland: [www.mouvementouvrier.ch](http://www.mouvementouvrier.ch) represented by Urs Kälin, Schweizerisches Sozialarchiv, Switzerland)
- International Research Centre for Anarchism (CIRA) represented by Frederic Deshusses (CIRA, Switzerland)
- The Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches sur les Mouvements Trotskystes et Révolutionnaires Internationales (CERMTRI) represented by Pierre François de Massot (CERMTRI, France)

- The International Institute for Social History (IISH) Digitization Project represented by Marien van der Heijden (IISH, Netherlands)
- The May 1968 website ([www.mai-68.fr](http://www.mai-68.fr)) hosted by the Collectif des Centres de Documentation en Histoire Ouvrière (CODHOS) represented by Franck Veyron (CODHOS, France)

Information on all projects can be retrieved on the internet. It was apparent that a lot of the projects were further developing its work via digitization and online activities in order to improve access to the existing archives and their educational content.

During the afternoon session of the 10<sup>th</sup> of September South African archives and heritage sites used the opportunity to introduce their projects to the IALHI and other non-IALHI members. The following were introduced (facilitator: Anne-Katrin Bicher):

- The WITS History Workshop, WITS Historical Papers, Johannesburg Public Library and the National Archives in Pretoria represented by John Hyslop (WITS University, South Africa)
- The South African History Archives (SAHA) represented by Piers Pigou (SAHA, South Africa)
- South African History Online (SAHO) represented by Omar Badsha (SAHO, South Africa)
- The Khanya College History Programme and the Workers Museum Development Project represented by Anne-Katrin Bicher (Khanya College, South Africa)
- The District Six Museum Cape Town represented by Bonita Bennet (District Six Museum, South Africa))
- The Trevor Huddleston Memorial Centre represented by Kenda Knowles (THMC, South Africa)

Issues that were discussed during the following debates were the lack of a strong reading culture in South Africa as well as the lack of resources of public libraries for new acquisitions. Issues of access to information and the particular struggles in a transforming South Africa were tackled exploring the example of the TRC. Experience

in accessing other historical records (i.e. on forced removals) were also exchanged. Furthermore, it was stated that there is an increasing trend to publish history publications online (e.g. PHDS, master thesis via SAHO) and that online resources are particularly used by teachers and learners in South Africa. The technical dimension of archiving large amounts of digital content was also touched upon. During the session on South Heritage Sites the relationship between forced removals and labour migration was discussed.

#### Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> of September

Petrus Mashishi (Khanya College Board/SAMWU, South Africa) opened the first day of the open session on the "Heritage of Migrant Labour" by welcoming everyone at the Workers' Museum.

Then facilitator Oupa Lehulere introduced the key-note speaker Ntongela Masilela (Pritzker College, USA) who presented a paper on the "Social and Cultural Impact of the Migrant Labour System on Modern South Africa". Referring to his online project and archive "The New Africa Movement" Masilela looked at the introduction of modernity in Africa through capitalism. His key thesis was that the disjuncture between politics and culture in South Africa can only be revoked by a revival of Marxist cultural politics through reviving African languages which will then bring one closer to the mindset of migrant labourers. He explained that African nationalists, specifically Pixley ka Isaka Seme, John Langalibalele Dube, and Solomon T. Plaatje had already expelled Marxists from the African National Congress in the critical decade of the 1930s. While referring to several African intellectuals and poets, i.e. Nosizi Mgqwetho, he then further argued that it was only made possible by the exploitation of migrant workers that capitalism and with it modernity could be introduced to South Africa. The wealth of the present day South Africa has been accumulated on the back of the working class, urban workers as much as rural peasants. He concluded that "the left" has to take up the fight for African languages again in order to integrate culture and politics as a possible way to overcome the current crisis of the ANC. A way of achieving such goal

would be the creation of archives of all kinds that would enable us to have an interpretative hold on the past in the process of creating new knowledge in the present. From those archives, books and pamphlets should be published in the African languages. He concluded that without an informed, educated and cultured class, there can be no serious political practice. In the following discussion from the floor various aspects of his paper were further explored and questioned. Issues that came up was a demand to also preserve the "fanakalo language, copyright issues around Masilela's website, the fluent borders of "high" and "popular culture", the historic distance between the ANC and the mass movements in South Africa, the regional dimension of the migrant labour system and the need to include such regional dimension in any analysis, as well as some critique of an idealisation of African languages. The last critic argued that many poets who have written in their own languages were actually servile to the colonisers and that English is merely a mode of expression, but does not stand for any political dis-orientation.

The second part of the morning was dedicated to the first conference panel (facilitated by Ighsaan Schroeder) on "The Political Economy of Migrant Labour in South and Southern Africa" with 3 papers presented. First Martin Legassick (UWC, South Africa) looked at the legacy of the black migrant labour system from an economic perspective, then Luli Callinicos (Khanya College Board, South Africa) explored forms of resistances by workers to the migrant labour system and finally Sepetla Molapo (WITS, South Africa) presented findings of his PHD on compound residents and their attitude towards HIV/Aids.

During the discussion of Martin Legassick's paper the problems in dealing with definitions like "unemployed" and "employed" came up, and the presenter referred to the fact that in South Africa a lot of workers are classified as employed who are actually under-employed. Further issues of xenophobia in connection with international migration to Gauteng were tackled and the fact that the cheap migrant labour system persists despite the abolishing of the pass laws and apartheid politics due to neo-liberal economic policies of the current government. Also Legassick called for a complete

eradication of capitalism. Luli Callinicos' paper raised questions around the unionisation of migrant workers in the 1940s and today and issues around keeping up ethnic divisions as a form of indirect rule. Sepetla Molapo's presentation, in which he differentiated between 4 types of men in their attitudes towards HIV/Aids (the conservatives, the risk takers, the pragmatists and the traditional moralists) raised issues around how to integrate gender analysis in HIV/Aids research among mine workers.

The afternoon session (panel no. 2, facilitated by Nerisha Baldevu) focussed on the "Gender, Women and the Migrant Labour System". It covered a presentation by Maria van Driel (Khanya College Journal Collective, South Africa) on " A family legacy-the migrant labour system and the evolution of family forms in the 20<sup>th</sup> century South Africa" as well as a group presentation by Davina Jogi (MPW, South Africa), Boitumelo Khunou ( Khanya College's Hostels and Compounds Project, South Africa), and Noor Nietagodien (WITS History Workshop, South Africa) on "Single-sex housing for female migrants: An oral history and photography research project on women's Hostels in Gauteng" a case study conducted as part of Khanya College's Hostels and Compounds Project in Gauteng. The initially programmed third presentation by Shireen Ally had to be cancelled due to family circumstances of the speaker. The panel raised an intense discussion on changing family patterns under the current economic challenges and the situation of female hostel residents since the 1980s. Issues that were critically debated are the increase of "Vat and Sit" family and its positive and negative impact on gender relations and the role of women in households, the existence of social and cultural organisational structures in women's hostels and township families today. Also the long-lasting impact of segregational family legislation of the 1960s was discussed and recent attempts to mitigate it by developing hostels into family units. The floor also raised the question how the xenophobic attacks since May 2008 were dealt with around the female hostels and if there was any particular solidarity among South African and non-South African women. Furthermore the dominance of the 1956 Women's March in Pretoria in the perception of the heritage of women's resistance in South Africa was critically mentioned and the general importance of overcoming housing challenges in the

country to elevate living conditions for women and families has been stressed. In general the origins of today's family patterns and challenges of disintegration were clearly seen in the migrant labour system its underlying family, housing, and labour legislation.

#### Friday, 12th of September

The morning sessions of the 12th of September covered plenary sessions 3 and 4. One (No. 4, facilitated by Mondli Hlatshwayo) on "Preserving and Programming Working Class Heritage Sites" and the second (No. 3, facilitated by Oupa Lehulere) on "South African Working Class History as National Heritage-the Tangible and the Intangible".

Plenary session 4 covered presentations on the "Preservation of the Indentured Labour Immigrant Heritage of Mauritius at the Indian Immigration Museum and Immigration Archives at the Mahatma Gandhi Institute" by Saloni Deerpalsingh (Indian Immigration Museum, Mauritius), on the "Te Workers Museum Johannesburg - Reviving a heritage site for labour migration" by Anne-Katrin Bicher (Khanya College, South Africa) and the third focused on "The Lwandle Migrant Labour Museum in the Western Cape - memory work against xenophobia" presented by Lunga Smile (Lwandle Migrant Labour Museum, South Africa). All three papers looked at the emergence of each museum and the particular historical context. While the Mauritius museum is a state run museum with a large collection of historical documentation of Indian labour immigration to the isle, the other two are unique South African heritage sites from the beginning at the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> whereby both refer to a living reality that still affects thousands of South Africans. During the discussions the question of community participation at each museum as well as issues of integrating and preserving workers' voices as well as addressing present day housing issues in the programming of the sites were raised. Also it was suggested to build a network of migrant labour museums in the region and it was suggested to initiate this via already existing professional associations and channels.

Plenary session 3 covered a presentation on the "Legacy of the Working Class as Intangible Heritage- the oral History Approach" by Philippe Denis (UKZN, South Africa), on the "Critical Perspectives on the State Approach to Working Class History as National Heritage" by Omar Badsha (SAHO, South Africa) as well as a paper on "Preserving the Historial Memory of the Social Movements" by Andreas Kaiser (Khanya College, South Africa). Particularly the oral history paper raised many questions from the floor on the ethics of oral history, the specifics of oral history in a South African context with very diverse cultural contexts and languages, on preservation methods as well as questions around memory and authenticity. Further, the debates dealt with challenges around the preservation of social movement's history and heritage. There was a demand to be open to new ways of documenting and archiving such past living and often spontaneous processes, like new media and not only relying on traditional archival methods that are often unavailable. Also the positioning of resource centres in NGOs rather than in the social movements themselves was debated.

The afternoon session, plenary session 5 (facilitated by Elija Kodisang), focused on "Culture and Migrant Labour in Modern South Africa" and due to short-notice apologies from two speakers covered only 2 presentations: One by Ulrike Kistner (WITS, South Africa) on "Black Migrant Workers in South African Literature" and the screening of a film from the "Ghetto Diaries Series" produced by Dingane in 1997 a couple from Transkei of which the husband is a migrant worker at a mine in Carlteonville presented by Bridget Thompson (Tomas Film, South Africa).

While Ulrike Kistner's dense paper looked i.e. at symbolic expressions of migration as represented in various cultural forms like poetry, literature, and drama and the process of story telling in all these art forms, questions raised from the audience tackled the role of trade union federations like COSATU and previously FOSATU in promoting and preserving such cultural activities of workers. It was generally postulated that today COSATU shows no serious concerns in preserving working class cultural forms and that the activists space of expression has been widely diminished. "Stalinist" influence from the SACP was by one delegate also seen as partly responsible for the demise.

The closing debate about the mine worker's film illustrated the power of film making in preserving and educating about workers' lives. It also raised a debate about the ambivalent dual existence of a worker's life realities and ambitions as an industrial worker and a farm worker. Furthermore it touched upon many issues that had come up during the week and worked thus as a audio-visual summary of the conference debates.

### Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> of September

The heritage tour on Saturday led about 56 conference delegates to working class heritage sites in Johannesburg and Soweto. The tour started with a tour around the historic rooms of the Workers' Museum exploring living conditions and compound control in the former municipal compound. It then opened up to the wider Newtown context by walking through the former electrical precinct and on to Mary Fitzgerald Square, which has a long tradition as a serving for strikes and workers' meetings since the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The group then moved on in a coach along Main Reef Road to Langlaagte Mining Village at the old Crown Mines' site where the first gold ore of Johannesburg was discovered in 1886. The community that lives in the old mining houses there struggles to preserve the buildings from further demolitions as well as evictions of the current residents. Community member Simon Makobane guided the group through the old Rand Club and the village while engaging with various heritage practitioners on how to best address the current challenges in the preservation of the national monument. The tour then continued driving along Old Potchesstroom Road into Soweto indicating several migrant labour hostels along the way as well as Orlando East Power Station. It then stopped at Hector Pieterse Museum for a talk with the museum educator Kumresh Chetty and a tour of the museum. The day ended with a braai in Tlokoza Park next to Regina Mundi Church.

## **Cultural Programme**

The conference programme was complemented by cultural components that dealt with the conference topic of labour migration. The exhibition "Here and There" by renowned South African photographer Peter McKenzie was on show in the conference rooms. It deals with migration in Southern Africa and is based on research done by the South African Migration Project. Delegates had the chance to engage with the exhibition via the conference booklet as well as in an exhibition walk-about with Peter Mc Kenzie on the 12<sup>th</sup> of September. The second part of the cultural programme formed the cultural evening that closed the conference on the 12<sup>th</sup>. The evening covered music, dance, and poetry performances by the following individuals and groups: Lebohang Motsoari, Kenneth Tafira, "The Men of the Past", "Bocosfo Cultural Group", "The Mavericks".

## **Media**

Selected media had been invited to the conference together with issuing a press release (see appendix) that was circulated a week before the conference. Targeted media were the daily newspapers, particularly their heritage editors (if applicable), as well as some labour publications and community radios. 3 journalists attended the conference, one journalist from the South African Labour Bulletin, one from Independent Newspapers, and a radio journalist from Workers' World. So far one article has been published by Bonile Nggiyaza (Independent Newspapers) in the Pretoria News on the 12<sup>th</sup> of September. The SALB will publish articles on issues dealt with at the conference in its upcoming editions.

## **Appendix**

1. Conference programme
2. List of participating organisations

**Khanya history Programme hosts**  
**IALHI 2008 Annual Conference and conference on " the Heritage of Migrant labour in Southern Africa"**  
**Johannesburg, South Africa**  
**9<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"

Tuesday 09.09.2008	Wednesday 10.09.2008	Thursday 11.09.2008	Friday 12.09.2008	Saturday 13.09.2008
	08.30 - 09.00 IALHI Registration	08.00 - 09.00 Registration		
	09.00 - 09.30 Introduction and welcome  09.30 - 11.00: IALHI AGM  11.30 - 13.00 IALHI Projects  14.00 - 17.00 South African Working Class Archives and Heritage Sites	09.00 - 13.30  The Heritage of Migrant Labour Conference  14.30 - 17.00  The Heritage of Migrant Labour Conference	09.00 - 13.00  The Heritage of Migrant Labour Conference  14.00 - 17.00  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 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 **IAHI 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 recherché sur les Mouvements  
trotskystes et révolutionnaires internationaux: CERMTRI  
(Pierre-François de Massot)

IV. The IISH digitization project

	(Marien van der Heidjen)
1300-1400	Lunch
1400 - 1500	<b>South African Archives and Heritages Projects:</b>
	I. The South African History Archives (SAHA)
	(Piers Pigou, SAHA)
	II. South African History Online (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
	Venue: The Workers' Museum in Newton
0900 - 0910	Opening and Welcome to Heritage of Migrant Labour Conference
	By Petrus Mashishi (Khanya College Board/SAMWU)
0915 - 1000	Film Screening
1000 - 1100	Keynote Address: "The Social and cultural Impact of the Migrant Labour System on Modern South Africa"
	By Ntongela Masilela
1100 - 1130	Tea and Coffee

1130 - 1330

Plenary Session 1: The Political Economy of Migrant Labour in South and Southern Africa

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 organization and resistance (Luli Callinicos)

III. Labour Migrations and HIV/AIDS: Compounds, Living Conditions and HIV/AIDS on South African Mines (Setla Molapo)

1330 - 1430

Lunch

1430 - 1630

Plenary Session2/ Gender, Women and the Migrant Labour System

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

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September:

0900 - 1100

Plenary Session3: 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 Badscha)

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 - 1300

Tea and Coffee

1130 - 1330

Plenary Session4: 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 Deepalsingh)

II. The Workers Museum in Johannesburg - Reviving a heritage site for labour migration (Ann-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

List of participating organisations

1. AFRICOM
2. Alexandra Heritage Project
3. Alexandra Tourism and Heritage Project
4. Alternative Media Production
5. Amsab-Instituut voor Sociale Geschiedenis
6. Anti Privatisation Forum
7. Arbeiderbevegelsens Arkiv og Bibliotek (AAB)
8. Bibliothek der Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung
9. Bibliothèque de Documentation internationale contemporaine (BDIC)
10. BOCOSFO
11. Bolsheviks (Study Group)
12. Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches sur les Mouvements trotskystes et révolutionnaires internationales (CERMTRI)
13. Centre for Civil Society (CCS)
14. Centre international de Recherches sur l'Anarchisme (CIRA)
15. City of Johannesburg, Arts, Culture, and Heritage Department
16. Coalition Against Xenophobia
17. Collectif des Centres de Documentation en Histoire ouvrière (CODHOS)
18. Department of Sports, Arts, Culture & Recreation, Gauteng
19. Dept of Sports, Arts, Culture and Recreation (JHB)
20. Diggz
21. District Six Museum
22. Education Indaba Forum - Study Group

23. Folk Museum of Indian Immigration and Archive, Mauritius
24. Fondazione "Vera Nocentini"
25. Forum for the Empowerment of Women
26. GIWUSA
27. Icom South Africa
28. Independent Designer
29. Internationaal Instituut voor Sociale Geschiedenis (IISG)
30. International Labour Research and Information Centre (ILRIG)
31. Irish Labour History Society - Museum/Archives (ILHS)
32. Istituto di Studi sul Capitalismo
33. Kathorus Concerned Residents /FLAME Study Group
34. Khanya College
35. Khanya Journal Collective
36. Kliptown Concerned Residents
37. Letsela La Thuto (Study Group)
38. Lwandle Migrant Labour Museum
39. Merafong Study Group
40. Ministry of Education of Senegal
41. Pitzer College, Claremont, USA
42. Provincial Heritage Resources Authority - GP
43. Refugee Fellowship at the Methodist Church
44. Robben Island Museum
45. RRMCC
46. SAFM
47. Schweizerisches Sozialarchiv

48. Senate House Library
49. Sikhula Sonke
50. Sounds of Edutainment
51. South African History Online (SAHO)
52. South African Labour Bulletin
53. Soweto Concerned Residents (SCR)
54. Swapo Party Archive & Research Centre (SPARC)
55. Thabong Womens Forum (Study Group)
56. The Africanist Cause Book Club
57. The Market Theatre Photo Workshop
58. Tomas Films
59. Trevor Huddleston Memorial Centre
60. Tsebo Education Centre
61. Työväen Arkisto
62. Underpressure Agency
63. University of Kwa Zulu Natal
64. University of the Western Cape
65. Walvis Bay Migrant Labour Museum Project of Namibia
66. WITS History Workshop
67. WITS University