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THE AFRICAN RENAISSANCE - KZN

PRESENTS

KING CETSHWAYO AFRICAN IMAGE AWARDS

STAR WALK

DOCUMENTATION CENTRE	
UNIVERSITY OF DURBAN-WESTVILLE	
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1) DR JOHN LANGALIBALELE DUBE

Born on 22 February 1871, Dube trained as a teacher and subsequently Entered the Theological Seminary which culminated in his being ordained as a Pastor. As a visionary, Dube also known as Mafukuzela, established the Ohlange Institute. Also a trail-blazer, Dube then established Ilanga lase Natal and the Natal Native Congress in 1912. After leading the Ohlange Institute Dube withdrew in order to advise the Zulu Royal House under Isilo Solomon KaDinizulu. A prolific writer, he authored "Ujeqe, Ushembe and Ukuziphatha kahle.

First President of the African National Congress, founder of Ohlange High School and Ilanga Lase-Natal.

He had travelled extensively overseas and in Africa. Educated at the Oberlin College, in Ohio, Dube, known as Mafukuzela weAfrika, had spoken extensively about the African Renaissance while in the

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United States. He had met and worked with Mosiah Marcus Garvey and was greatly influenced by the Africanist. On his return to South Africa Mafukuzela also started a branch of Garvey's United Negro Improvement Association. He was also influential in black American bishops who came to South Africa under the aegis of the AME church.

2) **CHIEF ALBERT LUTHULI**

Past President of the African National Congress (ANC); recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize and Isitwalandwe Seaparakoe Award.

This Inkosi Luthuli's was born in Bulawayo in 1898 and grew up on a farm owned by a White member of the Seventh Adventist Church.

Trained as a teacher, he was elected secretary of the African Teachers Association where he joined forces with Z.K Matthews I 1928. Later, the two men became powerful figures in the African Resistance Movement. In 1951, Albert Luthuli became President of the Natal Branch of the African National Congress. A fearless fighter of the Apartheid regime, Luthuli was banned for five years under the Suppression of Communist Act. The pinnacle of his distinguished

career as humanitarian was the honour of receiving the Nobel Peace Prize in 1960.

3) MOSES MABHIDA

Veteran Secretary General of the South African Communist Party, founding member of the South African Congress of Trade Unions (SACTU) and member of the NEC of the African National Congress.

4) OLIVER REGINALD TAMBO

Past President of the African National Congress (the ANC). He is credited for having led and unified the ANC in exile until its unbanning and return home as a formidable liberation movement.

5) BISHOP ALPHEUS ZULU

Bishop Alpheus Hamilton Zulu, a well respected religious and courageous political leader was born on 29 June, 1905 at Magogo in the district of Nqutu. He was the first African to be elevated to the position of Bishop of the Anglican Church in South Africa. In recognition of his abilities, Bishop Zulu was asked to serve as one of the Presidents of the World Council Churches. A man of strong

convictions, he refused to carry a Pass Book and was arrested. He preferred to be called Bishop to the title, "My Lord" and motivated his African priests in particular to run self reliant parishes and not to depend on subsidies from the White Missions.

First African Bishop of the Anglican Church in KwaZulu-Natal.

6) **PROPHET ISAIAH SHEMBE**

Isaiah Shembe was born at Entabamhlophe, Estcourt around 1867. According to the history of his church, Shembe was a prophet even before he was baptized by Rev. W.M. Leshega of a separatist Black Baptist Church in 1906. He formalized the establishment of the Nazarene Church at Nhlankakazi in 1918. In 1940, Shembe composed 219 hymns which were compiled and published as the first work of this type in any independent church in Africa. Ekuphakameni was built in 1924 and the faithful gather there every July to worship, dance and be healed. Shembe taught people to use their traditional cultures as a point of departure for understanding the Bible and striving for morality.

Founder of one of the largest African church in 1910, the Nazareth Baptist Church in KwaZulu Natal.

7) BISHOP COLENZO

John William Colenso affectionately dubbed champion of the Zulus who protested vehemently against Shepston's native policies. He was an important figure in South African church history. He is a representative of mid-century liberal Anglican Theology which are reflected in his writings.

He also worked with William Ngidi in translating the bible into the Zulu language. It was Ngidi who had challenged Colenso and made him rethink some of the Christian teachings and beliefs. In fact in the next years we should seriously look into giving Ngidi the award, a self taught convert who never went to school but spoke fluent English, also read and wrote very well.

Educated in England and a mathematics teacher, John Colenso was born on 24 January 1814. This church of England Bishop of Natal arrived in Pietermaritzburg in March 1855. He contended that Zulu culture, and even polygamy, was compatible with Christian morality. Named Usobantu and Sokhuleka by the Zulus, he compiled a Zulu dictionary, championed the cause of the King Cetshwayo, advising the Zulu nation to resist Government policy.

8) **PRINCESS MAGOGO**

Mother to Inkosi Mangosuthu Buthelezi; artist and composer in her own right.

Princess Constance Magogo, the daughter of King Dinizulu and Queen Silomo was born in 1900 after her father returned from exile on the island of St Helena. She attended Nkonjeni Primary Anglican School in the Mahlabathini district. From childhood, Princess Constance Magogo expressed her joys and sorrows through music. Her singing skills and the ability to compose and play ugubhu were taught by her grandmothers during evening family gatherings. The Princes' leadership qualities were demonstrated early in life when she organized young girls into regiments and taught them music, dance, Zulu history, royal protocol, toughness and morality. King Solomon KaDinizulu, her brother, persuaded her to marry Inkosi Mathole Butheleze to strengthen ties between the monarchy and the Buthelezi clan whose Inkosi Mnyamana Buthelezi had been Prime Minister under King Cetshwayo. A voracious reader, Princess Magogo read the Bible from cover to cover three times during her lifetime. Her vibrant memory made her an imbongi (praise singer)

who sang praises to Zulu kings in the most uplifting and moving manner. In her art of singing playing the ugubhu she is without equal. She composed a vast repertoire of authentic Zulu songs, modified and sang them, playing her favourite ugubhu musical bow. She was so prolific that Dr David Rycroft, an ethnomusicologist from the school of African and Oriental Studies in London, records that when he visited her Royal Residence at KwaPhindangene in 1974, she sang and played no less than 120 songs for him.

9) **MIRRIAM MAKEBA**

Popularly known as “Mama Afrika”. She is the first artist who sang and told the world about the experience of pain of repression in South Africa.

10) **JOSEPH SHABALALA**

Founding member and leader of the Ladysmith Black Mambazo. The first Scathamiya group to represent Zulu traditional music internationally.

11) MBONGENI NGEMA

Greatest playwright, theater producer, composer, choreographer ever to come from the African continent. Internationally acclaimed for his renowned works on Broadway and in Hollywood.

12) ALAN PATON

Alan Stewart Paton, leader of the Liberal Party and educationist, became world-renowned author of "Cry the Beloved Country".

This literary genius was born in Pine Street, Pietermaritzburg on 11 January 1903. Brought up by a domineering father, Alan Paton grew up to abhor authoritarianism, especially within the state. He helped established the Liberal Party which tried in vain to mediate between the Nationalist Party and the United Party. In 1944, Paton published his epic "Cry the Beloved Country", which has been adapted for film twice and translated into several languages. He wrote short stories, biographies. Through his writings, speeches and exemplary conduct, Alan Paton espoused the worth and dignity of the individual, to uplift the downtrodden and to promote a society in opposition to the polarization and devastation that Apartheid caused.

13) DR MONTY NAICKER

One of the leaders of the Indian Congress who spear-headed massive Indian Resistance in KwaZulu-Natal.

14) BILLY NAIR

A trade union stalwart who spent 20 years on Robben Island for military activities. Presently a member of Parliament.

15) BERTHA MKHIZE

One of the leading ANC women who was involved in the Treason Trial.

16) INGCUGCE

A Zulu all female battalion during the reign of King Cetshwayo. They refused to marry the older Ibutho, Unokhenke regiment, and opted for younger a younger regiment, Ingobamakhosi regiment. For this course they had to pay with their lives. Ingcugce was the name of the female regiment that existed during the reign of King Cetshwayo in 1876. One of the King's policies was to enforce obedience to the

traditional marriage law. Through this law, the King regulated the social and economic life of his people. Any ibutho or regiment had to await the King's decree that it could marry before it did so. At a traditional Umkhosi or ceremony in 1875, King Cetshwayo gave the Indlondlo regiment which had been formed in 1875 permission to don the headring or isicoco and marry. These men were directed to find brides from the Ingcugce regiment who were born between 1850 and 1853. Women of Ingcugce regiment were much younger than members those of the Indlondlo regiment who were born in 1837. In fact some of them had already made their own choices amongst the younger men of Udloko, uDu`dudu and uMbonambi regiments. The Ingcugce women refused to marry the men from the Indlondlo regiment for the reason that the "love lace was not long enough to go around the neck ". It was unheard of that King's subjects would go against his word. The girls were adamant and declared that they would rather "fall in love with death"

17) **MKABAYI ka JAMA**

A formidable and powerful sister to Jama and Senzangakhona, father to Shaka. Popularly known as the King-making aunt. She lived through

and throwned three great Kings; Shaka, Dingane and Mpande.

Mkabayi was the daughter of the third of al long line of Zulu kings, Jama kaNdaba. Unlike many kings of the day, Jama dis not have a vast isigodlo or, for lack of a better word a seraglio. He had one wife and his first child had died at an early age. Then Jama's wife next gave birth to twins girls, Mkabayi and Mamma. Zulu legend has it that when a person give birth to twins, the younger twin is not a real human being, but an animal. So according to tradition and custom, the younger twin had to be killed, a system known as ukwendisa. When Mkabayi was born the foregone conclusion was that the King would. Of necessity, kill her. But the child, even at that age, was extraordinary. She had exceptionally bright eyes and has a very strong character, unlike her older sister who appeared reserved and sickly. Jama could not bring himself to kill one of his children. Worse still, his wife was not of strong health. When Mkabayi's mother subsequently died, it was widely believed that the ancestors were punishing Jama for failing to kill Mkabayi. The two twin girls grew up without a mother, she had died when they were hardly five years old. Inspite of disparaging remarks and ridicule, Mkabayi grew stronger and wiser and smarter everyday. She and her sister were very close, they hardly had any friends. It was difficult for them to find other children to play with.

Whenever they approached, the other children fled calling her half-beast child. These things only made Mkabayi more determined in her development and she developed an amazing resilience. When she was at an age when she would find herself a lover and a man who would be husband, Mkabayi refused to abide by tradition, choosing instead to rebel against the custom and dedicated herself to finding her father, Jana a wife, because, as she said, Zulu would be without a king if Jama did not choose a royal wife. Mkabayi rejected a woman that Jama had captured from among the amathonga, because it was widely believed that she had borne him an illegitimate son, Sojiyisa. It was not to be too long before Mkabayi and Mamma went to the land of the Sibiya clan where they convinced one of their close friends, Mthaniya to come back with them and join Jama's homestead as the queen. Mthaniya came and lo and behold she later was to give birth to Senzangakhona, Shaka's father. When Jama died Senzangakhona was still in his minority, hence Mkabayi has to take over as egent, becoming the first and only woman to ever hold the throne of the Zulu monarchy. She was to again reign after Shaka's death and during the time when Dingana and Mpande were fighting each other. During Shaka's reign Mkabayi was to become one of the first and few females chiefs, together with Nandi and five other women, Shaka made them chiefs of vast areas of

land, Mkabayi ruled over the Baqulusi area, in the Vryheid district. She would also command her own army of amabutho. She is widely regarded as the person who made chose Shaka, trained him and made it possible for him to take over as Zulu king because she preferred a brave king. Sgujana, who was the rightful heir to the Zulu throne, was regarded by Mkabayi as a weakling, and like his father Senzangakhona, too much interested in women. Shaka was the more military inclined of the two. She also is the one that removed him from the throne and is the one that ordered his death. Mkabayi's influence extended right up to the reign of Mpande, her other nephew who with the help of the boers, overthrew Dingane and became the next king of the Zulus. She died at the age of 104 having lived nothing but a full and engaging life.

18) ARCHBISHOP DENIS HURLEY

Dennis Eugene Hurley was born in Cape Town on 15 November 1915, the son of a lighthouse keeper. His primary education was partly on Robben island, his secondary education at St Charles College, Pietermaritzburg and his tertiary education at the Gregorian University and the Angelicum in Rome. Ordained as priest in 1939 he became the world's youngest bishop in 1947 and its youngest

archbishop 50 years ago this year. At the time of his retirement in 1992 he was the world's longest serving bishop, having led the Catholic Church in Durban almost throughout the years of apartheid. For his courageous opposition to that policy and his sterling contribution to freedom and justice he has been honoured by the governments of France, Italy and South Africa, having received the Order of Merit First Class from President Nelson Mandela in 1989. Archbishop Hurley is a freeman of the Cities of Durban and Pietermaritzburg and has honorary degrees from ten universities.

19) REV. JAMES ORANGE

A friend and dedicated supporter of the African Renaissance Trust. Got involved with Martin Luther King during the early 60s. He protested against segregation and took part in the delegation of Southern Christian Leaders Conference to Selma Alabama on 26 December 1964. Him and Andrew Young are the only two survivors of the Martin Luther King associates. From 1999 he has led a delegation of African-Americans to the African Renaissance festival.

20) **EARL T. SHIHNOSTER**

He was the acting president of the NAACP and was the South Eastern regional president of the NAACP for twenty years. He designed a plan to elect three governors in the South East United States of America Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi. He was founding member of the African- American Renaissance to advance the United States delegation to the first African Renaissance in year 1999.