



Whiteness, Afrikaans, Afrikaners

Post-Apartheid Legacies, Privileges and Burdens

A MISTRA PUBLICATION

South Africa has been reeling under the recent blows of an apparent resurgence of crude public manifestations of racism and a hardening of attitudes on both sides of the racial divide.

To probe this topic as it relates to white South Africans, Afrikaans and Afrikaners, MISTRA, in partnership with the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) and the National Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences (NIHSS), convened a roundtable. The discourse was rigorous.

This volume comprises the varied and thought-provoking presentations from that event, including a keynote address by former president Kgalema Motlanthe and inputs from Melissa Steyn, Andries Nel, Mary Burton, Christi van der Westhuizen, Lynette Steenveld, Bobby Godsell, Dirk Herman (of Solidarity), Ernst Roets (of Afriforum), Xhanti Payi, Mathatha Tsedu, Pieter Duvenage, Hein Willemsse and Nico Koopman, with closing remarks by Achille Mbembe and Mathews Phosa.

It deals with a range of issues around 'whiteness' in general and delves into the place of Afrikaners and the Afrikaans language in democratic South Africa, demonstrating that there is no homogeneity of views on these topics among white South Africans in general and Afrikaners in particular.

In fact, in these pages, one finds a multifaceted effort to scrub energetically at the boundaries that apartheid imposed on us all.

ABOUT MISTRA

The Mapungubwe Institute for Strategic Reflection (MISTRA) is an independent research institute that takes a long-term view on the strategic challenges facing South Africa.

MISTRA was founded by a group of South Africans with experience in research, academia, policy-making and governance who saw the need to create a platform of engagement around strategic issues facing South Africa. It is an institute that combines research and academic development, strategic reflection and intellectual discourse. It applies itself to issues such as economics, sociology, history, arts and culture and the logics of natural sciences.

For more, visit www.mistra.org.za

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