

CURRICULUM VITAE

Surname: Tsedu

Name: Mathatha

Date of Birth:

Place:

Address:

Tel:

Marital Status:

Synopsis: Mathatha Tsedu is amongst the foremost recognised voices of journalism in SA and in the continent whose opinions on journalism and political developments are sought by media throughout the world. He has conducted journalism training programmes both in SA and in several countries on the African continent. He is a keen follower of political developments across the continent. A stern believer in justice, he was part of the struggle for freedom in South Africa and was detained for long spells without trial, banned for over six years and barred from working as a journalist and tortured by security police during detentions. His involvement in journalism was a bottom up process, starting as a freelancer in rural Limpopo and rising to edit several leading national newspapers as well as deputising for the Head of News of the national broadcaster the SABC. He started the Media24 Journalism Academy which provided work based experience and theory for journalism graduates. He is Adjunct Professor in the Journalism Department of the University of the Witwatersrand. He is a recipient of several honours and awards, including the Nat Nakasa Award for Courageous Journalism, the Nieman Fellowship at Harvard

University, and Lifetime Achiever Award by the Print and Digital Media of SA, amongst others. He holds an Honors degree in Journalism and Media Studies from Wits University and has been awarded an Honorary Doctorate by the University of the Western Cape for his work in the media.

Education History

Matric 1974 Mphaphuli High, Sibasa, Limpopo, South Africa

1 year telecommunication technician trainee

2 courses, Communication Law and Introduction to Law (UNISA)

Several journalism courses in South Africa, Kenya, UK, Belgium, Zimbabwe and Harvard University in the USA.

Holds Honours Arts degree in Journalism and Media Studies from Wits University, Johannesburg, South Africa

Employment History

January 1, 2016 – April 30, 2016: Short term contract as Executive Director of Sanef

April 2014 to December 31 2015:

Executive Director, the SA National Editors Forum (SANEF), Media24 News General Manager, Strategic Projects and Development seconded to Sanef

August 2012- September 2013

Project Director Print and Digital Media Transformation Task Team (PDMTTT)

June 2011- May 2012

Project Director Press Freedom Commission

September 2008- June 2011

Head Media24 Journalism Academy

February 2004 –September 2008
EDITOR City Press

September 2002 – November 2003
EDITOR Sunday Times

July 2001 to August 2002
Deputy Chief Executive: SABC News

July 1999 to June 2001
Deputy Editor: The Star

- Deputising as Editor, with specific responsibilities for staff salary grades and running the editorial content.

Acting Editor: The Star – September 2000

- The Star is the flagship of Independent News Media and my responsibilities included ensuring transformation of staffing, news coverage, usage of pictures and representing The Star at various functions.

October 1998 - July 1999: Deputy Editor, Sunday Independent,

1993 – 1998: Political Editor, Sowetan

1992 - 1993: Investigations Editor, Sowetan

Bureau reporter, Bureau Chief Northern Transvaal, Post Transvaal and Sowetan 1978-1992

- This included covering the entire Northern Transvaal from Warmbaths to Messina, covering all aspects of news including labour, politics, investigations, courts, farm conditions, sports and social activities. First worked alone and was later joined by one journalist and a freelance writer.

Investigations Editor

- Included Special Reports and investigations of diverse issues ranging from political violence, Vlakplaas killings, prisons, consumer and corruption. Worked with one reporter in the department.

Political Editor

- Included running the department of two political correspondents, three political reporters. Duties also encompassed planning political coverage for the nine provinces and the national government, editing copy from all political writers and on TRC, HRC, Constitutional Court; to liaise with news desk and chief sub editor for space, conducting interviews with senior political figures, and writing political analysis and a weekly column. Also wrote leaders or editorial comment and liaised with senior executives including the editor, on posters and lead stories.

Other employment activities

Freelance British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC)

- Regular contributor to The World Paper based in Boston US and published as a supplement to over 50 newspapers around the world. Gardener, bus conductor, clerk, teacher, telecommunication technician trainee & newspaper vendor.

Other activities

- Chairperson of the South African National Editors Forum (SANEF) 2000-2003.
- Founding Chairperson of The African Editors Forum (TAEF) which brings together editors and senior editorial executives as well as media trainers from across the continent. Led TAEF for seven years.
- Project Director of the Task Team on the Audit of the Communications Policies and Programmes of the African Union.
- Elected Chair of the Implementation Committee of the AUC communications strategy.
- Keenly sought commentator on African political developments and media issues across the continent.
- Former active trade unionist: National Executive Member of the Media Workers' Association of South Africa (MWASA).
- Conducted courses in journalism in Zimbabwe, Kenya and Botswana.
- Conducted courses in trade unionism and journalism in Jamaica, Botswana and Kenya.

- Represented MWASA in international journalism and trade union conferences in Australia, Belgium, UK, Germany, Switzerland, Holland, Italy, Egypt, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Namibia, Mozambique and Botswana.
- Addressed the following organisations on journalism in South Africa International Federation of Journalists (IFJ); International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU); National Union of Journalists (NUJ) of UK and Ireland; Botswana Journalists Association (BOJA); Zimbabwe Union of Journalists (ZUJ); Kenya Union of Journalists (KUJ); and the Union of African Journalists (UAJ).
- A former member of the Black Editors Forum (BEF) and founder member of the Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA), based in Namibia and a MWASA representative in the Campaign for Open Media (COM).
- Served as Staff Director in the Board of New Africa Publications Ltd, owners of Sowetan, and a former trustee of the Argus Provident Fund.
- Banned for six years and restricted to Seshego, Polokwane, between 1981 and 1986. Also detained several times. Short story writer with a number published in magazines, including one, Forced Landing, which was published by Skotaville as part of a short story book of the same title.
- Awarded the prestigious Nieman Fellowship in 1996/97 and spent ten months at Harvard University and studied leadership, management, journalism ethics and general economics and history of jazz.
- Awarded the Nat Nakasa Award for Courageous Journalism.
- Mondi Shanduka Lifetime Achiever Award
- Print and Digital Media Fellow for 2012/13
- Steve Wrottesley Award by Sanef for most recognised contribution to Sanef's goals

- All Time Legend Award by Media24 in 2013
- Phil Weber Lifetime Achievement by Naspers, 2013.
- Underwent the Independent Newspapers Editorial Executive training program, including over eight weeks at the Nieman Foundation at Harvard University, USA in 1996.
- Served as a member of the Task Group on Government Communications appointed by the then Deputy President Thabo Mbeki. Comtask's recommendations led to the demise of the South African Communications Services (SACS) and the creation of Government Communications and Informations Systems (GCIS).
- A member of Council of the SA Council for the Advancement of the Constitution (CASAC).
- Shareholder in Manngwe Mining

Travel

Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Namibia, Mozambique, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Nigeria, Egypt, Senegal, Guinea, Burkina Faso, Mali, Ghana, Ethiopia, Israel, Italy, France, Netherlands, Switzerland, Belgium, United Kingdom, Japan, PR China, South Korea, Jamaica, Brazil, United States, Canada, Australia, Iran, Russia, Hong Kong.