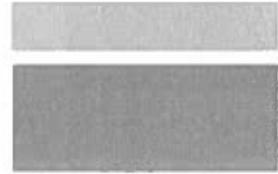




DR RAJENDRAN T GOVENDER



SENIOR MANAGER/SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGIST/SOCIAL COHESION ADVOCATE/ RESEARCHER/ADMINISTRATOR/FACILITATOR/MODERATOR

PERSONAL DETAILS

Surname:	Govender
First Name(s):	Rajendran Thangavelu
Identity number:	970101000000000000
Date of Birth:	01/01/1971
Sex:	Male
Marital Status:	Married
Driver's License:	Code o8
Nationality:	South African
Home Language:	English
Other Language(s):	Afrikaans, IsiZulu, Tamil

PERSONAL PROFILE

Proficient or familiar with a vast array of skills and experience related to research; strategic planning, team building / leadership; emotional Intelligence; knowledge of PFMA and Budgeting & Financial management; Advanced computer skills and I.T. usage and implementations; human resource management; programmes and project management; operational management, facilities management, stakeholder management; communication and report writing; negotiation and conflict resolution skills; international Relations; Community Outreach relevant Senior

EDUCATION

Degree obtained and Majors:

PhD (isiZulu/Social Anthropology) – UKZN (April 2008)

M.A (IsiZulu/Social Anthropology) CUM-LAUDE (UDW - 2002)

B.A. (Unisa-1993)
Geography III, History III, Science of Religion II, Education 1, Sociology 1, English 1.

B.A (Hon) (Natal University-1999)

Additional Studies:

Educational Diploma -Senior Primary (Transvaal College of Education -1981)

Journalism Diploma (Union College -1978)

Diploma in Project Management (Distinction) (Executive Education –2003)

Diploma in Financial Management (University of Pretoria)

Professional Qualifications

- Accredited mediator with the Alternative Dispute Resolution of SA
- Certificate in Computer Literacy (First Class Pass) UniSchool – 2001
 - Certificate in Leadership and Management – 2008
 - Certificate in Job Evaluation – 2009 - Certificate in Basic IsiZulu
 - Certificate – Innovation in the Public Service (NSG) – 2018)
 - Certified Lead facilitator and eFacilitator in the Public (NSG) 2018
 - Certificate in Monitoring and Evaluation
 - Certificate in Change Management



Linkedin.com/ Rajendran Govender



Rajendran Thangavelu Govender

Through the consultancy Dr Govender has empowered many people especially from the disadvantaged sectors of society.

CEO of the Tamil Business Warriors (TBW) a business networking organization with members in all the provinces in South Africa and an international footprint in Malaysia, Reunion Islands, Mauritius, India, Singapore, China and Madagascar.

CEO of Southside FM a community radio station based in Kwa-Zulu Natal. Host a weekly programme, Ubuntu Pulse with Dr G" with the aim of promoting social cohesion and nation building. Regularly feature on national radio and TV as a cultural commentator and write opinion pieces for the printed media on aspects related to diversity, culture and religion. Most of my interviews can be viewed on my website, www.mzansi-empowerment.com

Africa coordinator of the Advocacy Unified Network (AUN) (The Hague) AUN actively engages in policy advocacy, aiming to unlock additional resources and enhance capabilities for effective SDG implementation.

Appointed by the South African government as a Social Cohesion Advocate with the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture, Republic of South Africa and have been tasked to head a Rapid Response Task Team to address issues related to racism, xenophobia, gender-based violence and other social ills that confront society.

Recently shortlisted and interviewed by parliament and name submitted for appointment to serve on the Pan South African Language Board (PANSALB). Awaiting the outcome.

Recently shortlisted and interviewed for appointment as a Commissioner with the CRL Commission. Awaiting outcome.

Other positions:

- Council Member of the Playhouse Company, a provincial performing arts theater
- Chapter 11 Committee Member of the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC)
- Advisory Board Member – Journalists and Writers Foundation – New York
- Global Director – Global Repository for Ancient Cultural Enterprise GRACE
- Secretary-General of the *Africa Association for Leadership and Social Justice* (ARALS).
- Vice Chairman of the *Social Justice Advocacy Campaign* (SOJAC).
- Member of the Advisory Board of the *Turquoise Harmony Institute* which is responsible for strengthening dialogue and tolerance among people from different cultural, linguistic and cultural backgrounds.
- Advisor to the *One Universe Foundation* based in Bangalore, India.
- Chairperson of the Africa Kingdom Diaspora Alliance (AKDA) an organization responsible for uniting all the kingdoms in Africa.
- Panel member of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Network of SA
- Vice Chairperson of the Inkosi Albert Luthuli Central Hospital Board.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Spent two months in America on the invitation of the US Government on the International Visitors Programme (IVP) to study minority cultures and arts administration and funding in 1996. Represented

South Africa on the Rotary International Group Study Exchange Programme, visiting France for a period of six weeks.

Visited Turkey in 2010 and 2011 on the invitation of the Turquoise Harmony Institute to establish relations for nation Building, social cohesion and tolerance.

Coordinated programmes for the Fulbright - Hays Seminar for visiting academics from the USA from 1996 to 2004. Hosted and arranged programmes for a number of International visitors from the USA, France, India, Mauritius, Malaysia and Singapore.

Presented papers on aspects related to culture, religion and social justice in various parts of the world including, USA, Great Britain, Canada, Malaysia, Singapore, India, Mauritius, Senegal, Australia as well as different parts of South Africa. Many of my articles feature in local and international journals and publications.

Participated in the United Nations Interfaith Dialogue in Jan 2023 and 2024 in New York as a moderator. Facilitated and moderated a number of panel discussions related to Arts and Culture; social cohesion & national building; inter-faith dialogue; business and economics and other themes

Participated in the Global Summit on LiFE Economy in New Delhi in November 2023

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

- ❖ Junior Chamber - Four Outstanding Young South Africans Award (FOYSA) (1993)
- ❖ Post Natal/ Impression) Young Achiever Award (1993)
- ❖ Junior Chamber - Ten Outstanding Young Persons Award (TOYP) (1994)
- ❖ Junior Chamber Achiever Award (1996)
- ❖ Rotary International Award (1998)
- ❖ Minister's Award for the most outstanding official in the KZN Department of Arts and Culture (2014);
- ❖ Award by the KZN Department of Arts and Culture in 2015 and 2016 as the Best Senior Manager in the Department
- ❖ Love to Live Nelson Mandela Peace & Hope Award (2015),
- ❖ Unsung Heroes Award for excellence in community outreach (2023)
- ❖ Premier's Service Excellence Award and the BMW Supertech Business Award for the best Government Department in KZN in 2014 and 2015,
- ❖ First Prize in a National Radio Lyric Writing Competition (2018)
- ❖ Tamil Business Warriors Award for Outstanding Community Service (2019)
- ❖ House of Shaka: Isihlabani Award for African Intellectuality and promoting Positive Race Relations in South Africa (2020)
- ❖ Men of Valor Award for community activism – April 2024

REFERENCES

Mrs CN KHUMALO

Acting DG – Department of Sport, Arts & Culture

Former Head of Department: Arts and Culture

Kwa-Zulu Natal Department of Arts and Culture

Mr MB MNGUNI

Former Head of Department (Acting)

KZN Department of Arts & Culture

Mr MEHMET NACI KAYA

Regional Director – Turquoise Harmony Institute

MR KARTHI MOOTHSAMY

Chairperson – Tamil Business Warriors & SouthsideFM Radio

MR MEHMET KILIK

Executive Director: Journalists & Writers Foundation (new York)

MR ARINDAM BHATTARCHAYA

Founding Director – Advocacy Unified Network (The Hague, Netherlands)

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