



Invitation | “The child who does not go hungry does not cry: rhetoric studies and the first independent Lesotho newspaper”



English Department: Speaker Series

Date: 10 September 2013

Time: 09:00 – 10:00

Place: FGG 201 (Block B)

ABSTRACT

The paper begins with a short account of the innovative work of the Department of English, National University of Lesotho, in applying rhetoric studies and critical discourse analysis to African texts. There follows a brief introduction to the first newspapers to be owned, written and managed by Basotho outside of the control of the missions and the colonial administration, and of how rhetorical analysis can help illuminate the ideological orientation of these papers; special emphasis is placed here on the rhetoric of advertisements. Finally the paper introduces an on-going case study of ways in which in the 1920s the newspaper *Naledi ea Lesotho* negotiated criticism of the chieftaincy.

CHRIS DUNTON: BIOGRAPHY

Chris Dunton was born in the UK and educated at Oxford University, where he took his BA and PhD degrees. He has worked at universities in Nigeria, Libya and South Africa, and as a cultural journalist in Cameroon and Peru. He is at present Professor of Literature in English at the National University of Lesotho. Amongst his publications are three books on Nigerian theatre, a forthcoming critical biography of the Cameroonian novelist Ferdinand Oyono, and (with Mai Palmberg) *Human Rights and Homosexuality in southern Africa*. He has also published a collection of short stories, *Boxing* (African Books Collective).

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