



NEWSLETTER

01 May 2020



Responding to corona virus – In solidarity with all SA residents

A message from the HoD, **Prof Lilly Nortje-Meyer**: We have started the second term with online teaching and learning due to the Covid-19 lockdown. The undergraduate online teaching went well so far although we are still smoothing out a few challenges typical of online connectivity. Postgraduate students are encouraged to make use of this time to continue their research. They are also encouraged to stay in touch with their supervisors. Please look out for follow-up announcements from UJ and the Faculty of Humanities concerning the university programme for the next months.

Our best wishes to those who observe Ramadan!

Muslims all over the world have recently started with their annual month of fasting. The month of Ramadan is the 9th month of the Islamic lunar calendar and Muslim believe that Qur'an was revealed to Prophet Muhammad during this month in the year 610 CE. During Ramadan religious Muslims fast from dawn (currently around 5 am) until dusk (around 6pm) which means to abstain from food, drink and sexual relations. More important than abstaining from food, those who fast are expected to purify their hearts and improve their spiritual and social lives. During this month Muslims are expected to draw closer to God by devotional acts reading the Qur'an and engaging in prayers as well as increasing their charity, feeding those who may be stranded or hungry and show greater kindness to others. --- *A special thanks to **Dr. Mathee and Prof Farid** who provided this piece of information.*

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Congratulations!

Postdoctoral Research Fellow Dr George Nche got married on 18 April 2020. Congratulations George, we wish you and your wife many years of happiness.

Publication

Dr. George Nche has published an article “The Religion-Environment (Climate Change) Connection. Evidence from Nigeria”, in *Worldviews* 24 (2020) 81–115, (doi:10.1163/15685357-20201004).

Media interviews

Professor Farid Esack has done several media interviews including *Radiosondergense* and *Radio 702* on the Eusebius McKaiser show to discuss the impact of Covid19 on religious gatherings during the month of Ramadan and the legal attempts to allow access to mosques during Ramadan.

-----Use the link below if you would like to listen to this interview:

<https://omny.fm/shows/mid-morning-show-702/how-will-the-covid-19-pandemic-change-ramadan-for?fbclid=IwAR33E329DgLb1BgF-PIaHGTMBj6qU523vuVY3Yi4K7zH-bu7Sa9YMYphN9M>

Online library training at UJ library

You can sign up for online library training by simply using the link below:

<https://www.uj.ac.za/library/library-services/Pages/online-training.aspx>

Data-Saving Tips

If you use an Apple device, find more information below:

<https://9to5mac.com/2018/12/12/turn-off-background-app-refresh-on-iphone-and-ipad/>

If you use an Android device, find more information below:

<https://support.google.com/android/answer/9458407?hl=en>

