

## Wayang Kulit Article for DUT's Website



# **(Wayang Kulit) a form of Indonesian Puppetry**

## **Ubuntu and Hasta Brata in Promoting an Inclusive and Multicultural International Society Through Wayang Character Development**

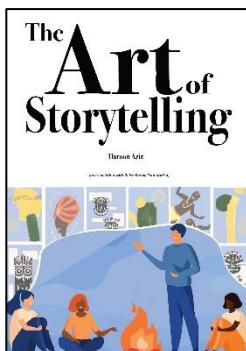
In 2020, The Indonesian Embassy in Pretoria hosted a webinar on the concept of Wayang Kulit titled 'Ubuntu values in Hasta Brata story of Javanese Puppet Play'.

Wayang Kulit translates to Shadow Puppetry. Wayang Kulit is didactic in function and dates back to 10th century CE, which UNESCO designated as *Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity in 2003*.

UNESCO has acknowledged, 'puppeteers were regarded as cultivated literary experts who transmitted moral and aesthetic values through their art. The words and actions of comic characters representing the "ordinary person" have provided a vehicle for criticizing sensitive social and political issues.'

Since the webinar, a preparatory committee formed which includes experts on Wayang Kulit from Airlangga Universitas Indonesia, Wayang Kulit Character Development from University of Bern Switzerland, and SMME Development, Arts & Drama and Community Development from Durban University of Technology (DUT). As well as the Rajen Reddy Foundation.

The Rajen Reddy Foundation has brought the project towards a practical stage of implementation and through their publishing house Nadim Books (in association with Rajen Reddy Foundation) have published a book for free distribution titled *The Art of Storytelling*.



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<https://qr1.be/P7VM>

The Rajen Reddy Foundation is in charge of facilitating the necessary skills, knowledge and expertise to transfer this form of storytelling within a South African context. Airlangga Universitas will provide the technology transfer, Durban University of Technology (DUT) will serve as the intellectual base, and through their association with World University Association for Community Development (WUACD), about twenty International Universities have also come onboard to use higher education as a vehicle to develop communities and improve the quality of life through this form of storytelling.

Both Ubuntu and Hasta Brata are universal ethical value systems that bind the human spirit. Both principles recognize that we are all bound together, that there is oneness to humanity, that we achieve ourselves by sharing ourselves with others and caring for those around us.

Ubuntu and Hasta Brata are ethics that can prevent or solve political, social, economic, and psychological conflicts through wisdom and dialogue.

### ***Wayang Kulit Module and Writing Competition 2023***

An online interactive Wayang Kulit Module will be introduced through Durban University of Technology (DUT) under their General Education and open to participants (students, non-students, unemployed youth, SMMEs, academics, creatives and others) across South Africa and the Globe as a new form of storytelling to give a voice to the untold struggles of our people, a method to share the learnings and wisdom of the past, and a set of value systems that embody the essence of everyday heroes. A way to acknowledge, to heal and to learn from the past.

A creative writing competition will follow for participants who partake in the Online Module.

Lucky prizes and incentives to be WON! #WatchThisSpace

### ***Wayang Kulit Introductory Webinar 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022***

Durban University of Technology (DUT) will host an introductory webinar to the project. The webinar will include speakers on the topic from DUT, Airlangga University, University of Bern, and World University Association for Community Development.

The webinar will sensitize and provide an overview of what to expect in the module as well as the vast opportunities it holds for participants, students, non-students, unemployed youth, SMMEs, academics, creatives and others.



[Click here to join the meeting](https://bit.ly/3COWyHl)