



CONSTITUTION AND CODE OF CONDUCT OF KHOMANANI MATSONGA

**As amended and adopted by Stellenbosch
University Executive Committee (EC)**

(KM)

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SECTION 1

1.1 THE NAME

The name of the organization shall be the **KHOMANANI MATSONGA**, meaning “**holding our hands together as vatsonga**”.

1.2 vision and mission statement

- Vatsonga are people who originate from the Matsonga or Machangani tribe. This tribe has been marginalised throughout South Africa and the stereotypes of referring to foreigners as Amashangane is evident to this reality.
- Our vision is to create a platform of unity amongst students and expose our tribal traditions and cultural practices. This includes creating events that will seek to eradicate tendencies and roots of tribalism and hatred amongst young Africans.
- Our goal is to create a home away from home through embracing our culture. We seek to prioritise human dignity, justice, love and ethics in order to bring about the values that best describe Africa.

1.3 MOTTO

“Hi vatsonga va xiviri” translated into we are true vatsonga.

1.4 EMBLEM



1.5 PREAMBLE

→ Our logo consists of two hands shaking each other. The hands are a symbol of truth, kindness, justice and peace. Our society seeks to bring people from different backgrounds in search of justice and humanity for our African traditions. The two circles bring together the reality that we are striving to find ourselves and embrace our traditions away from home.

→ Whereas we the **Khomanani Matsonga** at Institutions of Higher Learning realised that we are **Vatsonga** before we are students, and committed ourselves to the principle

of the Khomanani Matsonga as our basic principle of operation and further committed to:

- Unite, and organize all students to work towards transformation within institutions of higher learning;
- Maintain and uphold cultural traditions within institutions of higher learning and further contribute positively towards activities and programs of the Khomanani Matsonga.

1.6 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- a)** To produce not only effective and successful academics, but to also support students in order to promote academic excellence.
- b)** To establish unity, peace, love and inclusivity amongst its members; **c)** To ensure that our members are progressive also academically through providing necessary supporting mechanism for effective studying;
- d)** To encourage leadership and social responsibility to all members;
- e)** To improve the standard of education in our institution;
- f)** To provide moral support to all our members in times of sorrow and happiness;
- g)** To ensure that Higher Education produces graduates who are not only job seekers but also job creators.

SECTION 2

MEMBERSHIP

- 2.1 Membership shall be open to all students who are registered students at Stellenbosch University who understand and accept the tradition of Tsonga people (Membership shall be extended to the community at large, decision to be taken by the executive)
- 2.2 Alumni who have participated in the programs and activities of Khomanani Matsonga shall also be allowed to be members;
- 2.3 All members of Khomanani Matsonga are expected to adhere to the values of Matsonga tradition and culture.
- 2.4 A membership fee of R150 is required.

SECTION 3

Powers and Functions of the Branch Annual Meeting

- 3.1 The Branch Annual Meeting shall be composed of all branch members; 3.2 Shall receive, discuss and adopt the annual reports by the Branch Chairperson and Branch Secretary;
- 3.3 Shall decide on the POA of the Branch;
- 3.4 Shall elect the Executive Committee (EC);
- 3.5 All BEC and Advisory Committee members shall be constituted by both male and female members.

SECTION 4

Composition of the Executive Committee (EC)

- 4.1 Chairperson
- 4.2 Deputy Chairperson
- 4.3 Secretary
- 4.4 Resources Officer(Treasurer)
- 4.5 Social Media Manager
- 4.6 Events Planner
- 4.7 Additional members of Exec

SECTION 5

Powers and Functions of the EC

5.1 The EC powers shall be that of:

- a) Co-ordinate the general activities of the society;
- b) Draft its POA.
- c) Look after the resources and properties of the society;
- d) Submit annual progress reports to the registered members;
- e) Consider the applications of the membership of the structure;
- f) Meet at least once a month, subject to the executive decision.

SECTION 6

Functions of the Office Bearers

6.1 Chairperson

- a) The Chief Executive Officer of the society;
- b) Shall be the Chairperson of all meetings of the EC;
- c) Shall give the state of the year sociological annual report on behalf of the EC;

- d) Issue statements on behalf of the branch and represent it whenever necessary
- e) Shall ensure that there's unity within the society;
- f) Shall be responsible in delegating duties to members of the EC;

6.2 Deputy Chairperson

- a) Shall perform all duties of the Chairperson as and when a need arises; b) Shall act as the Chairperson when for whatever reason the Chairperson is unable to continue carrying out his/her functions as a Chairperson;
- c) Shall ensure that there's discipline amongst society members and shall also act as the Chairperson of the disciplinary committee;
- d) Shall ensure the marketing of projects of the society;
- e) Shall perform all other activities delegated to him/her by the Chairperson.

6.3 Secretary

- a) The chief administrator of the society;
- b) Shall ensure the effective running of the daily activities of the society; c) Shall manage and ensure the communication of all activities of the society; d) Keep records of all the proceedings of meetings;
- e) Shall maintain the existence of regular communication with the Deputy Branch Secretary;
- f) Shall work in collaboration with the administrator;
- g) Shall prepare and present the status quo progress report to the BAM; h) Shall perform all other activities delegated to him/her by the Branch Chairperson and/or the Branch Secretary.

6.4 Treasurer

- a) The resource manager of the branch;
- b) Shall manage the income and expenditure of the branch;
- c) Shall implement the provisions of the resource policy of the Khomanani Matsonga;
- d) Shall be responsible of resource mobilization for the branch;
- e) Shall compile and present a sound financial report to the BAM;
- f) Shall ensure the establishment of the Branch resource Committee;
- g) Shall perform all other activities delegated to him/her by the Branch Chairperson and/or the Branch Secretary.

6.5 Social Media Manager

- a) Manages all social media platforms
- b) Uploads events and activities of khomanani matsonga
- c) Designs and makes posters for our pages

6.6 Events Planner

- a) Organizes everything for events and/or meetings with the assistance of other members in

the committee

SECTION 7

Composition of the Disciplinary Committee (DC)

7.1 The powers to establish a disciplinary committee will be granted to the Deputy Chairperson of the society. The appointed committee members shall require an approval from the executive members in order to commence with their duties.

SECTION 8

Powers and Functions of the Disciplinary Committee

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8.1 The disciplinary committee shall be a strategic committee that is constituted by male and female members;

8.2 The committee's role is to advise the society's Executive on strategic issues; 8.3 Shall not be responsible for operational issues of the society;

8.4 Shall be constituted by both male and female;

8.5 Disciplinary committee must be experienced members of the society, preferable

8.6 The Advisory Committee shall meet at least once per month.

SECTION 9

Term of Office

9.1 The term of office for BEC and DC shall be one year;

9.2 members can be reelected or run for positional leadership for as much as they want.

SECTION 10

Discipline

10.1 The conduct of members of the TS shall be governed by the Rules and Regulations and the Code of Conduct of the TS.

SECTION 11

Quorum

- 11.1. A quorum of the TS membership or committee gatherings or meetings, shall be 50% plus one of eligible participants (students, this excludes community members in case the Exec decides to extend membership).
- 11.2. when a quorum of 50% plus one of legitimate members is not met, the chairperson, and deputy chairperson will conclude whether or not the meeting should proceed.

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SECTION 12

Meetings

- 12.1 It is compulsory for all meetings to be attended unless there is a valid reason;
- 12.2 All meeting procedures must be adhered to;
- 12.3 Punctuality is required from all meetings;

SECTION 13

Elections of the Office Bearers

- 13.1 All Khomanani Matsonga Office Bearers shall be elected through a ballot; 13.2A committee member and/or BEC shall act as an Electoral Commission for the elections.

SECTION 14

Eligibility of Candidates

- 14.1 All registered members who have paid their full annual premium membership to Khomanani Matsonga Stellenbosch University branch.

SECTION 15

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Amendments

15.1 Any proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be submitted to the EC prior to the Annual Meeting for consideration and can only be passed by majority votes.

SECTION 16

Definition of Terms

16.1 Alumni – A former full-time member of the Khomanani Matsonga who have participated in the activities of the Khomanani Matsonga;

16.2 Branch – a basic unit of the Khomanani Matsonga, where members of the Khomanani Matsonga are recruited;

As amended and adopted on Tuesday 31 August 2021 the by Stellenbosch University EC:

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized, circular initial followed by a long horizontal stroke.



Mr T Zitha Mr MQ Mboweni

Secretary Chairperson Date: 12 September 2021

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SECTION 17

CODE OF CONDUCT OF THE KHOMANANI MATSONGA TABLE OF CONTENTS

17.1 INTRODUCTION

- I. Matsonga yaku chava ku tsongola xa munhu (Tsonga people who fear to take what does not belong to them or steal). Khomanani Matsonga is a home for students who wish to promote African cultures but not limited to others. Khomanani Matsonga is a group that exists to expose the different heritages that South Africans share under the values of Ubuntu and Decolonization. Our goal is to do away with stereotypes that surround marginalized tribes in Africa and to promote Anti Xenophobia.
- II. Khomanani Matsonga is a student society that seeks to unite students from different backgrounds with the hope to embrace the identity of Xitsonga traditions in a Tertiary environment. The society is out of the common idea of offering Xitsonga the required recognition that it needs in Stellenbosch University. The society is a result of a desire to build a united and organized student formation. The intention of the society is to push for a recognizable cultural transformation that will be a home to all students at Stellenbosch University.
- III. The society's mandate is to organization of students at Higher Institutions of Learning whom, out of the common desire, to build a united, and organized

- students in order to work towards transformation within institutions of higher learning; have voluntarily joined together and accepted a common discipline;
- IV. The basic rights and duties of our members are therefore set out in the basic documents of the organization, namely the Constitution and other policy documents;
- V. We seek to create our own standards based on the religious, academic, social and community base projects in line with our aims and objectives;
- VI. This is the document, which by its nature needs to be studied and understood by the whole membership, for in the last resort, it is a high voluntary assumption of rights and duties by members, which lies at the heart of all discipline.

17.2 GENERAL GUIDING PRINCIPLES

17.2.1 Responsibility

- (a) Members are expected to be Anti-Xenophobic at all times.
(b) Members must refrain from cultural shaming.

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- (c) Members must develop a high sense of responsibility and discipline with all matters that relate to the tribe of Vatsonga and traditions.
(d) Members affiliated should refrain from gossiping, rumor mongering, spreading of malicious information and distortion of fact
(e) Adhere to high ethical values and standards.

17.2.2 Offenses

Members who promote or embrace Xenophobia.

Members who cultural shame others.

Members who gossip, rumor mongering, spreading of malicious information and distortion of fact.

17.3DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

17.3.1 Guiding Principles

The disciplinary procedures at all levels of the Khomanani Matsonga shall be guided by the following principles: -

- i. Discipline should not be used as a means of stifling debate, of denying members their basic democratic rights guided also by the Constitution.
- ii. It should not be used as a means of solving private problems or interfering in the private lives of members where the norms of the Khomanani Matsonga are not directly affected, unless such conduct

constitutes a violation or an offence affecting the Khomanani Matsonga.

- iii. Any person facing disciplinary proceedings shall receive due written notice of any hearing and of the basic allegations and charges against him/her/er and be afforded a reasonable opportunity to make his or her defense.
- iv. All discipline proceedings shall be attended to as speedily as possible.

17.3.2 Disciplinary Structures

- i. Disciplinary proceedings shall normally be conducted at a level where the alleged violence or offence took place, namely Branch, Provincial or National, and may be heard by the relevant structure.
- ii. The NEC may direct that the disciplinary proceedings should be heard
- iii. at a higher level from where the alleged violation or offence took place. 3.2.3 The Khomanani Matsonga.
- iv. Disciplinary Committee from amongst its ranks and other members or former members of the Khomanani Matsonga.

- v. 3.2.4 Disciplinary Committee shall be appointed at a Khomanani Matsonga as and when need arises.

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17.3.3 THE RIGHT TO APPEAL

- I. Any person found guilty in a disciplinary proceeding, or the complainant has a right, within 14 days to appeal against the conviction or sentence, to the next highest body of the Khomanani Matsonga.
- II. The society may direct that an appeal against the decision by a branch or province should be heard directly by the Disciplinary Committee.

17.3.4 SCHEDULE PENALTIES

Should one be found guilty of an offence, a violation of discipline or an abuse of the Khomanani Matsonga rules, one shall be liable to -

- I. an act of compensation, performance of useful tasks or community service**
- II. Redeployment** – members shall be re-deployed if misconduct is related to his/her position. Re-deployment shall not always imply or mean demotion.
- III. Demotion** – a member holding a position in the Khomanani Matsonga shall be demoted if s/he continued holding of the position is defensible, inexplicable or embarrassing as a result of a particular transgression.
- IV. Temporary forfeitures of membership rights** – shall be imposed if in the opinion of the adjudicating body, such measures shall achieve corrective results in the event of the commission for serious offence or violation of discipline.
- V. Temporary suspension** – when a member is suspended, the organ suspending her/him/her shall state the period and conditions of suspension. In respect of serious offence, the period of suspension should not exceed two months.
- VI. Expulsion** – Only the executive members have powers to expel any member and the judiciary body that shall recommend expulsion to the Khomanani Matsonga shall treat the expulsion as a temporary suspension until the Khomanani Matsonga take a final decision.