

## CURRICULUM VITAE

**Mutombo Nkulu-N'Sengha (PhD)**  
**Tenured Professor**  
**College of Humanities**  
**18111 Nordhoff Street**  
**Northridge, CA, 91330**  
**Tel. 818-677-3395 (office)**  
**Email: [mn142@csun.edu](mailto:mn142@csun.edu)**

Dr. Mutombo Nkulu-N'Sengha (who is fluent in 7 languages, including Italian, French, and English) is an international scholar with extensive training in Philosophy, Theology, Politics, Literature, and the History of world civilizations. He studied in Africa, Europe and the US. Over the last 20 years he has taught at 7 American universities and colleges, and is now an established tenured professor at California State University Northridge. He is also a visiting professor at the university of Kamina in the Congo. He has lectured worldwide, including at Oxford University in England. His areas of expertise include "democracy and human rights," and African humanistic philosophy of genuine personhood known as "Bumuntu."

### **BASIC INFORMATION**

- *Born and raised in the Democratic Republic of Congo*
- *Education in Africa, Europe, and the United States of America*
- *Speaks fluently 5 languages (Italian, French, English, Swahili, Kiluba) and has some good knowledge of Spanish, Lingala, and a passive knowledge of German*
- *President and Founder of the Bumuntu Peace Institute (Pan-African Institute of Education, Peace, Dialogue, and Development)*
- *Founder and Director of the "Global Village Forum" (California)*
- *Philosopher and theologian by training.*
- *Professor, scholar, and poet*
- *Professor in various American universities and colleges for 15 years*
- *Passionate Advocate of democracy and human rights (focus of my Masters thesis in Philosophy, and my doctoral dissertation)*
- *Two awards for "excellent teacher" (Philadelphia, Los Angeles)*
- *Journalism: Broadcaster at the Vatican Radio (1990-1992)*
- *Editor-in-chief of Congo Times*
  
- *Global experience: Mutombo who has official residency in the United States of America and in Germany has extensively traveled to more than 12 countries around the globe for studies and research, including England, Canada, France, Switzerland,*

Germany, Austria, Spain, Italy, Belgium, Mexico, Indonesia, Malaysia, Rwanda and Burundi.

### **ACADEMIC DEGREES:**

PHD in Religious Studies

(Option Ethics and Philosophy of Religion; with a focus on Human Rights)

Temple University, Philadelphia, 2002.

Dissertation focused on human rights, the relationships between Church and State, and between modernity and traditional African culture.

Dissertation title: "Foundations for an African Philosophy and Theology of Human Rights: Rethinking the Human Condition in Post-Colonial Central Africa, 1965-1995."

- MA in African American Studies, Temple University.
- MA in Religious Studies, Temple University, Philadelphia.
- MA in Philosophy, Gregorian University, Rome and Institut de Philosophie Saint Pierre Canisius, Kinshasa-Rome
- MA in Christian Theology, Gregorian University, Rome.
- Certificate in Oriental Studies (Egyptology and Coptic language and literature), Biblicum, Rome.
- Certificate in Political sciences, Istituto Lazzatti, Rome, with an emphasis on the Christian Social Teaching on Political regimes and Economic systems over the last 200 years.

### HIGHLIGHT OF MY MOST IMPORTANT ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

- 1. Oxford University (England, Conference Paper presented at the Center for International Studies, January 2010)  
Paper's title: "Ending Mass atrocities: World religions, spirituality and the emerging UN norm of the Responsibility to Protect."**
- 2. National Autonomous University of Mexico, Mexico City, Conference paper presented in April 2010)**
- 3. Universite de Fribourg, Switzerland (Conference paper presented at the Faculté de Théologie. January 2005)**
- 4. California State University Northridge (Assistant and Associate Professor, since 2002)**
- 5. Member of "The African Studies Interdisciplinary Minor Program" Committee of California State University Northridge**
- 6. Founder and Co-Director of the "Global Village Forum" (California State University Northridge, since 2004)**
- 7. Loyola Marymount University (Los Angeles, California; Visiting Lecturer since 2007)**
- 8. Temple University (Philadelphia, Assistant Professor, 1997-2002)**
- 9. Montclair State University (New Jersey; Assistant Professor 1996-1997)**
- 10. Haverford College (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Visiting Lecturer of African Philosophy in the Philosophy Department, 1995-1996; 2000-2002)**
- 11. American Academy of Religion (Membership; and Chair of the section of indigenous religions of the AAR's West Coast Region since 2008)**
- 12. Associate editor of the scholarly Journal of Ecumenical Studies (Temple University, Philadelphia)**
- 13. Member of the Board of Directors of the "Religious Consultation on Population, Reproductive Health, and Ethics."**
- 14. Member of the Association for the Study of African Religion.**
- 15. Member of the Global Dialogue Institute.**
- 16. Member of the Global Ethic Center.**
- 17. Member of the Society of African Philosophy in North America (SAPINA).**
- 18. Journalist/Broadcaster at the Vatican Radio (1990-1991)**
- 19. Regular contributor to the radio program "Spotlight Africa" of KPFK (Los Angeles) on a wide range of African issues, including politics, economy, history, cultures and religions.**

#### AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION or INTEREST:

1. Education and development
2. Democracy and Human Rights
3. Women's Rights and Women empowerment
4. African and post-colonial Studies (cultural traditions, history, philosophy, religions, economic development, politics)
5. African American Studies
6. Dialogue among civilizations
7. Critical thinking
8. Globalization
9. Fundamentalism
10. Global Ethic
11. Interreligious Dialogue
12. Religion, violence, and world peace
13. Peace Studies and non-violence movements (African Non-Violence movements, Gandhi's Non-Violence Movement, Martin Luther King's Civil Rights Movement)
14. Christian liberation theologies and the plight of the poor in the globalized world

#### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

##### COURSES TAUGHT IN AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES SINCE 1996

##### NAMES OF UNIVERSITIES

- 1) Haverford College (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in the Philosophy Department)
- 2) Temple University (Philadelphia, in the Department of African American Studies, Religious Studies Department, and Intellectual Heritage Program)
- 3) Holy Family College (Philadelphia)
- 4) Montclair State University (New Jersey)
- 5) Loyola Marymount University (Los Angeles, California)
- 6) California State University Northridge (Los Angeles, California, Courses offered to students from the Department of Pan-African Studies, Department of Religious Studies, and Department of Philosophy, Women Studies Department, Chicano Studies, Computer Sciences, Journalism, Communications, Education, Engineering, etc)

##### COURSES OFFERED

Areas:

History, philosophy, theology, religion, politics,  
literature, culture, languages.

Name of courses:

- 1) Introduction to Philosophy (European and American traditions)
- 2) Introduction to Critical Thinking (Philosophy and Logic)
- 3) Western Intellectual Heritage (Philosophy, Literature and Religion that have shaped the character of Europe and USA)
- 4) Racial Justice and American Politics (Study of Racism in the USA and in European philosophy)
- 5) Human Rights (Western and African Traditions)
- 6) African Philosophy
- 7) African Rationality (African Contribution to Science and Philosophy)
- 8) African Epistemology or ways of knowing
- 9) Seminar on Special Topics in African Philosophy (Graduate course).
- 10) African Politics
- 11) African political philosophy (Panafrikanism, Negritude, Ujamaa, African Socialism, Humanism: Graduate course).
- 12) Africa in the 20<sup>th</sup> century (Politics, economy, culture, Art, religion, literature, family structures, and traditional customs)
- 13) African Civilizations (General history of African kingdoms and empires and African contribution to the world)
- 12) Introduction to Religious Studies
- 13) American Religious Diversity
- 14) American Minority Religions
- 15) World Religions (the religions of Europe, the Americas, Europe, Africa, Japan, China, India and Korea)
- 16) Asian Religions
- 17) Introduction to Islam
- 18) Christianity (from the beginning to the 21<sup>st</sup> century)
- 19) Contemporary Religious Thought (Major thinkers and trends in Protestant and Catholic Theology)
- 20) Introduction to the Bible
- 21) Biblical Studies (the Four Gospels).
- 22) Biblical Studies (Hebrew Prophets).
- 23) Interreligious Dialogue and Ecumenism

- 24) Christian Ethics.
- 25) Global Ethics
- 26) Violence and Peace in World Religions

- 27) Basics of Roman Catholic Faith.
- 28) Social Doctrine of the Catholic Church (the Teaching of Jesus, the Bible and religious leaders on wealth, poverty and income, the economic systems and structure, the global market, Capitalism, Communism, Socialism, political regimes, war, women, racism, strangers, immigrants, slaves and slavery, war and peace)

- 29) African Traditional Religions.
- 30) African Concepts of God (Graduate course).
- 31) Bumuntu: Personhood and Moral values in African tradition
- 32) Black Church (in America)
- 33) African religions in the Americas
- 34) African Theology
- 35) African contribution to the Bible
- 36) African contribution to Judaism, Christianity and Islam
- 37) African Bible and The Bibles of Black Americans

### III. PUBLICATIONS (more than 30)

More than 30 publications in French, Italian, and English.

Here is a sample of some of them:

#### A BOOK OF POETRY

**Bela-Wenda: Voices from the Heart of Africa**

(Austin, Texas: Host Publication, 2011)

#### ON UNITED NATIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS (POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY)

1. “Ending Mass Atrocities: Religion, Spirituality, and the UN “Responsibility to Protect” Norm” in *Responsibility to Protect: Cultural Perspectives in the Global South*; edited by Rama Mani and Thomas G. Weiss (New York: Routledge, 2011)
2. “The African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights: An African Contribution to the Global Ethic Project. “ A chapter in *For All Life: Toward a Universal Declaration of a Global Ethic*. Book edited by Leonard Swidler (Ashland: White Cloud Press, 1998).

#### PHILOSOPHY

1. "Bumuntu Memory and Authentic Personhood: An African Art of Becoming Humane" in Memory and The Narrative Imagination in the African and Diaspora Experience; edited by Tom Spencer-Walters (Troy, Michigan: Bedford Publishers, Inc., 2011; pp.295-336).
2. "African Philosophy: History and Major Trends," in the Encyclopedia of Black Studies; edited by Molefi Kete Asante and Ama Mazama (Thousand Oaks: Sage, 2005).
3. "African Epistemology," in the Encyclopedia of Black Studies; edited by Molefi Kete Asante and Ama Mazama (Thousand Oaks: Sage, 2005).
4. "Bantu Philosophy" in Encyclopedia of African Religion; ed. Molefi Asante and Ama Mazama (Thousand Oaks: Sage, 2009)
7. "African Ontology" in Encyclopedia of African Religion; ed. Molefi Asante and Ama Mazama (Thousand Oaks: Sage, 2009)
8. "Philosophie africaine et libération religieuse" in Raison ardente; Kimwenza, 1989; n.31

## RELIGION AND THEOLOGY

### Book Chapters:

1. "Liberation Theology in African Traditional Religions," in The Hope of Liberation in World Religions. (Edited by Miguel A. De La Torre; Baylor University Press, 2008).
2. "Muntu, Kintu and the pursuit of Bumuntu: Reflection on female circumcision and the roots of violence against women in African traditional religions," in Violence against Women in Contemporary World Religion: Roots and Cures. (Edited by Daniel C. Maguire and Sa'diyya Shaikh ; Cleveland: Pilgrim Press, 2007).
3. "Bumuntu Paradigm and Gender Justice: Sexist and Antisexist Trends in African Traditional Religions," in What Men Owe to Women: Men's Voices in World Religions. (Edited by John C. Raines and Daniel C. Maguire (Albany: State university of New York Press, 2001).

### Articles:

4. "Donna e Madonna in Africa: saggio di mariologia Africana." In Gentes, N°5, Maggio, Roma, 1990.
5. "La libertà secondo S. Paolo nel brano 1Cor10,29b."

Rome, Gregorian University, 1991.

6. Book Review, "*Worlds of Power: Religious Thought and Political Practice in Africa*," (London: Hurst and Company, 2004), by Stephen Ellis and Gerrie ter Haar. Published in the British Journal Commonwealth and Comparative Politics (Volume 43, Number 1, March 2005).
7. "Bumuntu: An African Response to the Lutheran-Roman Catholic Agreement on Justification." In Journal of Ecumenical Studies, Volume 38, Number 1, Winter 2001.
8. "Interreligious Dialogue in Black Africa among Christianity, Islam, and African Traditional Religion." In Journal of Ecumenical Studies, Volume 33, Number 4, Fall 1996.
9. "A controversial new pontiff in a controversial new time." In Daily Sundial, (Los Angeles, California), May 3, 2005. This article was chosen among the best of opinion and republished in Daily Sundial (Los Angeles, California), May 23-27, 2005.
10. "Who owns the post-colonial pope?" In Daily Sundial (Los Angeles, California), Wednesday, January 11, 2005.
11. "Le Pape, l'Afrique et la découverte de l'Amérique : pardon pour l'esclavage." In Forum Zaïrois, Volume I, Numero 2, Septembre, Philadelphia, 1992.

**Articles in the Encyclopedia of African Religion (2009):**

1. "God in African religions" in Encyclopedia of African Religion; ed. Molefi Asante and Ama Mazama (Thousand Oaks: Sage, 2009)
2. "Ontology" in Encyclopedia of African Religion; ed. Molefi Asante and Ama Mazama (Thousand Oaks: Sage, 2009)
3. "Intermediaries in African cosmology" in Encyclopedia of African Religion; ed. Molefi Asante and Ama Mazama (Thousand Oaks: Sage, 2009)
4. "Bumuntu: African concept of moral values and dignity" in Encyclopedia of African Religion; ed. Molefi Asante and Ama Mazama (Thousand Oaks: Sage, 2009)
5. "Bubi: The Concept of Evil in African Religions" in Encyclopedia of African Religion; ed. Molefi Asante and Ama Mazama (Thousand Oaks: Sage, 2009)
6. "Divination Systems" in Encyclopedia of African Religion; ed. Molefi Asante and Ama Mazama (Thousand Oaks: Sage, 2009)

7. "Nganga: healing in African religions" in Encyclopedia of African Religion; ed. Molefi Asante and Ama Mazama (Thousand Oaks: Sage, 2009)
8. "Rivers and Streams as Deities in African Religions" in Encyclopedia of African Religion; ed. Molefi Asante and Ama Mazama (Thousand Oaks: Sage, 2009)
9. "Proverbs and Teaching in African Religious Wisdom" in Encyclopedia of African Religion; ed. Molefi Asante and Ama Mazama (Thousand Oaks: Sage, 2009)
10. "Epistemology" in Encyclopedia of African Religion; ed. Molefi Asante and Ama Mazama (Thousand Oaks: Sage, 2009)
11. "Baluba: The People and Their Worldview" in Encyclopedia of African Religion; ed. Molefi Asante and Ama Mazama (Thousand Oaks: Sage, 2009)
12. "African Religions and Resistance to Enslavement" in Encyclopedia of African Religion; ed. Molefi Asante and Ama Mazama (Thousand Oaks: Sage, 2009)

## HISTORY

"La magie du souvenir et le pouvoir libérateur de l'histoire africaine." In Forum Zaïrois, Volume I, Numéro 4, Février, Philadelphia, 1993.

"A la découverte des Savants noirs." In Forum Zaïrois, Volume I, Numéro 6, Décembre, Philadelphia, 1993.

## GEOPOLITICS

1. "Les Eglises face à Mobutu: réflexion sur le rôle démocratique de la religion." In Forum Zaïrois, Volume I, Numéro 6, Décembre, Philadelphia, 1993.

2. "E pluribus unum ou les enjeux du fédéralisme au Zaïre" (Federal government and the Unity of Zairian people) in Forum Zaïrois, Volume I, Numéro 4, Février, Philadelphia, 1993.

3. "Leurre et lueur de l'aide financière américaine à l'Afrique : l'autre face du royaume." In Forum Zaïrois, Volume II, Numéro 3, Octobre, Philadelphia, 1994.

4. "L'aide financière américaine et l'avenir du régime Mobutu." In Forum Zaïrois, Volume II, Numéro 1-2, Juin-Août, Philadelphia, 1994.

5. "L'émergence des associations Zairoises de droits de l'homme: Interview avec Maître Jean Mbuyu" in Forum Zaïrois, Volume II, Numéro 3, Octobre, Philadelphia, 1994.

6. "Faut-il recoloniser l'Afrique ?" In Forum Zaïrois, Volume III, Numero 1, Janvier-Mars, Philadelphia, 1995.

7. "De la dimension économique des Droits de l'homme: la politique salariale et la violation des Droits de l'homme au Zaïre." In Forum Zaïrois, Volume III, Numero 1, Janvier-Mars, Philadelphia, 1995.

8. "Quel avenir pour l'Afrique de l'an 2000 ? Espérer contre toute espérance." In Forum Zaïrois, Volume II, Numero 1-2, Juin-Août, Philadelphia, 1994.