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**14 April 2021**

## **UCT publishes first Sesotho book in open access continental platform**

15 April 2021 | 17:00 – 18:00| Virtual launch on [MS Teams](#)

The University of Cape Town (UCT) Libraries, in collaboration with the Department of African Languages and Literatures will have a virtual book launch of *Dikeledi ha di wele fatshe* (loosely translated means, tears do not fall in vain) authored by Dr Rethabile Possa-Mogoera on 15 April 17:00 to 18:00 via MS Teams.

The book is published in open access which means that it is accessible to anyone including the general public. The book, intended for high school learners, now introduces the teaching and learning of an indigenous language using technology.

Dr Reggie Raju, director of research and learning services at UCT Libraries, said: "UCT's commitment to the decolonisation of education is expressed in various ways, one of which is via the publishing of indigenous material. UCT Libraries, guided by the principles of social justice, developed a continental platform for any academic institution wanting to publish their books or journals. The book, written in Sesotho, is the first indigenous language to be published on this continental platform."

*Dikeledi ha di wele fatshe* is a drama book that talks about Mamello, a grade eight learner who is impregnated by a grade twelve learner Tatolo. They both go to the same school and are seen together after school. Tatolo admits to impregnating Mamello and takes responsibility but his parents deny his involvement.

The matter gets complicated between both sets of parents and is taken to the village king for resolution. The king and his kinsmen call Tatolo to question him, in the presence of his father, about the matter and he admits being the father of Mamello's unborn child. In the midst of all these, Mamello's parents stand with their daughter.

The book addresses teenage pregnancy and support from the parents especially fathers. It is breaking the stereotype that when a girl child falls pregnant it is the responsibility of the mother only.

[Register for the launch.](#)

***Ends***

***Issued by: UCT Communication and Marketing Department***

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