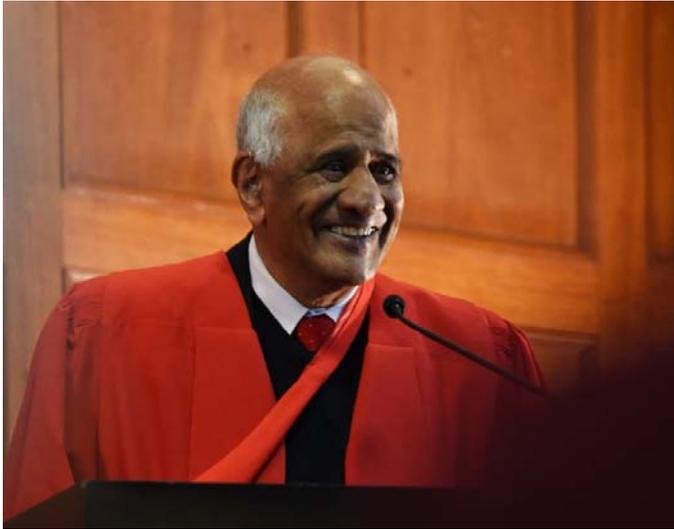


## BRIEF PROFILE - ZAK YACOOB



Retired as a judge of the Constitutional Court after 15 years' service on 31 January 2013. Completed BA LLB at University of Durban-Westville at end of 1972 and practiced at the then Natal Bar as junior and senior counsel until 31 January 1998.

While in practice, as an advocate, in addition to commercial work, he was:

- engaged in community activities;
- was a member of the underground of the ANC;
- defended political prisoners charged under unjust apartheid laws;
- did cases to help victims of detention, house arrest and other restrictive orders:

Was a member of the:

- negotiation process and in particular, of the committee responsible for the finalization of the Bill of Rights in the Interim Constitution;
- IEC that was responsible for S. Africa's first democratic election in 1994; and
- the Independent Panel of Experts that advised the Constitutional Assembly in relation to the draft of the final constitution.

He is recognised in national and international legal circles for his contribution to the socio-economic rights jurisprudence of our country and has attended many international conferences, largely on human and socio-economic rights

He has taught at International Law Schools in Seattle, Melbourne, Maryland and in the joint programme between The Howard Law School, Washington and the University of the W Cape.

Chairperson of the Board of the South African Library for the Blind from 1 October 2007 – 30 September 2013.

Since his retirement he: has delivered papers on various topics in Canada, Japan, India and various organisations in around South Africa

Engages in ongoing judicial training

Has continued teaching constitutional law in Howard University's summer school held at UWC; and at 2 local Universities (Kwa-Zulu Natal and University of Witwatersrand)

Was appointed in March 2013 to investigate and report on allegations of inappropriate conduct by the Commissioner of the South African Revenue Services

Sat on the enquiry into the plight of the Cuban Five in March 2014

Subsequently in 2015 also approached by the then NPA head to investigate and report on certain aspects of the functioning of the National Prosecuting Authority

In 2015 Chaired the tribunal into the 1965 Indonesian atrocities Held at The Hague  
Was Chair of Public Interest Litigation at IALS/ILS, Pune, India for 3 months in 2015  
Chaired the Board of South African AIDS Council Trust (SANAC) from February 2013 until October 2016

Is a member of Boards of NGOs/Non Profit Organisations like the SA Mobility Trust (SAMBT), Section 27, Socio-Economic Rights Institute (SERI) and of CAPRISA;

Is president and Trustee of the KZN Blind and Deaf Society and Ombud of UKZN