

# **REGISTER NOW for the NVAS 25th Anniversary Conference**

## ***Conciliation and Conflict: The Role of Language in Bridging Social Differences in Africa***

***Date: Friday 9 and Saturday 10 December 2022***

***Venue: t.b.a.***

### **Conference Description**

The NVAS dedicates its jubilee conference to Africa's most widely acknowledged contribution to the heritage of mankind: spoken mediation. This is a multimodal phenomenon that encompasses spoken words, songs, bodily gestures and communicative silence. Each of these means of communication can serve to break up or cement social cohesion. As we know from premodern and modern history, often the fighting with words can be as harmful as fighting with swords. Polemics of religion, identity (of ethnic affiliation, sexual orientation, a.o.) or politics often precede or are contemporaneous with physical violence. Similarly, in reconciliation and cooperation, speech (in all its expressive forms) is an essential resource. The conference will bring together specialists from different fields of studies (linguistics, anthropology, communication studies, literature, rhetoric, history, politics, social media studies, economics) to discuss the dual functions of language in social relations.

NVAS's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary will be celebrated with a keynote lecture, panels, a (mini) book market and festive activities. The programme will consist of presentations at campus as well as online panels. A preliminary programme will be published by the end of October.

### **Partners**

- African Studies Centre Leiden, Leiden University.
- Collaborative Research Group at the African Studies Centre Leiden: 'Collaboration and Contestation in Words: dialogues and disputes in African social realities'.

### **Registration for NVAS members and for students:**

**Registration is free for NVAS-members and for students. Please register by sending your full name, affiliation, and postal address to: [nvasconf@asc.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:nvasconf@asc.leidenuniv.nl). The confirmation mail of your registration is your entrance ticket to the conference.**

### **Registration for non-NVAS members:**

**Registration fee for non-members is 20 euro [fee covers two lunches, coffee/tea, drinks, snacks and a goody bag]. Please register by payment of fee to: ING Bank, account number NL08INGB0007819046, beneficiary Nederlandse Vereniging voor Afrika Studies, Leiden, payment communication "NVAS 2022 + your name + your affiliation".**

***We will need your registration in time for the catering services and other logistics, latest by noon 5 December 2022. For any questions, please contact: [nvasconf@asc.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:nvasconf@asc.leidenuniv.nl)***