



### **Message from the Director, National Centre for Advanced Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences**

I consider it a pleasant duty to contribute to this message on the occasion of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Symposium of the NCAS. We at NCAS are proud to support a large number of academics in their post-graduate research, which forms the bedrock of higher education teaching and learning in our country.

The academic research supported by the NCAS is growing from strength to strength, and this is aptly reflected in the number of research abstracts that are being submitted, which continue to improve in terms of both quality, as well as quantity.

It is satisfying to note that there is a renewed interest among academics to engage in post-graduate research, which will translate in the future to new knowledge and innovation. This is the urgent need of the country, if it is to face the challenges of the modern world.

The theme of this year's symposium is centred around the youth. We believe that youth hold the key to the future, as important stakeholders in generating values, opinions, as well as skills and innovation. Youth are also the most dynamic sector in society, and are capable of embracing and adapting to change in all its forms. Therefore you will find that youth are the agents of social transformation, while at the same time the beneficiaries of it as well. The abstracts submitted this year reflect academic engagement on many facets of this vital topic, and I trust that the research will stimulate healthy and productive discussion, and feed into relevant and timely interventions that will harness the potential of youth as agents of social transformation for the greater good of this country.

I wish you all a pleasant and productive session.

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