



University of Fort Hare
Together in Excellence

UFH LANGUAGE ACTIVITIES

- 1. LLMs Project Participation:** UFH is a key partner in the Telkom-NRF-funded Large Language Models (LLMs) Project, collaborating with UniZulu, the University of Limpopo, UCT, and HSRC. The initiative focuses on developing digital capabilities for under-resourced languages—isiZulu, isiXhosa, and Sepedi—and is currently advancing toward full proposal submission.
- 2. PhD Achievement in isiXhosa:** UFH has proudly produced its fourth PhD graduate whose entire academic journey was completed in isiXhosa. This milestone underscores the institution's growing commitment to promoting isiXhosa as a legitimate language of academic research and instruction.
- 3. Proposals and defenses in isiXhosa:** After years of advocacy, research proposals and their defenses are now officially conducted in isiXhosa. This achievement represents a breakthrough in academic decolonization and linguistic empowerment at UFH.
- 4. Activity 4: Translation of the Ethical Clearance Form into isiXhosa:** Postgraduate researchers (Honours, MA, and PhD) will engage in the translation of an ethical clearance form from English into isiXhosa. This activity supports the development of advanced bilingual academic literacy, promotes culturally appropriate research practices, and deepens understanding of ethical principles. Special attention will be given to accurately translating terms such as *informed consent*, *confidentiality*, and *voluntary participation*, ensuring linguistic sensitivity and ethical clarity in isiXhosa-speaking communities.

Report by Drs Spofana & Gxekwa