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UNIVERSITY OF NAMIBIA

Public Lecture



Air Vice Marshal Teofilus Shaende

Namibian Air Force Commander and a distinguished Air Force Pilot

School of Military Science

The importance of Advanced Technology as a Training Aid in Aviation

Date: Wednesday, 12 August 2026

Time: 09:00

Venue: University of Namibia, Lecture Hall 3, Opposite PK 1

ABOUT THE LECTURE:

The integration of advanced technology into aviation training has become essential as air operations grow increasingly complex and dynamic. Rapid technological developments and rising demands for efficiency and safety require aviation personnel to be highly skilled, adaptable, and prepared for real-world challenges. Modern training programmes therefore employ advanced tools such as realistic flight simulators, virtual reality (VR), augmented reality (AR), wind tunnels, and scenario-based systems that replicate critical events, including engine failures and system malfunctions.

These technologies provide safe and realistic learning environments, enabling pilots, engineers, and cabin crew to develop practical experience without the risks and costs associated with actual flight operations. Technology-enhanced training strengthens decision-making, situational awareness, problem-solving, and the ability to identify potential hazards and system failures.

It also enhances operational readiness and supports compliance with global aviation standards. This lecture examines technological innovation as a vital tool for advancing aviation training and promoting national airspace security, while encouraging discussion among professionals, academics, researchers, and policymakers about the future of aviation training.

ABOUT THE PRESENTER:

Air Vice Marshal Teofilus Shaende is the Namibian Air Force Commander and a distinguished Air Force Pilot, whose aviation career spans over 27 years of national service in

defending the Namibian Airspace. He is decorated with the Most Excellent Order of the Eagle, Third Class.

, Air Cadre Medal, Air Force Longevity Medal, Air Force Commander's Exemplary Medal, to name a few. The Air Vice Marshal holds several military professional qualifications: **Senior Command and Staff Course, Republic of Zambia, National Defence College (United Republic of Tanzania)**, Operational Flying Course (**Zambia Air Force**), Qualified Flying Instructor Course QFI, (**Zambia Air Force**) FT7 & F7 Operational Flying Course (China), amongst others.

Academically, the Air Force Commander has qualifications in Defence and Security Studies (University of Zambia), Defence and Security Management (**Defence Academy, United Kingdom**) Security and Strategic Studies (United Republic of **Tanzania National Defence College**), Aviation Security Management and Organization (**IATA, South Africa**), Security Risk and Strategic Studies (**University of Dar Es Salaam**).

Member of the Defence Staff Council, (MODVA) and SADC Regional Peacekeeping Training Centre (RPTC) Advisory Council. Exercise Director for SADC Air Forces Humanitarian Aid Exercise, Code named –Ex Blue Kunene in Namibia, in 2017.

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