THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTRODUCTION

The Genealogical Society of South Africa (GSSA) is an international organisation of people engaged in the study of genealogy, family trees and family history with a South African connection.

MISSION

The GSSA's mission is to promote and facilitate interest and research in genealogy and family history.

MANAGEMENT & MEMBERSHIP

The National Executive Committee as well as the National Council are responsible for the general management of the GSSA.

Membership of the Society is open to all individuals and organisations that share the same goals and objectives. Members generally participate in the activities of the GSSA through its regional branches:

Durban & Coastal Branch, Durban
East Cape Branch, Port Elizabeth
eGGSA (Virtual Branch)
Free State and Northern Cape Branch, Bloemfontein
Johannesburg Branch
Natal Midlands Branch, Pietermaritzburg
Northern Transvaal Branch, Pretoria
Northwest Branch, Potchefstroom
Vaal Triangle Branch, Vanderbijlpark
West Gauteng Branch, West Rand
Western Cape Branch, Cape Town

ACTIVITIES AND PRODUCTS/PROJECTS

JOURNALS AND NEWSLETTERS

- The GSSA publishes the quarterly journal *FAMILIA* that contains a variety of articles covering all facets of genealogical research.
- *Capensis* and *Genesis* are genealogical journals published by the Western Cape and eGGSA branches respectively.
- Various newsletters are published by regional branches.

PUBLICATIONS

To date, the GSSA has issued the following publications:

- *Genealogical Reference Guide for South Africa* (1999) (being updated; see website)
- *Die Kilians* (1999) – The Kilian Family Register
- *FAMILIA CD* (Back issues of *FAMILIA* from 1964 to 2004 are available on CD. Additional issues will be released periodically on CD)
- *FAMILIA Omnibus CD* (2002 and 2003)
- *Estate File Indexes CD*, 1994-2002 (2003)
- *Van Wij(c)k/Wyk CD* (2004)
- *Indian Passenger Lists* (2004)
- *Cemetery Recording Project/Begraafplaasprojek* (2005) – more than 160 000 records available on CD. Ongoing project.

WEBSITES

- The GSSA maintains the following website: http://www.ggsa.info
- Links to all GSSA branches (eg. eGGSA) various national and international genealogical websites are available on the GSSA website. Information on additional links can be provided on request.

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COMPUTER PROGRAM

Gen2SA is a public domain computer program developed by GSSA members that converts and indexes genealogical information obtained from various commercially available computer programs, into the standard South African genealogical format (viz a1b2c3d5).

RESEARCH AND ADVICE

- GSSA does not undertake *formal research*, but in excess of 800 enquiries are directed annually to volunteer or commercial researchers.
- Through its national network of members as well as contacts with archival institutions and national and international genealogical sources, the GSSA can provide valuable *advice and support to researchers* and family members on their projects.
- The GSSA sets *standards and guidelines* for genealogical activities, including the publication of genealogical products.
- The GSSA, through its members, branches and other contacts, undertakes *technological research* to stay abreast of information technology, archiving and record keeping techniques, copyright and legal issues as these matters relate to genealogical research.

GENEALOGICAL SOURCES

- The GSSA maintains active contact with most archival institutions in South Africa and many international research organisations in order to promote and facilitate genealogical research.
- The *Sources Preservation Project* promotes the preservation of source material of interest to genealogists and other researchers such as historians and geneticists.

LIBRARY

The GSSA maintains a library of books and electronic source material of genealogical interest distributed among the regional branches.

RESEARCHERS

A list of commercial researchers is available on the GSSA website.

TRAINING

- Regional branches periodically offer training courses on genealogical research, record keeping, publications, computer technology and related topics.
- The GSSA encourages the recognition of the study of genealogy as an academic pursuit.
- Periodic visits to archival institutions and other places of genealogical interest are arranged.

CONFERENCES AND AWARDS

- The GSSA organises and participates in conferences related to matters of genealogical interest.
- The GSSA annually presents *Awards of Merit* in order to recognise and encourage genealogical research and service of high quality.

AFFILIATIONS & COOPERATION

The GSSA has formal affiliations with and cooperates with a variety of organisations of importance to genealogical research, such as:

- The *Genealogical Institute of South Africa* (GISA) situated in Stellenbosch where the president of the GSSA serves *ex officio* as a Board member.
- The *Genealogical Society of Utah* (GSU), part of the Church of Jesus Christ of the LDS.
- The National Archives of South Africa as well as museums.
- Archives of the various church organisations in South Africa.
- The University of the Northwest and the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, Port Elizabeth that take an active interest in genealogical research.
- Various libraries – especially the statutory reference libraries in South Africa.

ENQUIRIES

Please direct enquiries to:

The Genealogical Society of South Africa, Suite 143, Postnet X2600, HOUGHTON 2141

Email address: **secretary@ggsa.info** Re membership: **tesourier@ggsa.info**

Visit our website at: **http://www.ggsa.info**

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DIE GENEALOGIESE GENOOTSKAP VAN SUID- AFRIKA

INLEIDING

Die Genealogiese Genootskap van Suid-Afrika (GGSA) is 'n internasionale organisasie van persone wat betrokke is by genealogiese navorsing, stambome, familieregisters en familiegeskiedenis met 'n Suid-Afrikaanse verbintenis.

MISSIE

Die GGSA se missie is om belangstelling en navorsing in genealogie en familiegeskiedenis te bevorder.

BESTUUR & LIDMAATSKAP

Die Nasionale Uitvoerende Komitee, sowel as die Nasionale Raad is verantwoordelik vir die sentrale bestuur van die GGSA.
Lidmaatskap van die GGSA is oop vir alle indiwidue en organisasies wat dieselfde doelstellings nastreef. Lede neem meesal aan die aktiwiteite van die Genootskap deel deur die onderskeie takke:

Durban & Kusstreektak, Durban
eGGSA tak (elektroniese tak)
Johannesburgtak
Natal Middellandetak, Pietermaritzburg
Noord-Transvaaltak, Pretoria
Noordwestak, Potchefstroom
Oos-Kaaptak, Port Elizabeth
Vaaldriehoektak, Vanderbijlpark
Vrystaat- en Noord-Kaaptak, Bloemfontein
Wes-Gautengtak, Wesrand
Wes-Kaaptak, Kaapstad

AKTIWITEITE EN PRODUKTE/PROJEKTE

TYDSKRIFTE EN NUUSBRIEWE

- Die GGSA publiseer die kwartaalblad *FAMILIA* met 'n verskeidenheid van artikels wat alle aspekte van genealogiese navorsing dek. Dit word plaaslik en internasionaal versprei.
- *Capensis* en *Genesis* is genealogiese tydskrifte wat deur die Wes-Kaaptak en die eGGSA tak onderskeidelik gepubliseer word.
- Verskeie nuusbriewe word deur takke van die GGSA gepubliseer.

PUBLIKASIES : Die volgende publikasies is reeds deur die GGSA vrygestel:

- *Suid-Afrikaanse Genealogiese Verwysingsgids* (1999) (word tans opgedateer; sien webblad)
- *Die Kilians* (1999) – Die Kilian-Familieregister
- *Boedelkennisgewings, 1994-2002* op laserskyf (2003)
- *FAMILIA* (Vroeëre kopieë van *FAMILIA* van1964 tot 2004 is reeds op laserskyf beskikbaar. Verdere uitgawes sal ook in toekoms op laserskyf vrygestel word).
- *FAMILIA Omnibus* op laserskyf (2002 en 2003)
- *Van Wij(c)k/Wyk* op laserskyf (2004)
- *Indian Passenger Lists* op laserskyf (2004)
- *Begraafplaasprojek/Cemetery Recording Project* (2005) – meer as 160 000 rekords beskikbaar op laserskyf. Addisionele rekords sal stelselmatig vrygestel word.

WEBWERWE

- Die GGSA bedryf die volgende webwerf: http://www.ggsa.info
- Internetskakels na onderskeie takke (bv. eGGSA), verskeie nasionale en internasionale genealogiese webwerwe is beskikbaar op die GGSA-webwerf. Inligting oor addisionele skakels kan op versoek verskaf word.

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REKENAARPROGRAM

Gen2SA is 'n rekenaarprogram in die openbare domein wat deur GGSA-lede ontwikkel is en die genealogiese inligting afkomstig van kommersiële rekenaarprogramme indekseer en omskakel en na die standaard formaat vir Suid-Afrikaanse genealogieë (nl. a1b2c3d5 waar die letter die spesifieke generasie/geslag en die syfer die posisie van persoon binne gesin aandui).

NAVORSING EN ADVIES

- Die GGSA onderneem nie *formele navorsing* nie maar verwys jaarliks meer as 800 navrae na vrywillige of kommersiële navorsers.
- Deur sy nasionale netwerk van lede en kontakte met argivale instellings en nasionale en internasionale genealogiese bronne, kan die GGSA waardevolle *inligting en steun* aan navorsers en familielede oor hulle projekte verleen.
- Die GGSA stel *standaarde en riglyne* op vir genealogiese aktiwiteite, insluitend die publikasie van genealogiese produkte.
- Deur sy lede, takke en ander verbindings onderneem die GGSA *tegnologiese navorsing* om tred te hou met informasietegnologie, argivering en rekordhouding, kopiereg en regsaspekte wat vir genealogiese navorsing van belang is.

GENEALOGIESE BRONNE

- Die GGSA behou noue kontak met die meeste argivale instellings in Suid-Afrika en baie internasionale navorsingsorganisasies ten einde genealogiese navorsing te bevorder.
- Die *Bronnebewaringsprojek* bevorder die bewaring van bronmateriaal van belang vir genealoë en ander navorsers, soos historici en genetici.

BIBLIOTEEK

Die GGSA beskik oor 'n versameling boeke en elektroniese bronmateriaal van genealogiese belang wat by onderskeie takke gehuisves word.

NAVORSERS

'n Lys kommersiële navorsers is op die GGSA-webwerf beskikbaar.

OPLEIDING

- Die onderskeie takke bied gereeld opleidingskursusse oor genealogiese navorsing, rekordhouding, publikasies, rekenaartegnologie en verwante onderwerpe aan.
- Die GGSA poog om genealogiese studies as 'n akademiese dissipline te bevorder.
- Besoeke aan die argiewe en ander argivale instellings word gereël.

KONFERENSIES EN TOEKENNINGS

- Die GGSA reël en neem deel aan konferensies wat met genealogiese sake verband hou.
- Die GGSA maak jaarliks verskeie merietetoekennings om erkenning en ondersteuning te verleen aan uitnemende genealogiese navorsing en diens.

AFFILIASIES & SAMEWERKING

Die GGSA het formele verbintenisse en werk saam met verskeie organisasies wat vir genealogiese aktiwiteite van belang is:

- Die *Genealogiese Instituut van Suid-Afrika* (GISA) in Stellenbosch. Die president van die GGSA dien ampshalwe as raadslid van GISA.
- Die *Genealogical Society of Utah* (GSU) – deel van die Kerk van Jesus Christus van die Heiliges van die Laaste Dae.
- Die Nasionale Argief van Suid-Afrika en verskeie museums.
- Argiewe van die verskillende kerklike instansies in Suid-Afrika.
- Die Universiteit van Noordwes en die Nelson Mandela Metropolitaanse Universiteit, Port Elizabeth wat belangstelling in genealogiese navorsing bevorder.
- Verskeie biblioteke – veral die pligleweringsbiblioteke van Suid-Afrika.

NAVRAE

Navrae kan gerig word aan:

Die Genealogiese Genootskap van Suid-Afrika, Suite 143, Postnet X2600, HOUGHTON 2141
E-posadres: **secretary@ggsa.info** Rakende lidmaatskap: **tesourier@ggsa.info**
Besoek ons webwerf: **http://www.ggsa.info**

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