



ANC TODAY

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Conversations with the **President**



Making public funds work for all South Africans

■ By **PRESIDENT CYRIL RAMAPHOSA**

IN the report of the Commission of Inquiry into State Capture, Chief Justice Raymond Zondo described corruption in procurement as “*the centrepiece of state capture*”. He consequently made a number of recommendations on how to prevent corruption in the procurement of goods and services by government.

A few days ago, as part of the extensive work we are undertaking to prevent corruption and consign state capture to the past, I signed into law the Public Procurement Act.

This law eliminates the problem identified by Chief Justice Zondo of fragmentation in procurement laws by creating a cohesive regulatory framework.

Among other things, the law es-

tablishes a Public Procurement Office in the National Treasury, which must put in place measures to ensure the integrity of the procurement process. All the members of this office must perform their functions impartially and without fear, favour or prejudice.

The Public Procurement Office must promote standardisation in procurement and modernise the system through technology and innovation. The law focuses on the people who are involved in procurement, requiring them to comply with a code of conduct and receive professional development and training.

No government official may be directed, either verbally or in writing, to violate the required procurement processes. And no official can be victimised or suffer

‘*occupational detriment*’ for reporting any unlawful instruction. This is an important provision because many of the abuses that took place during the state capture era involved political office bearers, business people and others putting pressure on managers to flout procurement regulations.

The law specifically prohibits any person from interfering with or trying to influence any procurement, or trying to tamper with any tender bid after its submission or award. Suppliers who are found to abuse the procurement system or otherwise commit fraud and corruption are prevented through a ‘debarment order’ from participating in any procurement processes for a specified period.

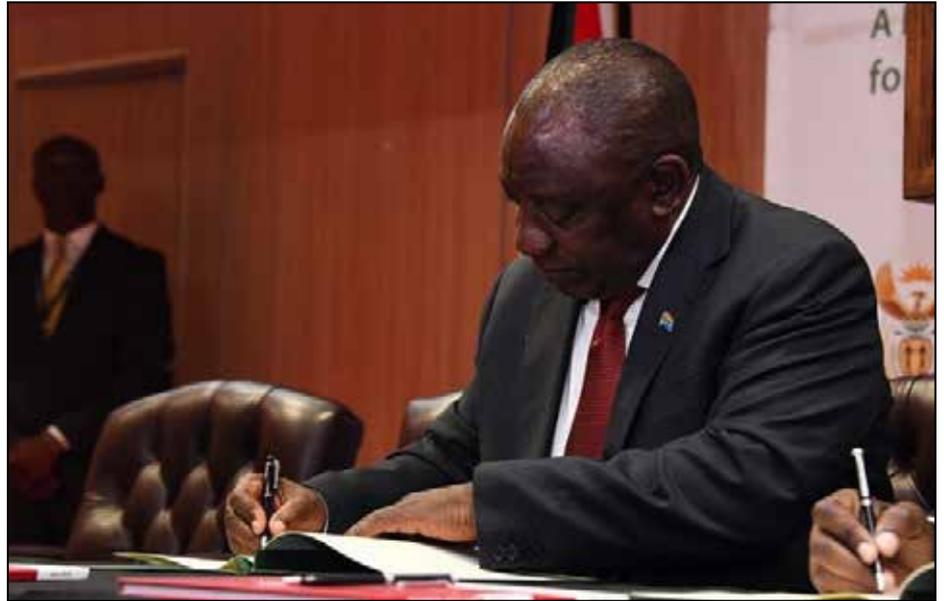
Certain categories of people are

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automatically excluded from submitting bids to the State. These include public office bearers, public servants in any sphere of government, officials in Parliament and provincial legislatures, special advisers and employees of public entities. In other words, people who work for the state may not do business with the state.

The Act will also make the procurement system far more transparent. It provides for the use of technology to disclose procurement information, including awards of bids, the process followed and suppliers awarded. This follows our decision in 2020 to make information on all COVID-related contracts available online. No longer will tenders be awarded in dark corners far from public scrutiny.

Public procurement is about getting the best value for the state. It is also an opportunity to promote transformation of the economy and society. The new law therefore provides for set-asides in the allocation of contracts to advance companies owned by people historically disadvantaged by unfair discrimination.



These include black South Africans, women, youth, persons with disabilities and military veterans.

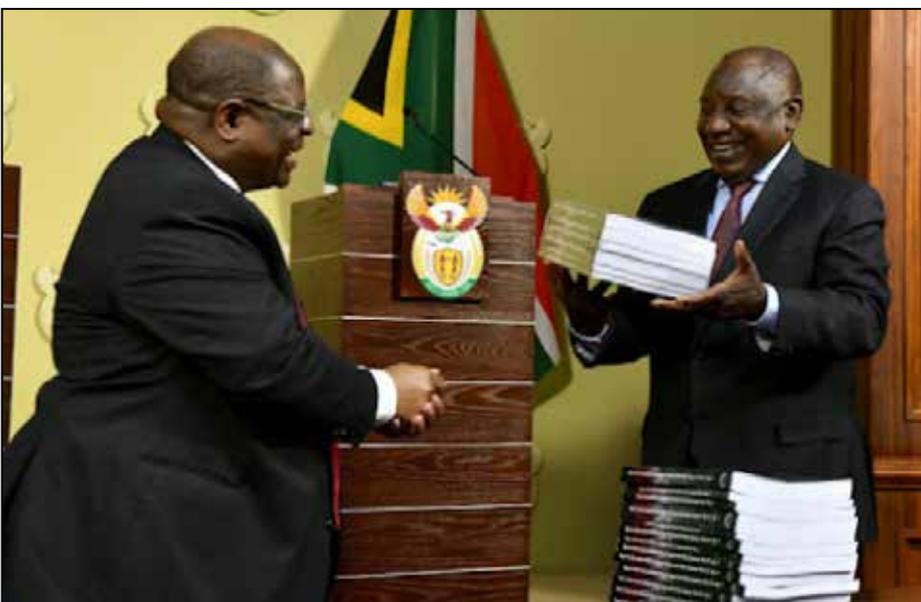
The approach in the Act is in line with the Constitutional requirement that public procurement must be done in accordance with a system which is fair, equitable, transparent, competitive and cost-effective. The Constitution also says that this should not prevent procurement policies that provide for the protection or advancement of people disadvantaged by unfair discrimination.

The Act will enable and encourage the procurement of goods that are produced and services that are provided in South Africa. It will enable government and public entities to use procurement more strategically and effectively to promote the growth of local industry and to create jobs to meet the needs of the state.

As we intensify our collective efforts to build an inclusive economy that creates jobs, the Public Procurement Act allows us to make best use of public funds to support transformation and local development.

At the same time, by implementing measures to prevent the abuse of public procurement, the Act will help to ensure that public funds are put to the uses for which they are intended.

The report of the State Capture Commission shone a bright light on the weaknesses in our public procurement system. We are now fixing the problems the Commission identified and are making public procurement a more effective instrument for social and economic change.



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ANC STATEMENT ON WOMEN'S MONTH

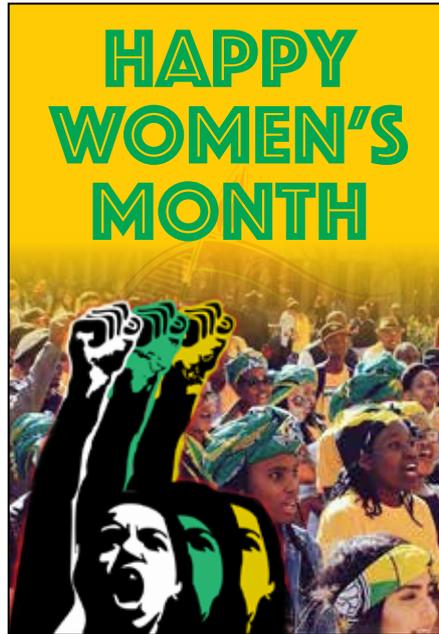
THIS week marks the beginning of Women's Month. The ANC sees Women's Month as a moment of reflection on how far we have come as a nation on our journey towards women empowerment and gender equality.

It is also a moment for all sections of society to redouble our collective efforts towards building a truly equal and non-sexist society.

Women's month memorialises and recognises the valiant contribution of women to the cause of humanity through the enduring interventions of women in resisting oppression and cultivating a progressive politics of emancipation that is in the interest of humanity at large.

South Africa's democracy has registered significant progress in restoring the dignity of women. Through the Constitution and an array of other measures introduced since 1994, the position and conditions of women in our country has improved drastically. The living conditions of the majority of ordinary women have undergone significant qualitative change. Women now have access to opportunities that were a dream before democracy.

While significant strides have been made to empower women and promote gender equality, the ANC is the first to concede that the struggle for women emanci-



pation is far from over. We must concede that women still bear a disproportionate burden of the triple challenges of poverty, inequality and unemployment. It must trouble the collective conscience that thirty years since the 1994 democratic breakthrough, the scourge of poverty, unemployment and inequality still bear a largely black, rural and woman face.

We commend the efforts of the ANC government since 1994 to respond practically to the aspirations of women. The economic empowerment of women is critical for sustainable development and economic transformation of South Africa. Empowering women economically will help eliminate inequality and enhance economic inclusion.

During this month, we must

make a solemn pledge to continue fighting gender-based violence wherever it may rear its ugly head. While the ANC has enacted progressive legislation as well as introduced measures to deal with the scourge of gender-based violence, it remains stubbornly persistent in our communities. Gender-based violence robs women of the opportunity to become productive citizens in their own country. It denies them their constitutional rights and condemns them to a life of perpetual fear. It prevents them from enjoying the fruits of our freedom and democracy. The ANC calls on government, civil society, business, traditional leaders and other stakeholders to join forces in order to defeat this scourge.

As we mark Women's Month, we also pay tribute to the women of South Africa whose contribution to the downfall of apartheid has been immeasurable. Following the democratic breakthrough of 1994, women continued to play an indispensable role in the reconstruction and development of the country.

In the name and honour of the heroic and fearless women of 1956 who took on the might of the apartheid regime during that historic march, we must rededicate ourselves to the task of building a society that responds to the aspirations and plight of women, and to accelerate efforts towards the goal of women empowerment and gender equality.

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ANC STATEMENT ON OUTCOMES OF RECENT NATIONAL DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE HEARINGS

THE African National Congress is a voluntary organisation whose membership, once taken up by an individual, comes with strict organisational discipline. The strictures of this organisational discipline are demanded from all of us without exception; regardless of rank, years of service or past records of leadership. For over a century, the ANC has weathered many storms and confronted challenging political moments by uncompromisingly asserting the principality of the organisation over and above the force of personality of any of its leaders or members.

History is replete with instances in which the ANC had to confront situations in which the actions of some of its members were in conflict with its organisational discipline and political values. This

experience has helped the ANC evolve a constitution that defines the political line for all members. The constitution maps out progressive parameters within which all members must act and a clear framework of political recourse for when members act in conflict with the strategic political line and organisational discipline.

The effectiveness of the ANC as a political organisation has always depended on its capacity to function coherently and cohesively, with all members pulling together on the basis of a common mission, a binding code of conduct and a commitment to positively reinforcing the political work of the organisation. The historic mission of building a liberation movement with the capacity to map out the vision for a national democratic society and prosecute the political struggle of

bringing it about, has rested and still rests on the ability to enforce a clear strategic and organisational line that must be upheld by all members.

The African National Congress (ANC) hereby communicates, in terms of its constitution, the verdicts of the National Disciplinary Committee (NDC) proceedings in respect of the cases against Comrade Mandla Msibi and former President Jacob Zuma. We also want to place it on the record that the verdicts have been duly communicated to the charged members as required.

Item 40 of Annexure 3 to the **ANC Constitution** provides that: *“The Disciplinary Committee shall, in writing, report the outcome to the Secretary General or relevant Provincial Secretary and then publicly announce its finding.”*

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Accordingly the NDC Chairperson, Comrade Enver Surty, wrote to the Office of the Secretary General, providing the ANC with the verdicts of the two cases. The first written communication from the NDC was on 22 July 2024. The second verdict outcome relating to the matter of the ANC vs Zuma was received on 28 July 2024.

We hereby quote from the respective verdicts on these two matters separately.

In the matter ANC vs Msibi

Following an appeal hearing by the NDC, the NDC made the following finding in respect of Comrade Msibi on 22 July 2024:

G. Conviction

87. Save for the last argument regarding improper splitting of charges which is upheld and not material to conviction, the remaining arguments raised by the appellant are dismissed.

H. Sanction

88. The ANC argued for the dismissal of the appeal and implored the NDC to impose a harsher sanction.

89. In terms of Rule 25.23.3. of the ANC Constitution, the NDC, sitting as an appeal body, is empowered to reconsider a harsher sanction if the circumstances warranted it.

90. The NDC is of the view that the call by the ANC for a harsher sanction was compelling for the following reasons:

90.1. the action of the appellant displayed an utter disregard for the organisation,



its President and its Code of Conduct.

90.2. The planning for the march had gone beyond the stage of attempt and the evidence of the Provincial Secretary showed that the organisers, including the appellant, were defiant and not prepared to heed the call of ANC national and provincial leaders to review their resolution and called off the march;

90.3. There was nothing political about the approach of the organisers nor was there any justification for their actions. It was transactional in nature – you accede to our demand regarding the Nkosi City Development Project and we will attend your January 8 celebration.

90.4. Major events of the ANC, such as January 8 celebrations, attract widespread media attention. Had the march materialised, it would not only have seriously prejudiced the reputation of the organisation but

could potentially have led to violent clashes with members and supporters in the Stadium, resulting in damage to property, injury and loss of life.

91. However, the NDC has taken into consideration the ground of appeal it upheld viz. that there was an improper splitting of charges which, would have necessitated the imposition of a lesser sanction.

92. After considering these two competing factors, the NDC has decided not to interfere with the sanction imposed by the PDC which it considers to be appropriate in the circumstances.

I. NDC Finding

93. **The appeal is dismissed.**

94. The finding of the PDC (Provincial Disciplinary Committee) is confirmed.

In view of the above decision by the National Disciplinary Committee, the suspension of Comrade

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Mandla Msibi remains in effect. The comrade is still a member of the ANC and is afforded an opportunity to reconcile himself with the strategic political line of the ANC.

In the matter ANC vs Zuma

Following a disciplinary hearing the matter of the ANC vs JG Zuma on 23 July 2024 on a virtual platform, the National Disciplinary Committee made the following finding in respect of Mr Zuma on 28 July 2024:

The National Disciplinary Committee finds that:

133. The charged member is found guilty of contravening Rule 25.17.17.4 of the ANC Constitution, read with subsection (2), for prejudicing the integrity or repute of the Organisation by acting in collaboration with a registered political party, to wit the uMkhon-

to We Sizwe Party, which is not in alliance with the ANC, in a manner contrary to the aims, policies and objectives of the ANC.

134. The charged member is expelled from the ANC.

135. The charged member has the right to appeal to the National Disciplinary Committee of Appeal within 21 days.

The final verdict being: ***“The charged member is expelled from the ANC. The charged member has the right to appeal to the National Disciplinary Committee of Appeal within 21 days.”***

Former President Jacob Zuma has actively impugned the integrity of the ANC and campaigned to dislodge the ANC from power, while claiming that he had not severed his membership. This conduct is irreconcilable with the spirit of organisational discipline and letter of the ANC Constitu-

tion. Furthermore, former President Zuma has been running on a dangerous platform that casts doubt on our entire constitutional edifice. He has meted out a host of anti-revolutionary outbursts, including mischievously calling into question the credibility of our electoral processes without cause and discrediting the rationale of our judicial system.

The political values and democratic institutions he is mobilising against were consciously embedded into our constitutional dispensation by the ANC; as strategic advances of the values of the National Democratic Revolution.

His platform is dangerous, appeals to extremist instincts in our body politic and riles up a political base that may foment social unrest. His actions reinforces the work of the primarily right-wing opponents of the National Democratic Revolution.

Former President Jacob Zuma at the press briefing of the “MK party” where he publicly announced that he will be voting for that party in the 29 May 2024 National elections.



EXPEDITING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LEGISLATED NATIONAL COUNCIL ON **GBV AND FEMICIDE**

■ Statement on the Occasion of the ANCWL Ordinary NEC Meeting

Convened on 27–28 July 2024

THE African National Congress Women's League convened its ordinary National Executive Committee (NEC) meeting on 27-28 July 2024 Sandton, Johannesburg. This NEC is the first to be convened following the electoral loss of an outright majority by the African National Congress. Although the decline in electoral support does not signal a defeat to the liberation project, it does however mark a setback to our pursuit of the National Democratic Revolution.

As the largest organisation of South African women, and a league of a liberation movement, we have a revolutionary obligation to assess the outcomes and aftermath of the National and Provincial Elections. The NEC meeting examined the political landscape that led to us receiving only forty percent (40%) of electoral support in the recent elections. The NEC meeting acknowledged that the loss of an outright majority by the ANC in elections risks the reversal gain the ANC-led government has made in the past 30 years as it pertains to the emancipation and



liberation of women. This may have an effect on legislations that will get passed in parliament, as well as policies that may get implemented in different spheres of society as well the representation of women in positions of leadership across all sectors. The ANC is the only political organisation in South Africa that adheres to the principle of gender parity in everything it does.

We also wish to applaud and commend all women who have been elected to serve as Portfolio Committee Chairpersons and

Whips in the National Assembly and various legislatures in all nine provinces.

The NEC also welcomes and with pride congratulates Justice Mandisa Maya for the appointment at the apex court of our country, the Constitutional Court, as Chief Justice of South Africa. History truly beckoned, and we are very pleased to witness the appointment of Justice Maya as the black woman to be appointed Chief Justice of the Constitutional Court. Justice Maya is no stranger to such stellar achievements,

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having been the first black woman to serve in the Supreme Court of Appeal, as well as the court's first woman deputy president and first woman president.

Although the ANC-led government has had some shortcomings and challenges, both internally and due to external influences as well; it has never abandoned its fundamental responsibility as a liberation movement to advance social transformation and address the socio-economic challenges faced by our people. Our country continues to be plagued by appalling statistics of unemployment and horrifying incidents of domestic violence suffered by women and children, usually at the hands of their male counterparts.

The NEC reflected on the many cases of gender-based violence and femicide (GBVF), and cases of women and girls going missing. One of the notable cases is of a thirty-one (31) year old man in Philippi, Cape Town, who mercilessly killed his mother. This incident is part of a disturbing trend of violence against women across the country and illustrated that GBVF knows no biological relations and therefore no woman is safe, even from their own children.

These horrendous episodes of violence against women are not only an attack on women but also on our democracy, corroding the moral and social fabric of our non-sexist and non-racial society. Therefore, as the ANCWL we persistently call for expediting of the implementation of the legislated National Council on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide, in order for it to swiftly coordinate efforts to end this scourge.

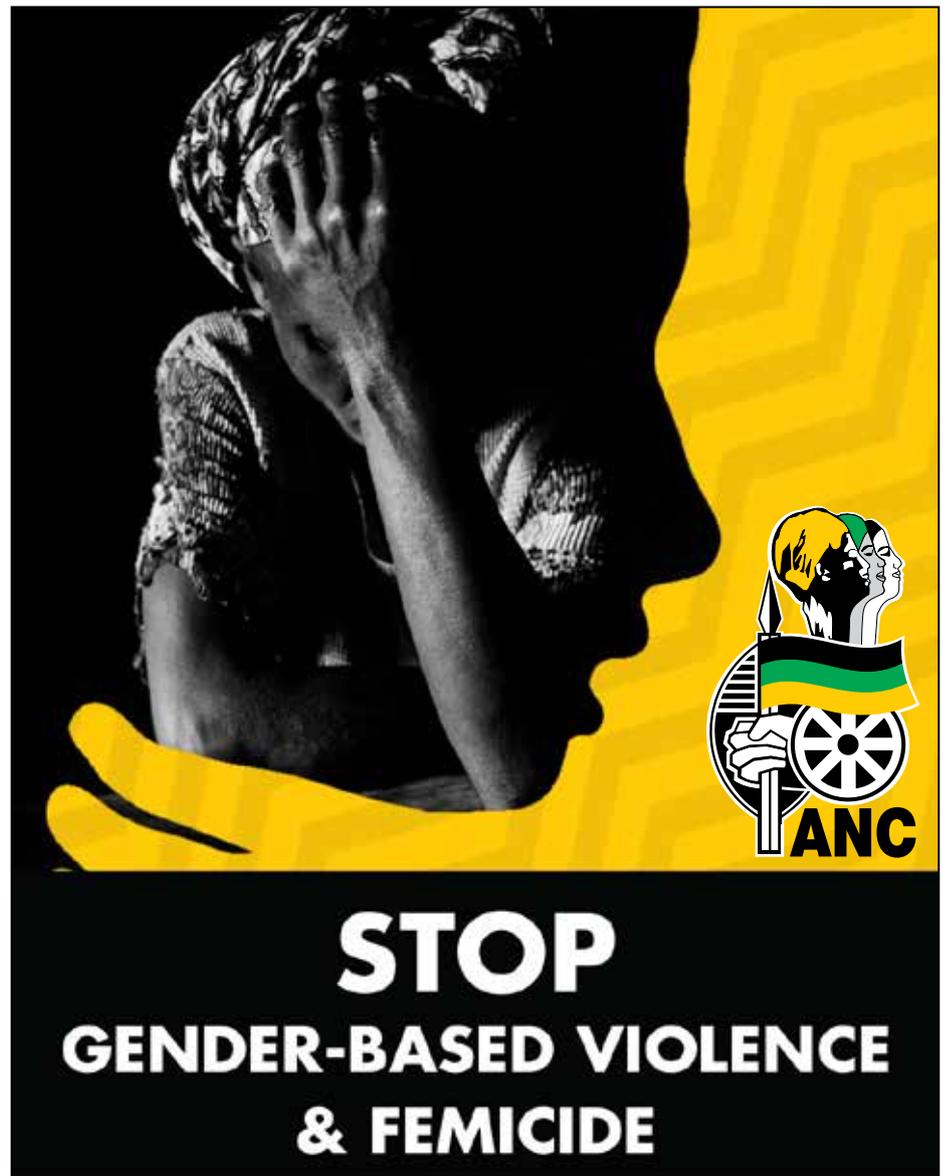
The NEC meeting also received a presentation from the ANC on the Government of National Unity framework, which delved into further detail on how the government of the 7th administration would work, and the impact that would have on the course the ANC has set out for the liberation project and the NDR since the first democratic elections 30 years ago.

The ANCWL NEC reaffirms its unwavering commitment to advancing decisive action towards the full liberation and emancipation of women. We also wish to applaud the Olympic Games that

have for the first time since their founding a century ago, have a 50/50 representation of women participating in this year's games.

This is truly commendable and hope this practice will continue for the lifetime of the games. We also wish to reiterate our solidarity with the people of Palestine and call for the withdrawal for Israel from the Olympics games until they stop their occupation of Gaza, and cease with the subjugation and killing of the Palestinian people.

**HAPPY WOMEN'S DAY.
MALIBONGWE!!!**



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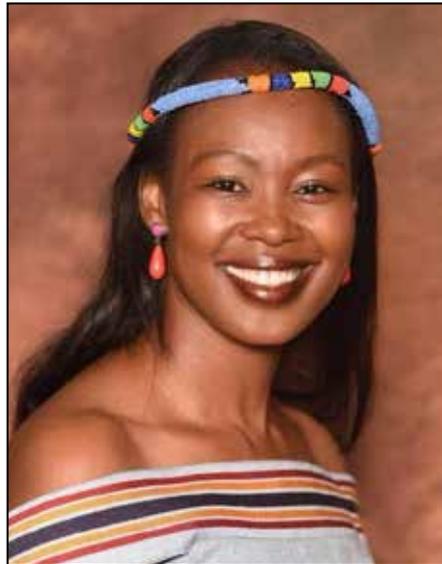
THE TIDE IS TURNING IRREVERSIBLY IN FAVOUR OF SMALL ENTERPRISES

WE ARE starting the seventh Administration on a solid footing!

The signing into law of the National Small Enterprise Amendment Act by the President has generated new hope and enthusiasm among entrepreneurs and stakeholders in the eco-system. For small enterprises, this transformative legislation is a game-changer of unprecedented proportions. The previous legislative framework for micro, small and medium enterprises development was outdated and not fit for purpose. It did not sufficiently respond to Constitutional principles of socio-economic rights and justice. We now have a solid foundation and legal instrument to champion the interests of small enterprises.

The tide is turning irreversibly in favour of small enterprises.

Consistent with the provisions



By **STELLA NDABENI-ABRAHAMS**

of NSEA, we are in a process of establishing the Small Enterprise Development and Finance Agency (SEDFA) which incorporates the Small Enterprise Finance Agency (Sefa), the Co-operatives Bank Development Agency (CBDA) into the Small Enterprise Development Agency (Seda). The Act also establishes the Office of the Enterprise

Ombuds Service, while also empowering the Minister to declare certain trading practices in relation to MSMEs as unfair trading practices like long term exclusive agreements aimed at preventing weaker parties from entering existing markets, unfair compliance requirements practices or unfair contract terms in retail and commercial leases amongst others.

We are fully cognisant of the central role that provinces and local government play in socio-economic development. The South African economy continues to experience low growth because we have not unlocked the economic potential of all corners of our beautiful country. Since 1994, the percentage contribution to national output has declined in all provinces except Gauteng, the Western Cape and Kwazulu-Natal.

We need to change this and get behind local growth drivers in all provinces. We must drive localisation and increase the partic-

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ipation of MSMEs in key value chains. We are committed to improving the ease of doing business at local government level and working with provincial governments on various efforts to reduce red-tape.

We are aware that access to finance remains one of the key constraints that confront small businesses and cooperatives, particularly those owned by historically disadvantaged individuals and those in the start-up phase of the business lifecycle. To address this, we have developed the MSME and Co-operatives Funding Policy to expand access to finance and early-stage investment. We will be tabling this policy to Cabinet for final approval over the course of the next month or two. This policy is another gamechanger as it also proposes the establishment of a Fund of Funds, which we are currently designing.

We will also continue to build on the work we have already undertaken in the previous administration to invest more in under-served MSMEs and co-operatives. During the 6th Administration, we managed to support MSMEs by R9.68 billion in direct and wholesale lending, blended finance and grants to 378 201 small enterprises across the country which is done through SEFA. Through Seda, we established 110 incubators and in total provided non-financial business support to 252 942 MSMEs at a cost of R4.1 billion. This includes 104 595 township and rural enterprises. The breakdown by province is as follows: R1.79 billion in the Western Cape, R833 million in the North-West, R1,33 billion in Mpumalanga, R1.55 billion in Limpopo, R2.21 billion in KwaZulu-Natal, R3.58 billion



in Gauteng, R1.47 billion in the Eastern Cape, R610 million in the Free State, and R848 million in the Northern Cape.

Indeed, the tide is turning and continues to turn! There can be no denying that despite our limited resources, we are making an impact across the entire country, both with respect to financial and non-financial support.

In the course of this financial year, sefa will disburse just under R2.16 billion which will facilitate the creation of 130 000 jobs. We will target underserved MSMEs. Of the R2.16 billion we will disburse 40% to women-owned enterprises, 30% to youth-owned enterprises, 7% to enterprises owned by people with disabilities. The allocation will be as follows: R1.5 billion to black-owned businesses, R866 million to women-owned businesses, R649 million to youth-owned businesses, R64 million to businesses owned by persons with disabilities, R629 million to businesses based in townships, and R1 billion to businesses in rural towns and villag-

es. We are leaving no one behind!

Despite our limited budget, we are leading on issues of economic transformation. As we establish our new entity, SEDFA, we will also strengthen our presence and capabilities in the poorer and less developed provinces to improve our funding pipeline. For 2024/25, Seda and sefa will disburse and spend R808.9 million in Gauteng, R502.3 million in KZN, R403 million in Limpopo, R368.5 million in the Eastern Cape, R162.2 million in the Free State, R309.9 million in Mpumalanga, R144.5 million in the Northern Cape, R219.7 million in the North-West and R466.4 million in the Western Cape.

Through the Shared Economic Infrastructure Facility (SEIF), the department continues to provide SMMEs, co-operatives and the informal sector with decent shared facilities to conduct their businesses. In partnership with local and provincial governments, we recently completed the Mangaung Retail Hub and

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Informal Trader Stalls in the Free State; King Sabatha Dalindyebo Ntozonke Market in the Eastern Cape; Manguzi Market Precinct Stalls in Kwazulu-Natal; Intloko Meat Sellers Facility in Kwa-Mashu, KwaZulu-Natal; and the Manufacturing Supplier Park, (Spartan) Industrial in Gauteng. In May this year, we launched the Light Industrial Hub project in Bergville, KwaZulu-Natal. Work is continuing to ensure completion of the North-West Development Corporation's Mahikeng Trade Market project. These projects will go a long way in easing the cost and burden of doing business for many micro-enterprises in townships and rural areas.

For 2024/25, R63.3 million is allocated to the Shared Economic Infrastructure Fund to support 5 projects. In addition R153 million is allocated to the Product Markets Programme currently in Seda, and which will be integrated with the SEIF programme to achieve synergies and efficiencies.

We will also support MSMEs and co-operatives to access markets, which we know are very concentrated with high barriers to entry. Here we will support MS-



MEs access export markets, especially targeting new BRICS+ and ACFTA markets. We will also be ramping up our support to MSME suppliers, both to leverage the new Public Procurement Act as well as Enterprise Supplier Development programmes of large private corporates. To enable this, we have allocated an amount of R266.8 million to the Small Enterprise Manufacturing Support Programme (SEMP) to build capacity of black-owned, women-owned, and youth-owned suppliers. We also have our partnership with Proudly SA and are developing an e-commerce platform that will go live this year.

We will also focus on enabling

township and rural enterprises to service local market demand. This year, we have allocated R344.2 million for the Township and Rural Entrepreneurship Programme (TREP), R255 million to the Asset Assist Programme, and R45 million to support General Dealers.

Yes, the tide is turning irreversibly in favour of small enterprises. The call to action remains: All hands on deck to take small enterprises to a higher trajectory!

Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams is an ANC NEC and NWC member. She is also Minister of Small Business Development)



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Each time a woman stands up for herself, without knowing it possibly, without claiming it, she stands up for all women.

— *Maya Angelou* —

Tackling Unemployment in South Africa: A Path to a Brighter Future for Our Children

■ By **LINDIWE MATLALI**

NELSON MANDELA once said, “*There can be no keener revelation of a society’s soul than the way in which it treats its children.*” This profound statement underscores the responsibility South Africa has in nurturing its young generation, ensuring they have opportunities for a prosperous future. Recent research from the United States, led by Harvard economist Raj Chetty, emphasizes that economic mobility is significantly influenced by the employment rates within a community. This insight is particularly relevant for South Africa, where high unemployment rates, especially among the youth, pose a significant challenge to economic mobility and social stability.

The South African Context

South Africa faces one of the highest unemployment rates in the world, with youth unemployment being particularly alarming. According to recent statistics, over 60% of young South Africans aged 15-24 are unemployed.

This situation not only limits their economic prospects but also affects their mental health, social stability, and future potential.



Lessons from Raj Chetty’s Research

Chetty’s research reveals that children who grow up in neighborhoods with higher employment rates among adults are more likely to achieve better economic outcomes as adults. This correlation exists regardless of their own parents’ employment status, suggesting that the community environment plays a crucial role in shaping future success.

For South Africa, this implies that addressing unemployment is not just about providing jobs;

it’s about creating environments where employment is the norm, which in turn fosters hope, ambition, and opportunities for the younger generation.

Policy Recommendations for South Africa

1. Comprehensive Education Reform:

- **Early Childhood Development:** Invest in early childhood education to ensure all children have a strong foundation. Quality early educa-

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tion can significantly impact future learning and employment prospects.

- **Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET):** Enhance TVET programs to equip young people with practical skills that meet the demands of the job market. Partner with industries to ensure training aligns with real-world requirements.

2. Support for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs):

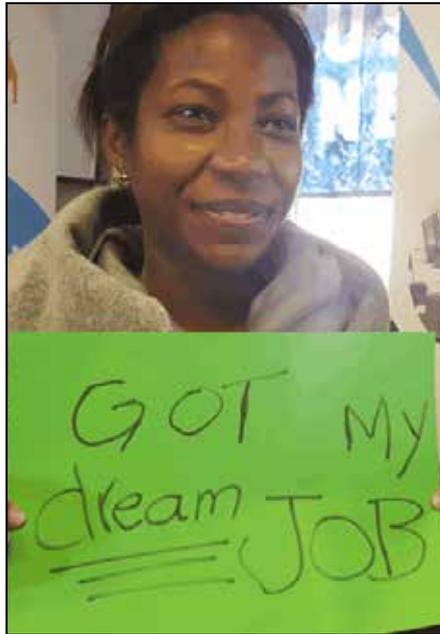
- **Financial Incentives:** Provide tax breaks, grants, and low-interest loans to SMEs, which are crucial for job creation.
- **Training and Mentorship:** Offer business development services, including training and mentorship, to help entrepreneurs succeed and expand their businesses.

3. Public-Private Partnerships:

- **Job Creation Programmes:** Collaborate with the private sector to create job opportunities, especially in sectors with high growth potential like technology, renewable energy, and manufacturing.
- **Internships and Apprenticeships:** Develop internship and apprenticeship programmes that give young people hands-on experience and improve their employability.

4. Infrastructure Development:

- **Urban and Rural Projects:** Invest in infrastructure projects that create jobs and improve living conditions. This includes building roads, schools, hospitals, and housing.
- **Digital Infrastructure:** Expand internet access and digital infrastructure to connect more people to the global economy and new opportunities.



5. Social Protection and Support Systems:

- **Unemployment Benefits:** Enhance social protection systems to provide financial support and retraining opportunities for the unemployed.
- **Mental Health Services:** Provide accessible mental health services to support individuals dealing with the stress and challenges of unemployment.

6. Youth Empowerment Programmes:

- **Entrepreneurship Programmes:** Promote entrepreneurship among the youth by providing training, mentorship, and funding opportunities.
- **Youth Centers:** Establish youth centers that offer a range of services, including career counseling, job search assistance, and skill development workshops.

Implementing Change: The Role of Government and Society

The South African government must take a proactive role in addressing unemployment. This

requires not just policy changes but also effective implementation and monitoring. Engaging with various stakeholders, including businesses, educational institutions, and civil society is crucial for creating a coordinated effort to tackle unemployment.

Additionally, fostering a culture of continuous learning and adaptability is essential in a rapidly changing global economy. Encouraging lifelong learning and skills development can help individuals remain employable and resilient in the face of economic shifts.

Conclusion: A Call to Action

As Nelson Mandela aptly put it, the way we treat our children reveals the soul of our society. By addressing the unemployment crisis, especially among the youth, South Africa can create a nurturing environment that offers hope and opportunities for all its citizens. Implementing comprehensive education reforms, supporting SMEs, fostering public-private partnerships, and investing in infrastructure are critical steps towards this goal.

By creating communities where employment is prevalent, we can foster a culture of opportunity and upward mobility. This, in turn, will help break the cycle of poverty and build a more prosperous and equitable society. The future of South Africa depends on our actions today. Let us commit to creating a brighter future for our children, one where they can dream, aspire, and achieve their full potential.

Lindiwe Matlali is CEO of Africa-TeenGeeks

A MODERN-DAY BRUNO MTOLO!

■ By **CHINA DODOVU**

IN AN unprecedented move, on 29 July 2024, the ANC's National Disciplinary Committee expelled Jacob Zuma from the organisation after serving as its member for more than six decades and as its president for almost a decade.

Jacob Zuma was found guilty of contravening Rule 25.17.17.4 of the ANC Constitution; for prejudicing its integrity and reputation by acting in collaboration with a registered political party namely the uMkhonto We Sizwe Party (MKP), which is not in alliance with the ANC, contrary to its aims, policies and objectives.

On 16 December 2023, Jacob Zuma addressed a public meeting of the MKP to express his dissatisfaction with the ANC and said he would be voting for the MKP in the 2024 General Election and disclosed that he was involved with its registration as a political party and gave it his blessing.

Zuma opportunistically chose the day to coincide with the launch of the real Umkhonto weSizwe (MK) which was officially announced on 16 December in 1961. During the height of political repression in the 1960s which was intensified by the mass killings in Sharpeville, the declaration of the state of emergency and the ban-



ning of all political organisations by the apartheid government, the ANC responded by forming its military wing, uMkhonto weSizwe (*The Spear of the Nation*).

The true story of MK and its combatants who fought tirelessly against the apartheid regime is one laced with bravery and unshakable determination. It is a story filled with blood, sweat and tears. A story filled with dreams, hopes and fears with a record of things attempted and things done, some with a measure of success. It is also a story full of dangerous traitors like Bruno Mtolo.

Bruno Mtolo was an ANC activist and MK operative who committed

acts of sabotage and subversive attacks against the white government primarily in the Natal province. At face value, Mtolo appeared more loyal and committed than the rest of other MK cadres in the Natal High Command.

As he carried out his MK mission with utmost precision, Mtolo duped his cadres, acting like he was brave and determined to proudly confirm his part in the battle for freedom by offering an example of unprecedented self-sacrifice to free South Africa from the shackles of apartheid oppression and colonialism.

Bruno Mtolo discharged all the duties assigned to him by his commanders. As such, he was trusted as he displayed a degree of commitment to the struggle for freedom. His generation never believed nor suspected that Mtolo was an enemy agent who had infiltrated them. Though a few suspected him, he remained undetected until he was arrested and turned as a sensational state witness during the famous Rivonia Treason trial, where he was referred to as Mr X.

In the trial which involved ANC leaders, including Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu, Govan Mbeki, Ahmed Kathrada, Raymond Mhlaba, Dennis Goldberg, Elias Motsoaledi and Andrew Mlan-

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geni who were later found guilty of treason and sentenced to life imprisonment, Mtolo sold out and testified against them.

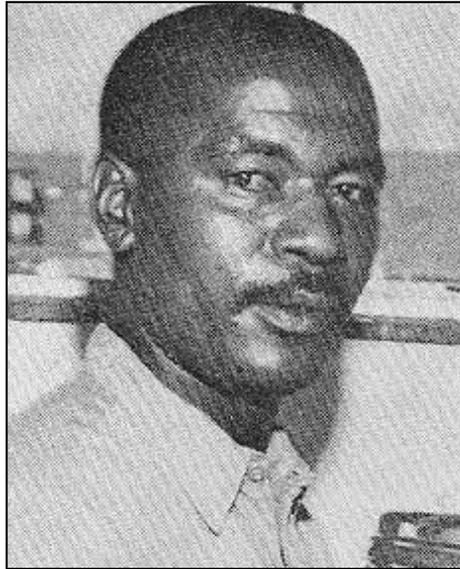
Bruno Mtolo testified that he believed the ANC and MK had become instruments of the South African Communist Party (SACP). He also explained that his financial and family reasons led him to abandon MK and accused the trialists of not keeping their promise that he would be paid.

Bruno Mtolo complained that the accused lived in better houses; dressed in proper clothes; owned flashy cars and had money to pay bail when they were arrested but did not care about him and other recruits who were arrested.

He furthermore testified that in one instance when he attended a social party in Phefeni (SOWETO), he visited the beautiful house of Walter Sisulu. Its furniture inside and everything was like that of Europeans (white people) and further testified that in Joe Modise's house there was a telephone that he did not possess.

Mtolo told the court that it was for such reasons he chose to collaborate with the apartheid regime and to testify in the trial. Only when he was confronted by the defence counsel did Mtolo disclose that he had a criminal record of dishonesty and theft.

As history judged him, Bruno Mtolo was a shadowy character and a petty criminal who had been imprisoned thrice. He garnished his testimony with the most incriminating fabrications and shamelessly sold out his fellow comrades in the Rivonia trial, thereby becoming one of the greatest traitors to infiltrate MK.



Bruno Mtolo



Jacob Zuma

When the story of Jacob Zuma, the former ANC President is carefully examined, he is our modern-day Bruno Mtolo. Apart from being imprisoned for 10 years in Robben Island and his contribution in bringing peace in Kwazulu-Natal in the 1990s, Zuma's role in the political struggle is not only shrouded in mystery and controversy, but also riddled with scandals and questionable missions he has executed - all the hallmarks of an infiltrator and traitor like Bruno Mtolo.

In 1989, a senior ANC and MK member, Thami Zulu died in Lusaka (Zambia) on the effects of TB, AIDS and very possibly poison after he was arrested by the ANC security department headed by Zuma. Testifying at the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's hearings, Zulu's father told of "bad blood" between Zuma and his son, because of Thami's appointment as MK commander in the Natal region.

In 2005, Zuma was charged with the rape of Fezekile Khuzwayo known by the pseudonym Kwezi, the daughter of Zuma's friend Judson, who had spent a decade

imprisoned alongside him in prison. During the trial, Zuma admitted to having unprotected sex with her, knew she was HIV-positive, but memorably claimed that he took a shower after.

Also in 2005, his friend and financier, Shabir Shaik was found guilty of corruption for financing his lavish lifestyle; for soliciting a bribe from the French arms company and for writing off his unpaid debts. When Zuma was charged on the same crimes, he played Stalingrad tactics by eluding the law for almost 20 years.

In what President Cyril Ramaphosa termed "the 9 wasted years", under Zuma presidency, almost all the state owned enterprises were undergoing entropy with most of them in the state of paralysis, riddled with kakistocracy, factional wrangles and ever-increasing allegations of corruption and state capture.

The upgrading of Zuma's home-stead in Nkandla gained notoriety when the state funds were used to include extras such as a cattle enclosure, a visitor centre, a chicken run, an amphitheatre,

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and a swimming pool which his sycophants termed it a fire pool. This was just one example that was so glaring in our face which represented a statement of spitting in the face of our people struggling for a better life.

Due to his erratic, irresponsible and immoral actions, Zuma became a political liability to the revolution, leading to his removal as South Africa's president in 2018. Alas, what good riddance!

To the comrades who knew Jacob Zuma well and better, it was not surprising that for political expediency and petty jealousy and bitterness, he would betray his movement of 60 years to launch a new political styled MKP on 16 December 2023 – a worst betrayal by any of its leaders since the ANC was founded in 1912.

Just like Bruno Mtolo, Zuma has become another factory fault of our struggle. Worse than Mtolo, he became a copycat which decided to steal the ANC's heritage,

"Along the wicked, there are always good men, along the coward, there are many heroes, along with each traitor, there are many loyal men and along with evil, there are also many fine men."

Fidel Castro



"... There were many **shady characters ranging from political clowns, place-seekers, splitters, saboteurs, agents provocateurs to informers and even policemen, who infiltrated the ranks of Congress.... Whilst some of these men were discovered, there are many who have not been found out. These many shady characters, masquerade as progressive but who are in fact the **bitterest enemies of our organization**".**

President Nelson Mandela
NO EASY WALK TO FREEDOM

policies, colours, songs and other intellectual properties, tailoring them to suit his selfish political agenda.

During the elections campaign, Zuma became an ardent critic and well-skilled artisan of hypocrisy who prayed and worked for the demise of the ANC and for its removal from power to an extent that for the first time since 1994, the ANC received 40% of the total votes. He largely contributed to the ANC's electoral losses, especially in KwaZulu Natal, Gauteng and Mpumalanga provinces.

Zuma consciously embarked on a path of disruption for his narrow and selfish interests. Unfortunately, on a short-term, his populist propaganda won the ear of some people who were fed on slanders and distortions to join his political party and abandon the ANC.

Zuma's behaviour reminded us of what Fidel Castro, the Cuban revolutionary and leader said: *"Along the wicked, there are always good men, along the coward, there are many heroes, along with each traitor, there are many loyal men and along with evil, there are also many fine men."*

In his famous 1953 address called *"No Easy Walk to Freedom"*, President Nelson Mandela said: *"... There were many shady characters ranging from political clowns, place-seekers, splitters, saboteurs, agents provocateurs to informers and even policemen, who infiltrated the ranks of Congress.... Whilst some of these men were discovered, there are many who have not been found out. These many shady characters, masquerade as progressive but who are in fact the bitterest enemies of our organization".*

Zuma represented such tendencies that President Mandela was referring to in 1953. His expulsion from ANC must be venerated and applauded because it helps to cleanse itself in line with its renewal project.

He must be equally abhorred and despised for what he represents – a morally destitute man who infiltrated the ANC by playing victimhood and for being a populist that survived through tricks and manipulation.

He is indeed our modern-day Bruno Mtolo.

Good riddance, Jacob Zuma!

ANC RENEWAL MUST TAKE CENTRE STAGE

■ By **SIPHIWE NYANDA**

I speak as a pained member of the ANC. I write as an aggrieved member of the Veterans League; as an angry member of the MK Liberation War Veterans (MKLWV), as well as a former Chairman of the uMkhonto weSizwe Council (MK Council).

The former Deputy President of the ANC, Mr Kgalema Motlanthe penned a well-reasoned article in the Sunday times on the issues the ANC cannot compromise on in seeking to form coalitions to take the country forward following the elections, which for the first time saw the ANC lose its parliamentary majority since the advent of democracy 30 years ago.

His reasoning suggests parties like the newly formed uMkhonto we Sizwe Party should be out of consideration for the ANC to engage in discussions with as far as coalitions are concerned.

I make a less clinical but more impassioned and forthright political argument why the ANC must never countenance the idea of a coalition with the MK Party of Zuma, The ANC must also dissuade some of its members from entertaining such an outrageous idea.

As a starting point, Zuma's State



capture project aimed and undermining the state institutions was preceded by the attempted capture and control of the ANC itself. This was to ensure that the party remains in awe of his leadership and defends his transgressions despite the evidence that his actions were costing the ANC electoral support.

It was clear for everyone to see in the 2014 National and 2016 local government elections when the ANC lost electoral support and lost a few important metros during his second tenure as lead-

er of the ANC that the electorate were not happy about the performance of the ANC under his leadership.

The Stalwarts and Veterans of the ANC and uMkhonto weSizwe in the form of the MK Council, even crafted a document called "For the sake of our lives", which characterised what was happening under his Presidency of the country and the ANC as a counter-revolutionary tendency.

When Zuma fired Nhlanhla Nene, the Minister of Finance, and it

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emerged that the deputy Minister of Finance Mr Mcebisi Jonas had been offered a huge bribe to hand over the keys of the treasury vaults to Zuma's friends, the Guptas, senior MK commanders and commissars wrote a memorandum to the ANC in which we expressed shock and dismay at this decision. Fortunately, the opposition to this Zuma decision was so strong and widespread that Zuma reversed the appointment of his henchman, Des van Rooyen as Minister of Finance.

At all material times during this brewing crises for the ANC, most of its leadership continued to defend his actions and transgressions. An important part of his arsenal to protect and defend Zuma was the MKMVA, under the leadership of the late Kebby Maphatsoe. They acted as though they were the private army of Jacob Zuma and spoke as though they represented the sentiments of all MK veterans.

When former members of uMkhonto we Sizwe became convinced that MKMVA was using the name of MK military veterans to advance the personal interest of Zuma and undermine the val-

ues of the ANC, they formed the MK Council. They called on the ANC to reign in this errant association and organise for the unity of the former MK community. I was part of that decision and served throughout its existence as the Chairman of the MK Council.

Throughout our existence as MK Council, we confronted the growing alienation of the ANC from the masses by pleading with the leadership to correct many of the mistakes that were weakening the movement like slates, which kept many good leaders out of leadership positions along factional lines, and gate-keeping, which weakened the branches of the ANC by keeping away those who branch leadership feared or were perceived to be critical of wrong doing.

When the Constitutional Court ruled that Zuma had breached his oath of office, we called on him to resign and urged the ANC to convene a National Consultative Conference. Our calls were ignored; veterans were pilloried and called names; even stalwarts like Ahmed Kathrada and Andrew Mlangeni were not spared insults by the leadership of MKMVA,

who called them "empty tins". There were no consequences for these counterrevolutionaries because the movement itself was on a deviant trajectory led by its own president.

The ANC resisted many attempts to address the wrong doings of its President and MKMVA.

The then SG of the ANC did not seem keen on facilitating the unity of MK veterans that we were pleading for. On the call we made for the President to resign following the Constitutional Court ruling that Jacob Zuma had violated the constitution, the SG of the ANC then argued that forcing the President to resign would cause the ANC to "haemorrhage".

Well, look at the ANC now!

It is carrying a begging bowl scrambling for coalition partners it would never have needed were it not for Jacob Zuma and his disastrous leadership. Had the ANC acted resolutely then, we might have been spared this humiliating outcome in these elections.

How does the ANC invite back its Nemesis? It is now seen through his very recent utterances, that even while he was in the ANC he did not believe in the National Democratic Revolution and the Strategy and Tactics of the ANC.

He did not believe in a non-racial, non-sexist and democratic South Africa. He led an ANC whose policies he did not believe in. He did not believe in a Constitutional Democracy that OR Tambo bequeathed us; he did not support an independent judiciary; he did not believe in the will of the people, as he is now showing practically following the latest elections



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by disputing the results, which are an expression of the will of the people.

Jacob Zuma nearly succeeded in destroying the ANC from inside. He was thwarted in 2017 at the ANC National Conference at NASREC. He has been plotting since then against the leadership elected in 2017. He and his other henchman, Ace Magashule, said they would wait for five years to get back to power. When that did not materialise, they jumped ship to form their political parties to organise this counter-revolution from the outside.

Now that Zuma has inflicted so much damage on the ANC from the outside, there is a rush to bring him back by his accomplices who are still embedded in the leadership of the ANC, so that he can finish his job of destroying the once proud liberation movement of the oppressed people of South Africa.

These attempts must be firmly rejected. The counterrevolution led by Zuma must be kept away. We cannot invite it back into our midst. These counterrevolutionaries and pseudo-revolutionaries have defiled our good name and driven away many of our supporters.

Now is the time for the real ANC of Tambo and Mandela to speak. Now is the time for renewal. Now is the time for the National Consultative Conference that we called for which we were denied as ANC veterans and MK Council. Now is the time for the ANC to purge and cleans itself of, and let those who don't believe in its values to leave as Zuma did. Now is the time for the ANC to accept that the people have spoken and should never be taken for granted again.

SUPER-WOMEN

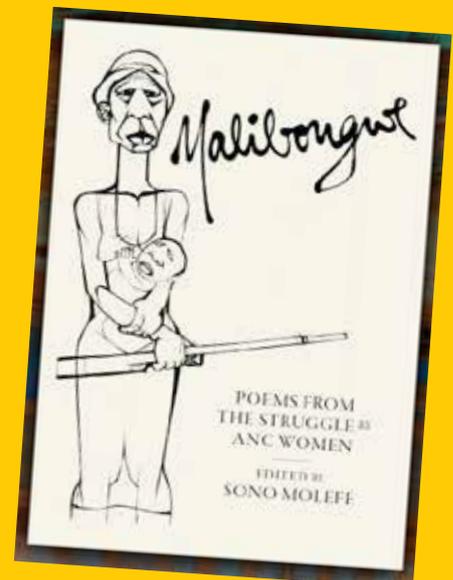
(GROWN BY APARTHEID)

An Extract

By **Lindiwe Mabuza**

*with her, the woman
 the sea of people bend
 (also the straight and narrow path
 of trials)
 placing their marvel
 and handiwork
 over the grave of exploitation
 guarded by the tombstone of superwoman
 with her forever
 they sing the amen of vigilance
 with all
 i am
 with man
 i am human
 with husband
 i am wife
 with father
 the children must grow
 with other hands
 the earth brings forth
 without without
 we will no longer be
 without.*

From: **Malibongwe:
 Poems from the struggle
 by ANC Women**



INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS



JOINT STATEMENT ON ELECTIONS IN VENEZUELA

South African Election Observers condemn and dispel allegations of a fraudulent electoral process in Venezuela. Voting has been free, fair and transparent

 VER 15 South African election observers are currently in Caracas, as part of a total of 910 observers from more than 95 countries. They are in the Latin American country who oversaw the presidential elections which took place on Sunday, 28 July 2024.

The observers belong to, among others, the ANC, SACP, COSATU, CONTRALESA, SASUVE, Royal House of Mandela and Abahlali Basemjondolo. They were invited and hosted by their relevant counterparts such as the Governing party of Ven-

zuela, the Partido Socialista Unido de Venezuela (PSUV).

The observers condemn and dispel allegations of fraud by the Reuters media group reporting on the elections taking place in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela without actually being present.

Claims or allegations of fraud have been found to be baseless and mischievous with Venezuela's electoral system considered one of the best in the world.

No matter who the people of Venezuela vote for in these elections (the incumbent President, Nico-

las Maduro, or one of the other candidates), the fact is that international election observers, that include South Africans, have witnessed a free and fair process.

The people of Venezuela, like all other sovereign nations, have the right to elect whomever they so wish without outside interference.

The Presidential Elections in Venezuela started smoothly and were incident-free throughout the day. The people of Venezuela should be commended for turning up in large numbers from as early as 05h00. The Consejo Nacional Electoral (CNE) is also

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

commended for making sure that sufficient infrastructure was provided for a smooth voting day. In addition, it should be positively noted that where required by electoral officials, the Government of Venezuela provided the necessary logistics to ensure elections are held under peaceful conditions.

Observers from over 90 countries, including several African nations, spent the day at various polling stations in all 23 states across the country. South African observers have noted the efficiency, transparency, and fairness of Venezuela's elections and look forward to the outcome.

More than 21,3 million Venezuelans were eligible to vote in this year's Presidential elections. There were 16,025 voting stations across the country that used state-of-the-art biometric voting machines. These voting machines have a paper ballot backup system that runs concurrently with an audit that takes place immediately after the elec-

tions. The audit is done publicly and takes place on 54% of all voting machines. Venezuelans were electing a president from a total of 10 candidates that included the incumbent, President Nicolás Maduro. We welcome President Nicolás Maduro's commitment to recognise the presidential election result regardless of the outcome. We urge other candidates to also publicly declare the same.

All political parties witnessed the sign-off on results at voting centres, and each party had to enter its unique encrypted key to validate the final tally. We, with other international observers, await the official results that can only, according to Venezuelan law, be announced by the Consejo Nacional Electoral (CNE) processes. This and not any announcement by a party, members of the media, or foreign country could be considered the official outcome.

This statement has been issued by the following South Africans who, among others, are current-

ly present in Venezuela for the elections:

Solly Phetoe, General Secretary of the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU)

Obed Bapela, NEC Member and Deputy Chairperson of the International Relations Sub Committee of the African National Congress (ANC)

Madala Masuku, 1st Deputy General Secretary of the South African Communist Party (SACP)

Zolani Mkiva, Secretary General of the Congress of Traditional Leaders of South Africa (Contral-esa) and South African Solidarity Union of Venezuela (SASUVE)

Chief Zwelivelile Mandla Mandela, Royal House of Mandela

Muhammed Moosa Desai, Director of A4P

Mabongi Bobo Shoba, Deputy Chairperson of Abahlali Basemjondolo Womens League



Venezuelans came out in numbers to show support for the incumbent, President Nicolás Maduro in the Presidential Elections.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

3 – 9 August 2024

Source: SA History Online, O'Malley Archives, Africa Today/Yesterday and The Africa Factbook (2020)

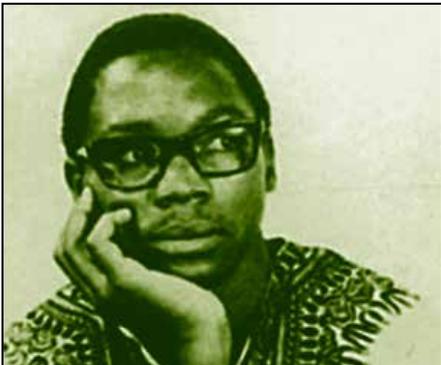
3 August 1934

Jonas Savimbi born

Angolan rebel leader was born in Munhango. As head of UNITA, he pursued civil war in Angola from the time of national independence in 1975 with the support of the apartheid regime in South Africa, till his death in 2002, which effectively ended three decades of war.

3 August 1946

Artist Cyprian Shilakoe born



Cyprian Mpho Shilakoe, the South African artist who studied under Azaria Mbatha at Rorke's Drift. Shilakoe was known for his wooden sculptures and etchings. One of his famous etching works was called Loneliness. In a short art career of just over four years, Shilakoe was prolific, with an estimated 80 prints and a number of sculptures. He died tragically in a car accident in September 1972.

3 August 1959

Dock workers strike in Guinea Bissau

A dock workers strike in Bissau

is the first action of the liberation struggle, the African Party for the Independence of Guinea and Cape Verde. Portuguese police respond with deadly force, killing more than 50 workers.

3 August 1964

Lucky Dube born



South African and Africa's best-selling reggae performer was born on this day in Ermelo, Mpumalanga. His record sales across the world earned him the Best Selling African Musician prize at the 1996 World Music Awards. In his lyrics, Dube discussed issues affecting South Africans and Africans in general. He recorded 22 albums in a 25-year period and was Africa's best-selling reggae artist of all time. Dube was murdered on 18 October 2007. In 2009, Judge Seun Moshidi found Sfiso Mhlanga, Mbuti Mabe and Ludwe Gxowa guilty of his murder.

3 August 1964

Oosthuizen family perishes down sinkhole

The entire Oosthuizen family,

husband, wife, three children and domestic worker died when their home in Carltonville disappeared into a sinkhole. This also affected neighbouring houses, but other families escaped, some climbing through windows.

3 August 1981

The Ennovator born

Kenyan record producer Tim Rimbui was born in Nairobi. He is considered one of East Africa's leading producers in the early 21st century. The "Ennovator" has worked with the region's top singers and songwriters, specializing in urban sounds with a focus on Afrobeat and R&B.

3 August 2012

Caster Semanya wins Gold



South Africa's Caster Semanya won the women's 800 meters to take gold at the Summer Olympic Games in London on this day.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

4 August 1963

African Development Bank established

The AfDB was established as 23 African countries signed an agreement to join and support the institution that will provide financing to governments and private sector for development projects on the continent.

4 August 1967

South Africa introduced compulsory military conscription for whites

The Defense Amendment Act came into force, under which every young white male over the age of 16 years became liable for military service. Conscripts formed part of the SADF and their services were largely used to uphold the apartheid regime. They fought against liberation movements in Angola, Namibia and Mozambique, and were often deployed to townships to quell anti-apartheid action. In 1983, the End Conscription Campaign (ECC) was formed to end compulsory military service. By 1985, the ECC held a **“Troops out of Townships”** campaign, in which the White dissatisfaction with apartheid and conscription was made clear. The government banned the ECC in 1988. In 1993, the end of conscription was announced. The SADF was replaced by the South African National Defense Force (SANDF) in 1994.

4 August 1996

Josiah Thugwane wins Olympic Gold

Josiah Thugwane became the first Black South African athlete to win an Olympic gold medal award by winning the marathon in Atlanta, Georgia. Josiah Thugwane was born on 15 April



1971 in Bethal, Mpumalanga. From humble beginnings, having no schooling, yet he rose to become an internationally celebrated and respected athlete. A former soccer player, Josiah was a speedy striker, but too small to make it as a professional player, his childhood dream. At the age of 17, while watching a TV programme that featured iconic distance stars Matthews Temane and Xolile Yawa, he decided that running was the future for him. His first move was to enter a half-marathon. He won, taking home R50.00 as the winner. “That was it: I knew I was a runner and this was my way out”. In 1988, Josiah ran away from a farm to pursue his dream of being a marathon runner. In 1989, he found work as a kitchen cleaner in a mining company in order to run under the mining club. He ran more than 50 marathons over the next five years, before realising that through hard training and a focus on select international events, he could reap much greater rewards. His first win in an international race came in 1995 at the Honolulu Marathon in Japan. 1996 was his best year ever in his running career. He won the Old Mutual national championships in Cape Town, which qualified him to go to the Atlanta Olympic Games in the United States of America. He won a gold medal during the Olympics

in Atlanta, and became the first South African to win gold after South Africa was readmitted into international sports. Thugwane received the national order of Ikhamanga in Silver.

(www.thepresidency.gov.za/national-orders/recipient/josiah-thugwane-1971).

4 August 2014

First US-Africa Leaders' Summit held in Washington

The Summit, hosted by President Barack Obama was the largest meeting ever between a US President and African leaders.

5 August 1875

First edition of Al-Ahram newspaper published in Cairo

Al-Ahram was founded in Alexandria in 1875 by two brothers, Beshara Takla and Saleem Takla. It began as a weekly newspaper published every Saturday. Its first issue appeared on 5 August 1876. The paper was relaunched as a daily newspaper in January 1881.

5 August 1907

Bombardment of Casablanca starts

The French naval started bombarding Casablanca with artillery shells from battleships. 7000 Moroccans were killed in the attack as part of French colonization of Morocco. The conquest met fierce resistance from the Shawiya people, and as the insurrection spread, the French responded by firing bombs containing picric acid into residential neighbourhoods. Businesses, mosques and entire neighbourhoods were destroyed in the assault.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

5 August 1947 Playwright Julie Okoh born



Nigerian playwright, educator and women's rights activist was born in Ubiaja, Edo. More than a dozen books have been written analysing her plays depictions of women in African society. Julie Okoh received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Society of Nigerian Theatre Artists in 2011, and she continues to write plays.

5 August 1950 Malaria eradicated in Eswatini

Malaria has been nearly eradicated in Swaziland, where

before up to 1000 people died each year, especially in lowveld areas. Government had a campaign to spray every hut and house with DDT and to educate residents about the disease.

5 August 1965 South Africa's first atomic reactor, Safari 1 opened

South Africa's first atomic reactor, Safari I, was opened by the Prime Minister at Pelindaba near Johannesburg.

5 August 1987 Boy who harnessed the wind born

Malawian inventor and author, William Kamkwamba was born in Kasungu. He earned fame at age 14 for inventing an electric turbine to power household appliance made from blue gum trees and scrap parts. He turned the experience into a book *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*, which became a global hit.

5 August 2021 Gaming in Africa reach

Games analytic company NewZoo

reports that 186 million Africans are gamers, mainly through games downloaded and played on phones. This is the highest growth in gaming in any continent.

6 August 1909 Mining leads Eswatini economy

The British Commissioner of the protectorate of Swaziland, reporteds that mining led the country's economy, with cassiterite tin as the main export, extracted from five white-owned mines.

6 August 1945 USA nuclear bomb obliterates Hiroshima

The first nuclear weapon used in warfare obliterates Hiroshima, Japan as the World War II draws to an end. Uranium to power the bomb was mined in Belgian Congo (DRC). Since 1921, millions of dollars' worth of uranium have been mined from Congo, with no profit or benefit going to the Congolese people or towards the development of the country.

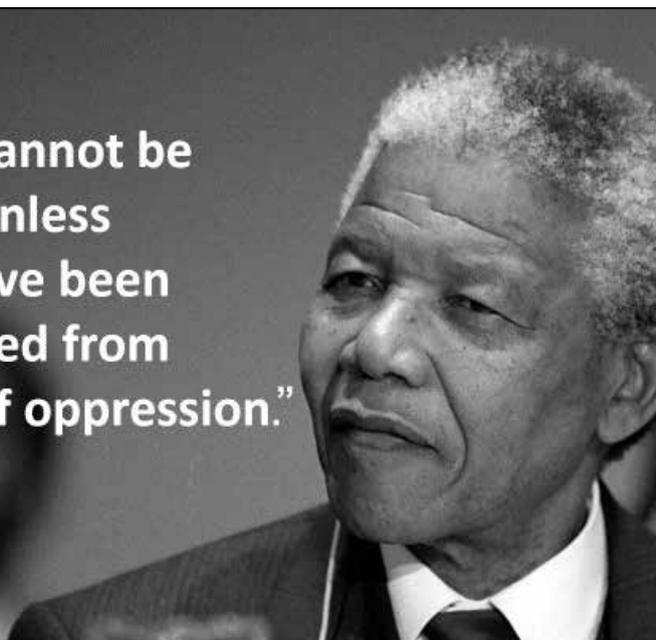
6 August 1962 Nelson Mandela arrested

Nelson Mandela, leader of the ANC and first commander-in-chief of Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK), was captured in Cedera, near Howick, KZN shortly after his return to South Africa on completing military training in Oujda, Morocco, and after attending the All Africa People's Conference in Ethiopia. He was charged with incitement to strike and with illegally leaving the country. His trial took place in Pretoria Old Synagogue and in November 1962, he was sentenced to five years' imprisonment on the charges. He began his sentence in Pretoria Central Prison.



Freedom cannot be achieved unless women have been emancipated from all forms of oppression."

Nelson Mandela



THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

6 August 1965

Cocoa House opens in Ibadan

Cocoa house in Ibadan, Nigeria is a testament to the once-lucrative cash crop era of Nigerian history. It was built from the revenue from cocoa, timber, rubber production and was the first sky scrapper to be built in tropical Africa. The 26 floor building was first named Ile Awong be (House of Farmers), before renamed Cocoa House. Nigeria remains the fourth largest exporter of cocoa, after Cote d'Ivoire, Indonesia and Ghana.

6 August 1982

Moroka Three Sentenced to Death

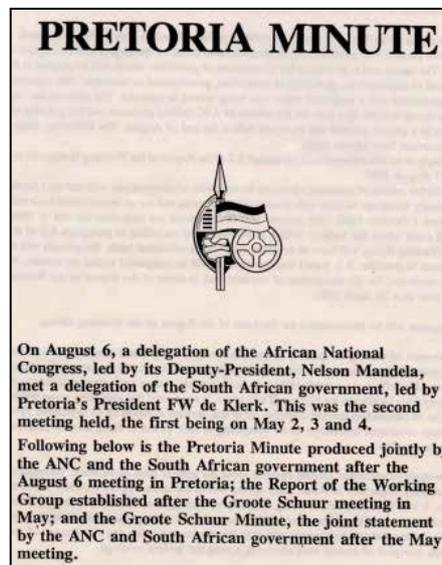


Three ANC members, Telle Simon Mogoerane, Jerry Semano Mosololi, and Marcus Thabo Motaung, were sentenced to death for separate attacks at the Moroka and Orlando Police stations in Soweto and the Wonderboom Police station in Pretoria in which four policemen were killed. The three, known as the "Moroka Three", were charged with high treason and twenty other alternative charges, including the attack at New Canada railway station and Central Park electric sub-station. They pleaded not guilty and cited police brutality during the 1976 uprising as cause for their actions against the police in Soweto and Wonderboom. Justice D. J. Curlewis ignored evidence of police brutality and passed

a guilty verdict and imposed a death penalty on these men. He rejected their testimonies detailing their torture. The trial also revealed that South African medical professionals were complicit in police brutality and at times collaborated by giving the police permission to take away Motaung who was shot three times. The "Moroka Three" were executed on the 9 June 1984.

6-7 August 1990

Pretoria Minute signed



The ANC and the South African Government issued a joint declaration (the "Pretoria Minute") at the conclusion of 15 hours of talks. The ANC announced that it would immediately suspend all armed actions, while the Government undertook to consider lifting the state of emergency in Natal "as early as possible" and to continue reviewing the security legislation and its application "in order to ensure free political activity". The government and the African National Congress (ANC) reaffirmed their commitment to talks about talks (Groote Schuur Minute) and the consensus reached on the release of political prisoners, return of exiles, obstacles in the Internal Security

Act and suspension of armed action by the ANC as part of the on-going negotiations to end minority White rule. The final report of the Joint Working Group on political offences was accepted by both parties. Both sides pledged to redouble efforts to reduce the level of violence in the country. This consensus between the two parties became known as the Pretoria Minute.

6 August 1992

Adelaide Tambo Return to South Africa after 30 years of exile



Adelaide Tambo became politically active after her grandfather's arrest at the age of ten. At high school, she started to work as a courier for the ANC, and joined the ANC Youth League at the age of 18, where she met Oliver Tambo whom she later married. In 1960, the Tambo's were asked by the ANC to set up the movement in exile. They first settled in London, and Mme Adelaide became a founding member of Afro-Asian Solidarity Movement and the Pan-African Women's Organisation (PAWO). Mam Adelaide Tambo returned to South Africa after the unbanning of the ANC, and was elected as National Treasurer of the ANC Women's League in 1991. She served as a member of the first democratic parliament from 1994 to 1999. She received

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

the order of Boabab in gold for her commitment in struggle and her dedication to community service and nation building. Mam Tambo passed on 31 January 2007.

6 August 2018 WHO reports on Rwanda child health

The World Health Organisation reports significant advances in children's health in the country. At independence from Belgium in 1962, nearly a quarter (222 of 1000) of Rwandan children died before their fifth birthday. At the time of the WHO report, the figure declined to 39 of 1000, helped by advances against malaria.

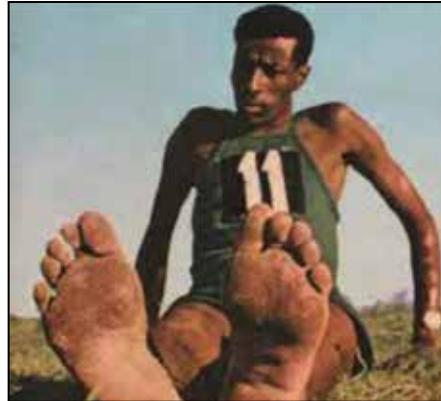
6 August 2019 Ngwevu intloko dinosaur fossil named

For the first time a dinosaur was given an isiXhosa name: Ngwevu intloko (meaning grey skull). The fossil of a 200 million year old dinosaur was dug up in 1978 on a South African farm. It was first misidentified, until a Wits University paleontologist determined that the fossil is a new genus of dinosaur and it got named on this day.

7 August 1860 Natal colony permit to import Indian indentured labour

The colony was permitted by the British government to import indentured workers from the Indian subcontinent, to work on Natal sugar plantations on three year contracts. This formed the nucleus of the South African Indian population. South Africans of Indian/Asian origin today constitute 2.6% of the population, or just over 1.5 million citizens (StatsSa, 2019)

7 August 1932 Abebe Bikila born



Ethiopian barefoot runner and first black African to win an Olympic gold medal was born in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Abebe Bikila won the Men's Marathon at the 1960 Olympics, and won gold again in the same race in the 1964 Olympics.

7 August 1933 Author Wilma Stockenström born

Wilhemina Johanna Stockenström is a significant and gifted Afrikaans writer, whose work has been translated into several other languages. Wilma studied Drama at Stellenbosch University, where she initially focused on drama and playwright before she branched into poetry and fiction. She wrote a few plays and appeared in some theatre productions. With her first book of poetry, *Vir Die Bysienende Leser*, published in 1970, she received praise for the originality and unconventional use of language. Wilma showcased her acting abilities in television shows such as *Mannakwalanners* and *Die Besoeker*, for which her performance earned her the Rapport-Oscar. Wilma has contributed extensively to Afrikaans writing in general, but it is mainly for her poetry that she is considered an important figure in Afrikaans literature. Originally from Napier in the Cape, she

spent most of her working life in Pretoria, where she worked as a translator. She moved back to Cape Town in 1993.

7 August 1934 OATUU Secretary General born

Independence leader and trade unionist, Dennis Akumu was born in Blasto Akumo, Kenya. Angered by the exploitation of African workers during colonialism, he became a trade unionist known for his oratory. In 1973, he became the first Secretary General of the Organisation of African Trade Union Unity.

7 August 1960 Côte d'Ivoire gains independence

Pre-colonial history of Côte d'Ivoire includes the establishment of savanna and forest towns by the Duyla traders, including the town of Kong, the establishment of Islam in the north and the 17th century establishment of the kingdom of Gyaaman. The capital, Bondoukou, became a centre for trade and Islamic scholarship. By the 18th century, a centralized political and administrative system had developed, but due to the European scramble for Africa, this system was replaced by French colonial rule in 1893. From 1904-1958, Côte d'Ivoire was incorporated into the Federation of French West Africa. In 1958, Côte d'Ivoire became an autonomous country within the French community, and on 7 August 1960, full independence from France had been achieved under the leadership of Félix Houphouët-Boigny, who governed until 1993. Côte d'Ivoire supported the South African liberation struggle and was the first country to re-establish diplomatic relations after the end of apartheid.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

7 August 1975

Charlize Theron born



South African artist and the first African to win Hollywood's Academy award was born in Benoni. She won the Oscar for Best Actress in the 2003 drama *Monster*.

7 August 1992

President Chissano meets Renamo leader

Mozambican President Joaquim Alberto Chissano met with Afonso Dhlakama, leader of the Resistancia Nacional Mozambicana (RENAMO), to sign a peace agreement in Rome. The two leaders signed a joint declaration committing themselves to the spirit of established protocols and ensuring that agreed constitutional guarantees would be adopted as law before a final peace agreement was signed. The final agreement was signed on 4 October 1992.

7 August 2018

Africa's largest indoor sports complex opened

The largest multi-story indoor sports complex, named The Dome was opened in Swakopmund, Namibia by President Hage Geingob. Building started in 2014. The 7000sm complex has a five story office block attached, and is covered by 14,000sm of fabric.

8 August 1906

Mangena article on colonialism

Americans read about colonialism from an African point of view with the publication of South African lawyer Alfred Mangena's article on the topic in Iowa's Des Moines Register. Mangena went on to become SA's first black lawyer. He wrote in the article: *"The English have shelled our villages, looted our cattle, destroyed our crops, burned our churches. Their end is attained – the native can now do nothing but go and work in the mines. We don't want to swamp the white man in Africa. But we desire a share in the country, and some political rights."*

8 August 1923

Author Latifa al-Zayyat born



Egyptian writer and activist was born on this day in Dumyat. A university professor and administrator, she was also director of the Egyptian Arts Academy. Her novels in colloquial Arabic explored political and sexuality themes.

8 August 1970

Rugby player Chester Williams born

The only black player to be part of the Springbok team that won the 1995 Rugby World Cup, Williams was born in Paarl on this day.

8 August 1976

The Owl House lady passed on

Helen Elizabeth Martins, at the age of seventy-eight passed away. On a cold winters' morning in Nieu-Bethesda she took her own life by swallowing caustic soda. Martins is known for the Owl House, a museum dedicated to her art in the picturesque town of Nieu-Bethesda, Eastern Cape. Her whimsical sculptures of mermaids, camels, prophets, giraffes and of course her iconic owls, made of cement and glass, transformed her home and garden between 1945 and 1976 into a 'sanctuary of colour, light, and fantastical creatures.' She collaborated with Koos Malgas to build the Camel Yard, with over 300 sculptures. Martins was born on 23 December 1897 in Nieu-Bethesda.

8 August 1999

Mboweni first day in office as SA Reserve Bank Governor

The former minister of labour and now finance minister, Tito Mboweni was appointed governor of the South African Reserve Bank (SARB) to replace Dr Chris Stals. Mboweni is the first Black person to head the SARB. He first joined the Reserve Bank as an advisor to Chris Stals in 1998, and served as Governor until 2009. He was succeeded by Gill Marcus, the first woman to hold this position.

8 August 2004

Slaughter of Ostriches

In 2004, South Africa was hit by the H5N2 strain of the Avian Flu Virus, killing over 2000 birds in Middleton area, Eastern Cape and quickly spread. On 8 August, government ordered the

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

slaughter of 30 000 ostriches to contain the virus. All export of poultry was suspended, as well as the movement of poultry between Eastern and Western Cape.

9 August 1880 Edmond Albius dies in poverty

The self-taught horticulturalist and child genius, born into slavery and uneducated, died in poverty in Sainte-Suzanne, Réunion, after creating the means to grow the vanilla plant outside of its native Mexico at the age of 12. His technique was applied only after his death. In 2022, Madagascar provided 90% of global natural vanilla.

9 August 1956 Historic women's march to Union Buildings

In one of the largest demonstrations staged in South African history, over 30000 women of all races marched to Pretoria's Union Buildings on 9

August 1956, to present a petition against the carrying of passes by women to the prime minister, J.G. Strijdom. This famous march is commemorated as **National Women's Day**, a public holiday on 9 August every year. The march against pass laws was organised by the Federation of South African Women (FEDSAW). The Federation famously challenged the idea that "*a woman's place is in the kitchen*", declaring it instead to be 'everywhere'. Strijdom was not at the Union Buildings to accept the petition.

The women of South Africa sent a public message that they would not be intimidated and silenced by unjust laws. After the petition was handed over to the secretary of the prime minister, the women sang the song: *Wathint' abafazi, Strijdom!* Since then, the phrase '*wathint' abafazi, wathint' imbokodo*' (*You Strike a Woman, You Strike a Rock*) has come to represent the courage and strength of South African women, and the fight against patriarchy and for a non-sexist society.

9 August 1965 Singapore leaves Malaysia federation

The Southeast Asian Island country joined a Malaysian Federation in 1963 as part of the Malaysia Agreement. In 1965, due to disagreements between members of the federation and Singaporean leaders and race tensions, the Malaysian parliament decided to expel Singapore from the Federation. The country reluctantly became independent on August 9 under the leadership of Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew.

9 August 1975 Moses Kotane receives Isithwalandwe/Seaparankoe

Moses Kotane, General Secretary of the SACP and ANC leader received this highest award from the ANC in 1975, three years before his passing in 1978.

9 August 1987 Longest Mining strike starts

South Africa's longest and biggest strike was organised by the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), led by Cyril Ramaphosa as general secretary. At the time the second largest trade union in South Africa, NUM represented mineworkers in the gold and coal mines. Approximately 360 000 Black miners went on strike over wage and working conditions, lasting three weeks and costing close on R250 million. To break the strike, the Chamber of Mines retrenched approximately 50 000 workers. The mineworkers' strike finally came to an after an agreement was negotiated with the Chamber of Mines outlining new working conditions and wage increases for mineworkers.



THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

9 AUGUST 2024

WISHING ALL SOUTH AFRICANS

**HAPPY
WOMEN'S
DAY**

**WATHINT' ABAFAZI,
WATHINT' IMBOKODO!**



THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL DAYS

3 – 9 August 2024

Source: www.un.org, www.au.int, *The Africa Fact Book (2020)*, www.daysoftheyear.com



1-7 August

World Breastfeeding Week

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), “Breastfeeding provides every child with the best possible start in life. It delivers health, nutritional and emotional benefits to both children and mothers. And it forms part of a sustainable food system. But while breastfeeding is a natural process, it is not always easy. Mothers need support – both to get started and to sustain breastfeeding.” The theme for 2024 is: **Closing the gap: Breastfeeding support for all.** Governments are encouraged to: **INVEST** to make skilled breastfeeding counselling available to every woman. **TRAIN** health care workers, including midwives and nurses, to deliver skilled breastfeeding counselling to mothers and families, as part of routine and easily accessible health and nutrition services. **PROTECT** mothers and health care workers from the influence of the baby food industry.

14 August

World Owl Awareness Day

Like hawks and eagles, owls are called raptors, or birds of prey, which means they use sharp talons and curved bills to hunt, kill, and eat other animals. But



owls are different from hawks and eagles in several ways. Most owls have huge heads, stocky bodies, soft feathers, short tails, and a reversible toe that can point either forward or backward. Owl's eyes face forward, like humans do. Most owl species are active at night, not in the daytime. There are about 250 species of owls in the world. They live on every continent except icy Antarctica.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

9 August

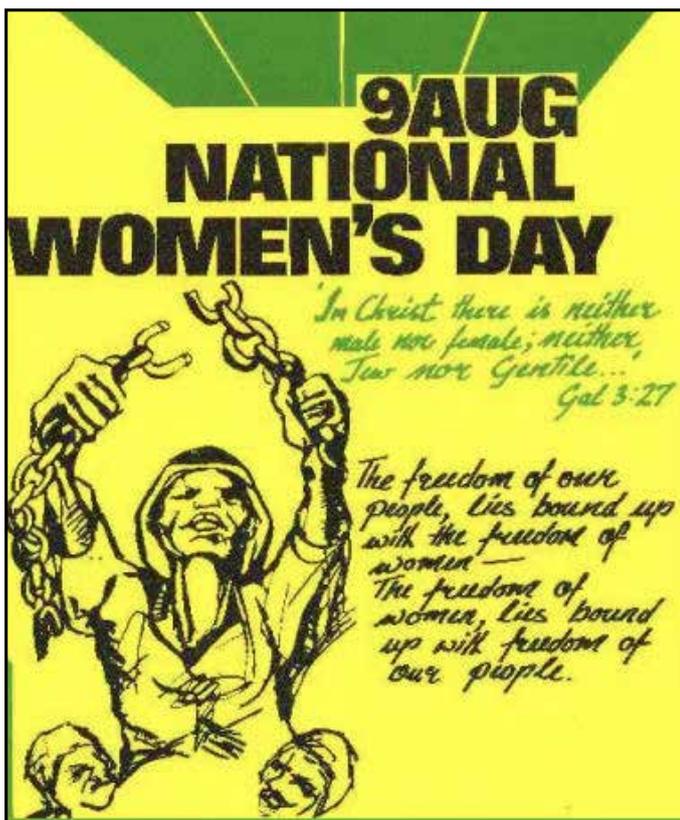
Book Lovers Day

A day observed to encourage bibliophiles (book lovers) to celebrate reading and literature, and to just, keep talking about books.

9 August

National Women's Day

On 9 August 1956, over 30,000 women from all over South Africa travelled to the Union Buildings to join the Federation of South African Women's (FEDSAW) march against pass laws. Many thousands more were prevented from partaking in the march by the police or by bannings. This women's march inspired the women movement throughout the decades of struggle, and after 1994 the day is celebrated as National Women's Day, to remind our country of the bravery of women in struggle and the need to continue to strive for a non-sexist South Africa.



9 August

International Day of the World's Indigenous People

9 August commemorates the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples. It is celebrated around the world and marks the date of the inaugural session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations at the United Nations in 1982. Indigenous peoples live

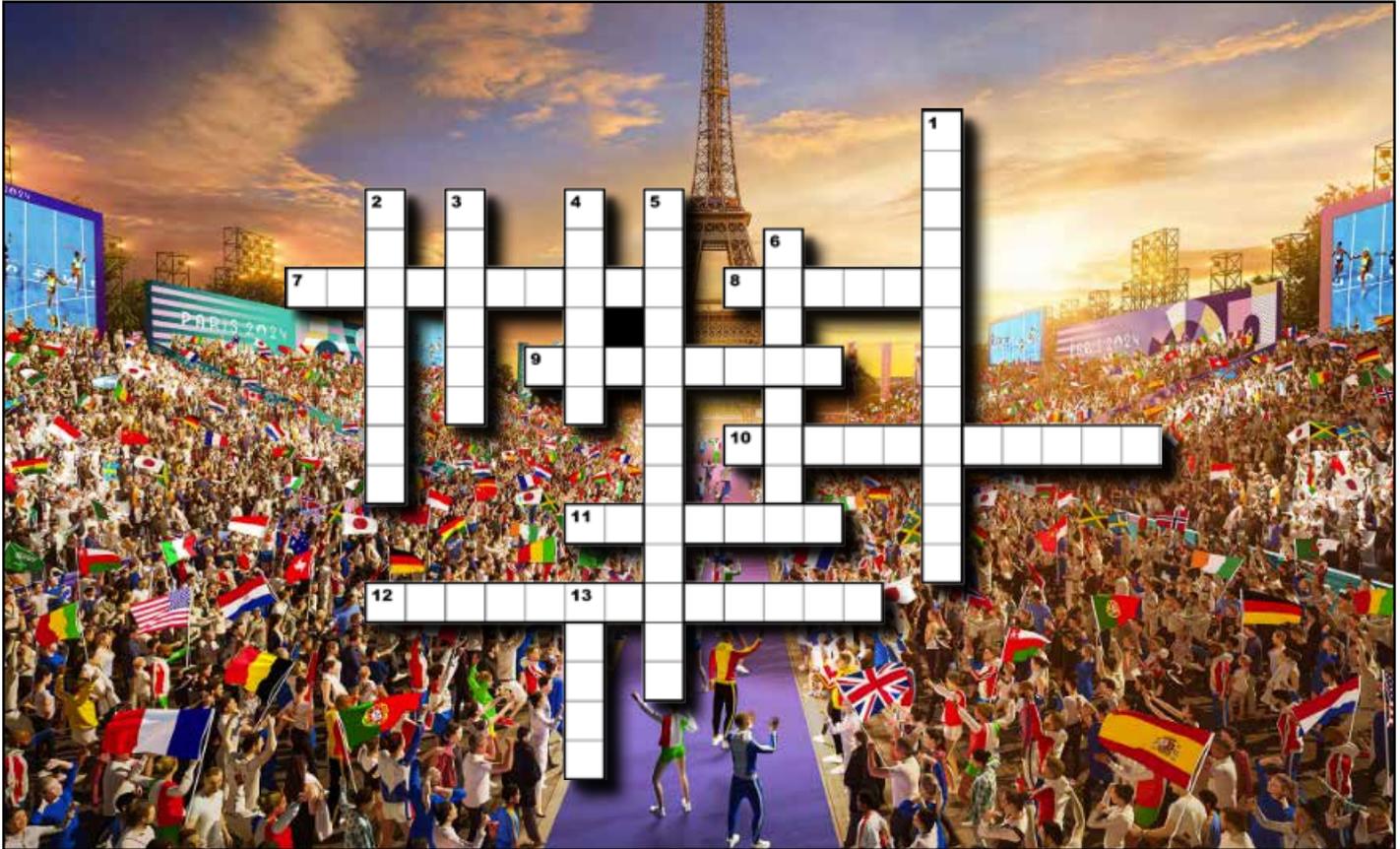


in all regions of the world and own, occupy or use some 22% of global land area. Definitions of indigenous people include 'original and earliest known inhabitants of an area'; 'cultural distinct groups affected by colonialism' or 'inheritors and practitioners of unique cultures and ways of relating to people and the environment. They have retained social, cultural, economic and political characteristics that are distinct from those of the dominant societies in which they live.' Numbering at least 370-500 million, indigenous peoples represent the greater part of the world's cultural diversity, and have created and speak the major share of the world's almost 7000 languages. Many indigenous peoples continue to be confronted with marginalization, extreme poverty and other human rights violations.



X-WORD

Paris Olympics 2024



ACROSS

- 7. Egyptian city bid for 1916 Olympics
- 8. Sports withdrawn from Olympics, said to lack “entertainment value and ability to attract younger audiences.”
- 9. Rejection rate for Africans applying for... visas 10% higher than global average.
- 10. Sport never featured at Olympics.
- 11. New sports at Olympics 2024.
- 12. New sports at 2024 Olympics.

DOWN

- 1. Paris 2024 Olympics first to achieve near full
- 2. New Olympic sport for first time in Paris
- 3. Banned its Muslim officials and athletes from wearing hijab
- 4. Continent has never hosted the Olympics
- 5. New sports at Paris Olympics
- 6. SA city who bid for 2004 Olympics, and lost
- 13. Sport never been played at Olympics.

WORD BANK

- | | | | | |
|---------------|-----------|---------------|----------------|----------|
| Africa | Cape Town | Alexandria | France | Schengen |
| gender parity | breaking | skateboarding | sport climbing | |
| surfing | karate | chess | motor racing | |

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