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Zuma dashes expectations with uninspired address

Plans for R1bn housing fund and youth jobs in 'flat' speech

LINDA ENSOR
Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The political damage inflicted on President Jacob Zuma in the past two weeks was plain to see last night as he delivered a decidedly lacklustre and largely empty state of the nation speech in Parliament.

Instead of spelling out how SA was going to confront the economic crisis, and providing a vision of the way forward, Zuma stuck to banalities on the economy, drawing on the 20th anniversary of former president Nelson Mandela's release from prison for much of his speech.

He largely failed to tackle vexed policy issues under contention in the ruling party, such as the future of inflation-targeting, the role of the Reserve Bank and the issue of nationalisation.

Nor did Zuma reveal any details of the long-awaited industrial policy action plan in a speech regarded as thin on detail and lacking in visionary leadership. He did not really reflect on the state of the nation, although he did try to embrace all groups in an inclusive speech.

Zuma might not have wished to steal the thunder of both Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan, who will table his national budget in Parliament next Wednesday, and Trade and Industry Minister Rob Davies, who will present his industrial policy action plan to MPs in two weeks' time. Yet an outline of the overall strategy to lift the economy out of the doldrums would have been fitting.

Zuma did, however, make two new announcements.

A R1bn guarantee fund would be set up as an incentive for banks and the housing sector to develop new products to meet the demand of salaried people who do not qualify for state subsidies, but earn too



Former president Nelson Mandela in the public gallery in Parliament yesterday during President Jacob Zuma's second state of the nation speech. Yesterday was the 20th anniversary of Mandela's release from prison. Picture: REUTERS

little for a normal mortgage. Zuma said the state would set aside more than 6 000ha of public land for low-income housing.

And measures would be put in place to subsidise the cost of hiring young, inexperienced people.

The only indication Zuma gave of economic policy direction was to say the momentum of recovery was not yet strong enough to justify withdrawing measures put in place to support the economy.

As governments around the world assess the best timing for

withdrawing economic support measures, sources in the Presidency said yesterday that those in SA would remain in place for as long as was necessary.

"Economic indicators suggest we are now turning the corner," Zuma said. "Economic activity is rising in SA and we expect growth. The labour statistics released on Tuesday show that the economy is now creating jobs rather than shedding them."

"It is too soon to be certain of the pace of recovery. Government

will therefore not withdraw its support measures. Now is the time to lay the groundwork for stronger growth and for growth that gives rise to more jobs."

Support measures put in place last year to bolster the economy included the decision not to cut back sharply on government spending as a form of stimulus; a

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Letdown at Zuma speech

Continued from page 1

gradual rather than sudden reduction in the budget deficit; the training lay-off scheme to limit retrenchments; the Expanded Public Works Programme; the use by the Industrial Development Corporation of R6bn to assist companies in distress; and social interventions such as the extension of the child support grant.

The public sector's R846bn infrastructure spending over the next three years would also stimulate growth.

Zuma said the recession had led to the loss of about 900 000 jobs but more than 480 000 work opportunities had been created through the public works programme — 97% of the targeted 500 000.

He also mentioned the establishment of an independent system operator in the energy sector to buy electricity from independent producers and possibly Eskom, and reiterated the government's intention to reduce the cost and improve the service of telecoms.

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Zuma sticks to state's five top priorities

KARIMA BROWN
Political Editor

DELIVERING his second state of the nation address, President Jacob Zuma yesterday failed to capture the imagination of the country when he rehashed his government's five priorities, outlined when he took office nine months ago.

After a week of bad publicity over his private life, Zuma stuck to his administration's plans on education, housing, rural development, job creation and crime.

The only new announcement was the setting up of a guarantee fund of R1bn to incentivise the private banking and housing sectors to develop new products to meet the housing demand.

Zuma said the government's efforts to provide quality education had forced it to get teacher unions' support for a set of non-negotiables following the recent all-party education summit.

He said the government would provide detailed daily lesson plans and easy-to-use workbooks in all 11 languages. All grade 3, 6 and 9 students will write literacy and numeracy tests that are independently moderated. "We aim to increase the pass rate for these tests from the current average of between 35% and 40% to at least 60% by 2014," said Zuma.

Addressing a joint sitting of the house, he committed the government to a "new way of doing things" and promised that the work of departments would be measured by outcomes.

"The ministers who are responsible for a particular outcome will sign a detailed delivery agreement with the president. It will outline what is to be done, how, by whom, within what time period and using what measurements and resources."

Minister in the Presidency Collins Chabane is expected to put flesh on the bones of the delivery agreement at a briefing today.

On health, Zuma vaguely mentioned the government's commitment to the national health insurance scheme, saying that preparations for the setting up of a national health insurance would "continue".

He claimed a 97% victory on the 500 000 job opportunities promised last year, saying these were created in construction,

home- and community-based care and environmental projects run through the state's expanded public works programme.

After condemning the violence that accompanied service delivery protests in Balfour, Mpumalanga, this week, he said a number of issues that were raised by communities there and in other areas were receiving the government's attention. A ministerial task team that was formed after his visit in Balfour was working on resolving outstanding matters, said Zuma.

Communities in different parts of the country have taken to the streets to show their frustration with the slow pace, or lack, of service delivery. Public facilities and houses belonging to councillors have been vandalised and torched by angry communities, especially in Mpumalanga.

Zuma said the "correct" management, administrative and technical skills would be provided to municipalities this year to improve their performance.

Many municipalities are dysfunctional and others have been put under administration. The shortage of critical skills in different fields has crippled a number of municipalities across

Municipalities must improve provision of housing

the country. Some municipalities are struggling to manage their finances, which has created room for financial mismanagement and corruption.

Zuma's promise comes a year before South Africans elect new councillors in local elections.

He said in December that the Cabinet approved a turnaround strategy to improve the performance of municipalities.

"Municipalities must improve the provision of housing, water, sanitation, electricity, waste management and roads," he said.

Zuma said the government would upgrade "well-located" informal settlements and provide proper service and land tenure to about 400 households by 2014. "We plan to set aside 6 000 hectares of well-located land for low income and affordable housing." *With Sibongakonke Shoba brownk@bdfm.co.za*

Why Zuma dare not score more own goals

LAST night President Jacob Zuma presented his list of intentions to members of the National Assembly and the National Council of Provinces. I will turn my attention to the content of this year's state of the nation address in due course.

Since I am not French, like many other South Africans I have been dismal in my attempts at divorcing the capacity of the post-apartheid state to deliver public goods from the amorous and lascivious dimensions of service delivery.

Because, as part of the human condition, we were all draped in sin at birth, I am certainly in no position to pass judgment on the president for what he does after working hours. But I am not naive and neither am I gullible. I do not buy the argument that things that happen between the presidential sheets are of no political consequence.

The postmodern notion of moral relativism is, as much as I find it intellectually arousing, not part of the religious and cultural make-up of most South Africans.

At the same time, I am not oblivious to the fact that the pious indignation of those who are critical of the philandering behaviour of others is not always a reflection of their own moral status. All I am saying is that the African National Congress (ANC) is probably one apology away from another



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leadership crisis.

If you have been in a coma since June 2005, then you will be unaware of the circumstances under which Zuma was elected president of the ANC in 2007, and that of the country last year.

This was a very difficult period for parts of middle-class SA, sections of the media, political commentators and others who behaved as if they were bearers of hidden truths about politics.

Lest you think I was the angel in this political drama, at the time I opined that I would have voted for neither Zuma nor Thabo Mbeki if I had been an ANC delegate in Polo kwane.

By the way, polo is not a game played only by rich white men on horseback. If you ever find yourself playing the sport, you will soon learn how to avoid hitting the polo of your well-endowed stallion. Sorry, I have allowed myself to be sidetracked.

The point I am making is that there were some among us — some of them were at the Polo kwane conference of the ANC — who broke into a cold sweat every time they gave a thought to the very idea of a Zuma presidency.

I suspect that those who are staunch supporters of the president are livid because they know that Zuma's detractors are singing "Glory Hallelujah!" at the moment. And this, at a time when the Zuma coalition is fracturing into its component factions.

In addition, Zuma's image crisis may create opportunities for his political opponents, and this may lead to a realignment of forces within the ANC and the tripartite alliance.

Even the Mbeki camp, in its incarnation as the Congress of the People, is dreaming of a vote of no confidence against the president.

All of this notwithstanding, the anger and disappointment of members of the Zuma camp probably weigh less than the need to consolidate the gains of Polo kwane.

So, Zuma is safe ... for now.

But what Zuma must never forget is the fact that it is much better to be hated (like Mbeki) than to be the village idiot.

He must also remember that one of the fiercest battles during the war between the Zuma and Mbeki camps was the battle for mindshare.

In this battle for mindshare, he was, by some, depicted as a misogynist polygamist boor who dances in a leopard-skin kilt. This in contradistinction to the pipe-smoking moderniser, of course.

The fact that the Mbeki camp did not win is no guarantee that Zuma will not score own goals.

Because his fate depends more on the party than on the sensibilities of citizens, Zuma must be careful not to create a situation where the damage caused by his indiscretions is extended to his support base or the rank and file of the ANC.

■ Matshiqi is a senior research associate at the Centre for Policy Studies.

Cape Town: best-run metro in SA or a tale of two cities?

THERE are many Cape Town residents who claim that their city is the best-run metro in the country, and many residents of other metros who lament the fact that they do not have the privilege of former mayor, Helen Zille, and the Democratic Alliance's (DA's) wisdom.

But on the other end of the political (and at times social) spectrum, many other residents of Cape Town claim that the DA looks after only the rich middle-class suburbs clinging to the edges of the mountain, ignoring the townships of the poor majority that sprawl across the desolate, fire and drought-ridden Cape Flats.

As in the case of other metros, the truth is, of course, never quite as straightforward as either side claims.

Cape Town is by South African standards a well-to-do city; with the lowest level of poverty (measured by rates of unemployment and access to income) and the highest access to basic services in the country. But much of this is historical, with Western Cape municipalities generally having benefited from many years of preferential apartheid investment as well as "influx control" and other policies, at the expense of marginalised and neglected municipalities in poorer provinces containing vast homelands, such as KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape.

This trend remains evident in Municipal IQ's municipal productivity index (MPI), with most of the top-ranked municipalities situated in the Western Cape. Of course, this historical context, while important, does not take away from the recent excellent performance of many of these municipalities on the MPI, as well as the significant implications of vastly accelerated post-apartheid in-migration to the province, spawning vast numbers of large informal settlements especially in Cape Town.

Also to be considered in assessing the city's performance are the difficulties implied by its highly divided population — along spatial, racial and political grounds. Two weeks ago, African National Congress (ANC)

spokesman Jackson Mthembu accused the ruling DA of having no regard for blacks and of being "racial in its outlook" after the local council built toilets with no walls in the Makhaza section of Khayelitsha.

But local DA councillor, Stuart Pringle, retorted that residents of this informal settlement had agreed to this arrangement three years ago, as part of a compromise solution to stretch the existing budget to provide a toilet per household, as opposed to the originally planned enclosed toilet per five households. At the time, it was agreed that each household would build its own enclosure and indeed, of the 1 326 toilets built, only 50 remain unenclosed — less than 4%.

The DA has also claimed that local councillor, ANC member Nomfefe Gexa, agreed to the arrangement at the time, although Gexa has denied this. And who can blame her, with the Human Rights Com-

'As in the case of other metros, the truth is, of course, never quite as straightforward as either side claims'

mission investigating the issue and every ANC heavyweight shaking his or her head with moral indignation in the glare of national media coverage?

It is difficult to see how the DA-led city, already up against it in the ANC dominated townships and informal settlements of the Cape Flats, could be so naive as not to see the potential for scandal coming from this scenario — indeed, predictably, it has been interpreted by the DA's detractors as nothing less than a return to the worst apartheid toilets-in-the-veld type of service delivery made infamous by National Party.

But while local ANC supporters might be unhappy with the DA-led council, in the eyes of middle-class residents of Cape Town it seems they can do little wrong, especially after the energetic and media-savvy leadership of Zille, for whom the majority of such residents voted.

Were Cape Town's Integrated Rapid Transport planning fiasco — where the budget somehow more than tripled from R1,32bn to R4,2bn in a year, causing the city to postpone plans for most of the project — to have happened in Johannesburg or Durban, it would have been received by the middle class and the letters column of most newspapers with outrage and indignation as yet another example of ANC incompetence and corruption. Instead, it seems most middle-class residents were prepared to accept the lame explanation that the city was just being careful and prudent in tough economic times.

Objectively though, Cape Town is a well-run city. It has just received its sixth successive clean audit from the auditor-general (for the 2008-09 financial year), supporting perceptions of continuing excellence in financial management.

And contrary to what its detractors might

claim, the city is delivering — it now claims that 100% of households have access to basic levels of sanitation and water and that, last year, the number of toilets in informal settlements was increased to 24 954 — one toilet for every 4,7 informal households — with one tap available per 10,8 informal households, a record to be proud of given the city's significant number of informal settlements.

Certainly, the city does not require, as the ANC is sometimes wont to suggest, provincial intervention. But, like most other South African cities, Cape Town is under pressure. Municipal IQ estimates that Cape Town is growing by more than 3% a year, similar to the rates experienced in highly urbanised Johannesburg, and until in-migration into Cape Town abates and its population stabilises, it's unlikely the city will be able to sustain the universal access to water and sanitation.

Dealing with urbanisation will take

sustained expenditure; a bit of a worry considering that Cape Town's average per capita expenditure rate for the past six years — R3 169 — is below the nine-city average of R3 411 and significantly below the expenditure rates of other large cities such as Johannesburg, Durban, Pretoria, Ekurhuleni and Port Elizabeth.

But expenditure, though a reflection of delivery, needs to be prudent, and the indebtedness experienced by Johannesburg to fund many of its large capital programmes, as well the cash crunch experienced by Pretoria last year, suggest the benefits of expanded expenditure must also be weighed up against long-term financial sustainability.

While Cape Town has arguably erred on the side of conservatism, it should be noted that its medium-term expenditure outlook is likely to accelerate given the city's note-issuing programme.

Nonetheless, expenditure figures suggest that to claim that the city is delivering more than others is probably more an issue of (class) perspective than fact.

No doubt, Cape Town is not an easy city to manage; with its political contests and deeply entrenched spatial inequality, associated with large numbers of sprawling informal settlements and the focus of heavy media attention, neither the ANC nor the DA have an easy time of it.

But it is a city with considerable advantages — an exceptionally well-skilled population suitable for high-end service sectors, including a vibrant tourism industry, and of course, its iconic mountain.

What a shame, then, that it should be subjected to such polarised opinions in much-needed debates around its development — a path that will need to be carefully negotiated whoever rules.

■ *Allan is Municipal IQ's MD. Heese is its economist. Municipal IQ is a web-based data and intelligence service (www.municipaliq.co.za), specialising in the monitoring and assessment of SA's municipalities.*

No grand rhetoric, no detail either

NEWS Analysis

Eusebius McKaiser

PRESIDENT Jacob Zuma's poor public speaking skill inflicts serious injury on the senses. The opening moments of his state of the nation address were delivered with visible nervousness. While we have become used to needlessly long grammatical pauses mid-sentence whenever he reads from a script, he seemed more anxious than usual. It was difficult to gauge whether this is the culmination of the personal and political challenges he has experienced of late or whether the sense of occasion was simply overwhelming. Or, perhaps, both.

Given this characteristically poor public speaking performance, perhaps it is a blessing in disguise that the speech did not celebrate history quite as dramatically as many had expected. The president is no praise singer. Still, the time and emphasis placed on spelling out, acknowledging and celebrating the roles of Nelson Mandela, the liberation movements and the less intransigent leaders in the National Party, was surprisingly thin.

Given how the Zuma spin doctors have been trying to milk our collective memories about the Mandela magic by linking the fortunes of the Zuma legacy to that of Mandela's with buzz words like "reconciliation", this



UNINSPIRING: President Jacob Zuma's state of the nation address did not do justice to the 20th anniversary of former president Nelson Mandela's release from prison. Picture: TREVOR SAMSON

underemphasis on Mandela's role in Zuma's speech was probably a strategic mistake. It was also inappropriate, given the historical significance on the day.

This could be generously interpreted as the president simply getting on with what matters: questions of policy. A history lesson is not as crucial as achieving a better life all.

After all, the country's problems will still be real the morning after the celebration of our democratic miracle.

The problem, however, is that

the president's speech was a mixed success on the policy front. There was a visible avoidance, on the whole, of offering measurable targets. Instead, a list of political truisms was trotted out such as a commitment to ensure the maintenance and expansion of the roads and rail networks. This was not accompanied by numbers that audit state performance in these and other areas, or analysis of why delivery had been poor or slow. There were no clear success criteria combined with plans for

arresting these developmental weaknesses in future. It had the tenor of an election campaign speech rather than a genuine businesslike assessment of the material health of the country. We were simply promised, for example, that ministers had been instructed to "attend to the outstanding matters."

Two crucial issues that were, fortunately, dealt with not just thematically but in clearer detail were education and rural development. They fall in the ruling party's policy priority areas, so

this was to be expected. The president cited the example of a comprehensive rural development programme in Giyani, Limpopo, which has started to yield some material benefits. A measurable target is the government's commitment to replicate this success in 160 wards by 2014. It is up to the electorate to hold it to this promise.

Opposition parties are, of course, still baying for Zuma's political blood after the "Babygate" scandal of the past few weeks. They were daring him to apologise again or make some noises on the issue in the context of his speaking about the AIDS pandemic. Zuma wisely ignored the elephant in the room even in the face of booing from the opposition when he spoke about government commitment to continue fighting the scourge and chuckles when he later mentioned the name of Irvin Khoza.

By the end, the president had delivered a speech that sorely lacked the rhetorical gusto demanded by the occasion.

This might have been forgivable if the speech's content made up for the limp public speaking performance. But it did not. It listed broad areas of government focus whose importance no sensible citizen can disagree with. The proof is in the detail. And yet, on the detail front, we were simply urged to accept at face value that a better life for all will yet be attained. Measurable outcomes, clear plans and success criteria remained elusive.

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The Citizen Friday 12 February 2010

Mandela only one who can claim the title of 'father of SA'

■ THE most disappointed man in this country today can be no other than Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela.

This political icon sacrificed the prime of his life in prison before he could win his battle to free his people from the clutches of an oppressive white government.

It is indeed a tragedy of great magnitude for him to see the ANC becoming so dysfunctional. Law and order is a thing of the past.

When he handed the reins over it was unimaginable for him that a day would dawn when the chief of the police would be summoned to court to face criminal charges and a Minister's wife would be charged with drug-trafficking.

Who knows how painful it is for Madiba today to see his people suffering due to the mismanagement and corruption prevailing in the ANC government?

It is a fact that practically every

government department is falling to pieces.

It is now easy for us to understand why Madiba opted for a government of national unity.

MS BHULA
Actonville

TRUE CHAMP

■ MADIBA is and will always be the only father of the South African people.

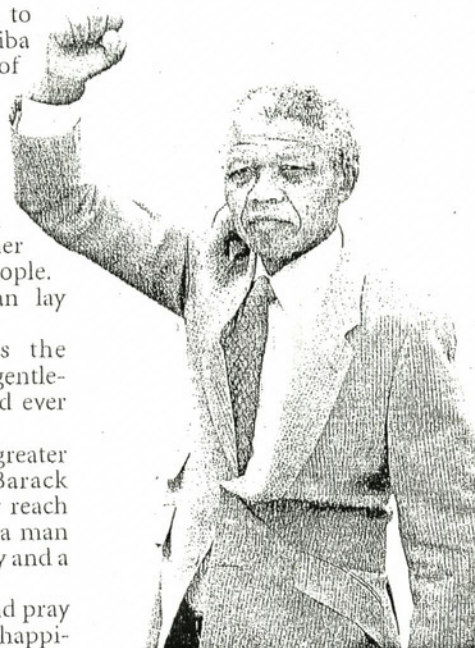
No other person can lay claim to this title.

Nelson Mandela is the greatest statesmen and gentlemen that Africa has and ever will produce.

In stature he is far greater than US President Barack Obama, who will never reach the heights of Madiba, a man of integrity and humility and a great sense of humour.

We honour you sir and pray for your health and happiness.

GARRY
By e-mail



GRIT. Nelson Mandela just after his release 20 years ago.

A platform for change

AT 7 o'clock tonight, President Zuma has a special opportunity to turn gathering scepticism into approval as he addresses the nation from Parliament's National Assembly.

Much of what he has said in his nine months at the country's helm has been frank, and has struck a note with citizens growing increasingly alarmed at South Africa's ills. He has confronted shortcomings of the last 16 years, assuring people and winning him deserved praise.

Lack of delivery, incapacity, entitlement, careerism, laziness, dishonesty – he has been straightforward about it all: in word. There is a palpable impatience at many levels now, though, for his intentions and promises to amount to something. Jobs, education, health, housing, crime, corruption – there is much to do.

So when he takes the podium tonight, people will be wanting action, real implementation of those sensible self-criticisms of government and the ruling party, and some solid remedies his administration has aired.

More talk, certainly another year of it, will not be acceptable. The interest Zuma has stirred among his critics in the last year through his many remarks, and the warming he has seen, will evaporate. And, more injuriously, he will shed support among the no-hopers in his constituency.

Then there is the issue of his personal conduct. He is hardly likely to raise this embarrassment tonight, but repeated expressions of regret have damaged his stature. The surest way for Zuma to deal with these blots is by holding up tangible gains, or concrete steps to achieve them.

Zuma assumed the presidency at the toughest of times, amid upheaval in the ANC and its allies, and a recession – which would put any incoming chief executive at a disadvantage.

But he engineered the moment tonight for maximum impact, marking the watershed day that Nelson Mandela was freed, and staging parliament's opening for prime time television. He also has the World Cup to help him generate popular excitement.

The biggest possible winner for Zuma tonight, though, will be to exploit this extraordinary chance by showing progress in all that he has pledged, or hard evidence that it is not far off.

• Opportunity to reassert authority

Zuma faces his nation today

GAYE DAVIS

AS SOUTH Africans mark the 20th anniversary since Nelson Mandela was freed from jail, President Jacob Zuma will be preparing for the most crucial speech he has yet made during his nine months as president.

With his credibility battered by revelations about his sexual conduct, Zuma will face the nation at 7pm this evening when he delivers his State of the Nation address.

His speech, to be broadcast live on radio and TV from 7pm, presents an opportunity for him to reassert his authority at a time when his leadership has come under question. Watching him will be Mandela and millions of South Africans.

Zuma's strategists had hoped that by making the address coincide with celebrations marking Mandela's historic walk to freedom, the lustre of the world statesman's legacy would rub off on Zuma.

But his admission to fathering a child with Sonono Khoza, the daughter of close comrade and soccer boss Irvin Khoza, had "changed everything", a government official said last night.

Zuma is, nevertheless, likely to reflect on Mandela's legacy of reconciliation and nation-building and go all out to try to inspire South Africans ahead of the World Cup.

As workers bustled about Parliament preparing for the opening ceremony, late yesterday presidency speechwriters were feverishly revising Zuma's speech to bring it to a manageable length for the time constraints of the broadcast.

Jobs and the state of the economy will form a key thrust and Zuma is expected to announce a new industrial policy approved by the cabinet at its meeting yesterday.

Growth

Devised by Trade and Industry Minister Rob Davies, the policy is central to the Zuma administration's plans to put the economy on a new growth path that creates urgently needed jobs.

Details are to be provided by Davies at a briefing tomorrow.

Zuma's speech will also touch on education; health; fighting crime; and rural development. He is also expected to deal with local government and infrastructure.

Minister in the Presidency Collins Chabane – in charge of performance, monitoring and evaluation – said in Parliament yesterday that "outcomes" for each area had been finalised – part of the Zuma government's over-arching strategy to speed up service delivery.

"The president will focus on what it is we still need to do, and, importantly, what measurables we will use to gauge our progress," Chabane said.

This involved Zuma signing performance agreements with each of his cabinet ministers and they in turn doing the same with the heads of their departments, who would then tie other key officials to the same commitments.

Chabane will provide more details tomorrow, while ministers of the relevant portfolios will put flesh on the bones of Zuma's pronouncements at a series of briefings starting on February 22.

Zuma will steer clear of addressing controversial issues such as Eskom's bid for massively hiked electricity prices, the Reserve Bank's mandate, inflation targeting and the nationalisation of the mines.

While some of these will be dealt with by Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan when he delivers his Budget next week, Chabane said nationalisation, which the ANC Youth League is promoting, was "not under discussion" in government.

Yesterday DA leader Helen Zille drew a sharp distinction between Zuma and Mandela.

"What we must not allow is for the symbolism to trump the substance (of Zuma's speech). The great irony is that the more the ANC diverges from Nelson Mandela's vision, the more it seeks to appropriate it.

"The illusion is created that the ANC under Jacob Zuma is the same as the ANC under Nelson Mandela. It is not," Zille said.

Polygamy, promiscuity and progressive leadership

IF NOTHING else, President Jacob Zuma's belated apology about his out-of-wedlock child with Sonono Khoza following unprecedented outrage at the way he has demeaned the highest office in the land, has shown the power of public opinion in a democracy.

We have also established once and for all that the personal is political and that leaders must practise what they preach where HIV and Aids is concerned.

Still lacking from the public discourse, however, is how Zuma has taken the country back a few decades when it comes to the progressive gender discourse so proudly a part of the new South Africa.

In the week that we celebrate the twentieth anniversary of Nelson Mandela's release from prison, and hear President Zuma's State of the Nation address at the start of a new decade, his crass behaviour reminds us that there is still a long walk to freedom for South African women.

2010 opened with a frenzy of reports about Zuma's third wife and fifth marriage, peppered with letters and opinion pieces justifying polygamy on the grounds that it's not illegal or unconstitutional; that it's better to be transparent about relationships than have concubines hidden away, and that liberalism demands tolerance of all lifestyles.

The love child case shattered this sycophantic barrage.

It showed that contrary to Zuma's own claims about openness within his polygamous circle, the president philanders at will outside this circle.

Of course, we already knew this to be the case from the trial that acquitted Zuma of rape, but revealed that he had unprotected extra-marital sex with an HIV-positive woman half his age before he became president.

That case and the outcry it caused when he said he had a shower to prevent himself getting infected, got conveniently forgotten as Zuma earned brownie points on World Aids Day by going for testing.

Now we are at least waking up to the fact that it's as dangerous



EXEMPLARY: Former president Nelson Mandela, here with Graca Machel at a 46664 charity concert two years ago, set a good example for gender equality, argues our columnist, when he married the former Mozambican first lady after the dissolution of his union with Winnie Madikizela-Mandela.

to have a denialist leading the country in the fight against this deadly pandemic.

We're also coming around to the fact that whatever the African National Congress and Zuma himself may say about his right to privacy, leaders answer to a higher set of standards than even the courts may set.

They are role models who set the tone and pace for the rest of the nation: think, for example, of the messages that Barack and Michelle Obama exude about race and gender in the US and further afield.

Yes, polygamy is not illegal in South Africa. But how does

that provides for the equal rights of women?

The South African Law Reform Commission concluded that a system that allows men to have several wives while a woman can only have one husband, is self-evidently unequal.

It went on to say that unfortunately allowing women to have many husbands offered no real solution in a deeply patriarchal society.

The Commission argued that giving women in polygamous relationships equal rights would protect these women and lead to this system gradually fading away for social and economic reasons.

ers is to push the envelope, not take us back in time.

Mandela, despite having similar traditional roots to Zuma, struck a goal for gender equality when he married former Mozambican first lady Graca Machel, who kept her surname and identity, and negotiated a commuter marriage between two countries.

With Zuma, who has tried to step into Mandela's shoes, it has become the fashion to flaunt women and children in a way that says: my conquests, my wealth, my possessions.

In response to the frequently asked question: what about the women who choose to be

tresses, it is amazing that we fail to question the meaning of "choice" where the forces of power are still so heavily stacked against women.

Wherever there is a power imbalance, some in the ranks of the powerless will buy into the agenda of the powerful: witness, for example, the homeland leaders under apartheid. That surely did not make the system right!

What is frightening about the effect of Zuma on gender discourse in South Africa is that because the most powerful man in the land is involved, the ANC Women's League (also the driving force behind the Pro-

has lost its voice, joining in the cacophony of Zuma's right to privacy, to practise his culture, without the slightest critique of how this sits with constitutional provisions for equality.

According to Zuma, all men need do if they go around fathering children with many women, is accept paternity, pay damages, invoke children's rights, blame the media and claim their right to privacy.

If that does not work, you can also say "sorry" before rushing off to deliver the State of the Nation address.

In a serious case of *deja vu*, it's only in another moment of crisis that we are being reminded that although the judge in the 2006 rape trial did not find sufficient evidence to convict Zuma, he took a dim view of his conduct.

Following the outrage over Zuma's comments in court about showering away the Aids risk, he said: "I wish to state categorically and place on record that I erred in having unprotected sex. I should have known better. And I should have acted with greater caution and responsibility."

Evidently, no lessons were learned as Zuma has since not abstained, acted faithfully, or used a condom.

The issue is not whether or not Zuma should step down as president, but the fact that had we included attitudes towards women as a key test of leadership – a point many of us made at the time – he should never have been president!

Now, as Sibongile Dabeka, a disgruntled ANC supporter, asks in a letter to the Sunday Independent this week: "How do you market a president who sees young women as potential sleeping partners rather than comrades?"

How does a revolutionary become a feudalist or traditionalist?"

How, indeed, are we to square polygamy, promiscuity and the progressive values of the ANC that Mandela gave his life for, and that Zuma agrees he must uphold?

If we are to push our democracy to greater heights, how now are we to emerge from this quagmire?

● *Lowe Morna is executive*

Zuma's African PR problem

Tanya Pampalone

A cartoonist for Uganda's *The New Vision* newspaper summed it up: a woman in a miniskirt leans into President Jacob Zuma's bedroom, where he is in bed with his three wives.

"Sweetie, I've come to pick up money for baby's Pampers," she says, while in the background a politician speaks to a crowd demanding they "stop having multiple sex partners and unprotected sex".

As news of the president's love child went viral, the continent talked back. It wasn't all bad news, though. Zuma found some pockets of love from Africa.

On Kenya's *Daily Nation* one reader wrote in to say the media must "kindly back off and leave JZee alone".

"It's in the interest of the Zulu culture to have as many children as possible," the reader noted. "What you guys are doing is like telling the Maasai to stop herding cattle ..."

But another hit right back: "I am not sure what African custom/tradition some of you are purporting to defend. In my African customs you and Zuma would be rolled down the hill in a bee-hive."

Prince Prah, a columnist on a Ghanaian news website, *Ghana Web*, wrote a stinging piece entitled "South Africa's Sex-President".

"It is sad that at the World Economic Conference in Davos, Switzerland, the [most] exciting contribution from South Africa had nothing to do with economy and development but President Zuma's statements about his polygamy, his promiscuity and Zulu culture," he wrote.

He warned that, in the eyes of ordinary Africans, South Africa appears to be going the same way as the rest of the continent. "In a country where women's rights used to be taken seriously, his treatment of women as sex objects puts all South African women to ridicule. Polygamy may be accepted among his Zulu stock, but his fathering of a love child raises grave moral questions."

Well-known Zimbabwean journalist Basildon Peta wrote that a scandal of this magnitude in a Western democracy would have seen a leader like Zuma tossed out of power.

"Mr Zuma is unlikely to leave office despite the mounting pressure on him," Peta lamented on *unfree-media.com*. "His largely illiterate supporters, his main power base in rural areas, will keep him in office."

But the SMS of the day on *The Namibian* scolded those who dared to challenge Zuma's freedom to breed, channelling ANC Youth League leader Julius Malema.

"It is disappointing to see and hear people talking left and right about the now famous African child, but nobody is reminding them about the respect that they have to maintain towards all the elders," the paper's website noted. "We are living in fear, African children please behave."

— Additional reporting by Tarryn Harbour, Lisa Steyn and Vuvu Vena

Zip up, ANC tells JZ

'We really want the president to make sure this doesn't happen again. If it does, it's over,' says NEC member

Mandy Rossouw, Mmanaledi Mataboge and Matuma Letsoalo

The ANC has given President Jacob Zuma a last chance to prove he can lead the party without scandal, but his support in party structures appears to have been weakened by the rumpus over his love child.

A national executive committee member closely involved in the love child saga told the *Mail & Guardian* that the party has informally asked Zuma to "zip up" because the ANC will not survive another such scandal.

Zuma confessed last week to fathering a child with Sonono Khoza, daughter of soccer boss Irvin Khoza. It is understood that he was caught off guard when Sonono told him last year that she was pregnant.

He issued an apology last week after meeting advisers and party elders, taking responsibility for the child and expressing regret at the pain the affair had caused his family.

Said the NEC source: "We first thought it was a private matter. But we were surprised that the outcry did not come from white people or foreign media, but from our African constituency. They must vote for us to stay in power and we must listen to them."

"We realised that we need to

change our approach or it will cost us in the 2011 local elections and beyond.

"We really want the president to zip up and make sure this doesn't happen again. If it does, it's over. We have nothing left to defend his conduct."

The sensitivity of the issue meant that it could not feature on any formal agenda and it was not formally raised at the national working committee meeting on Monday in Cape Town. But members "made sure JZ understands the impact of this", a Luthuli house official said.

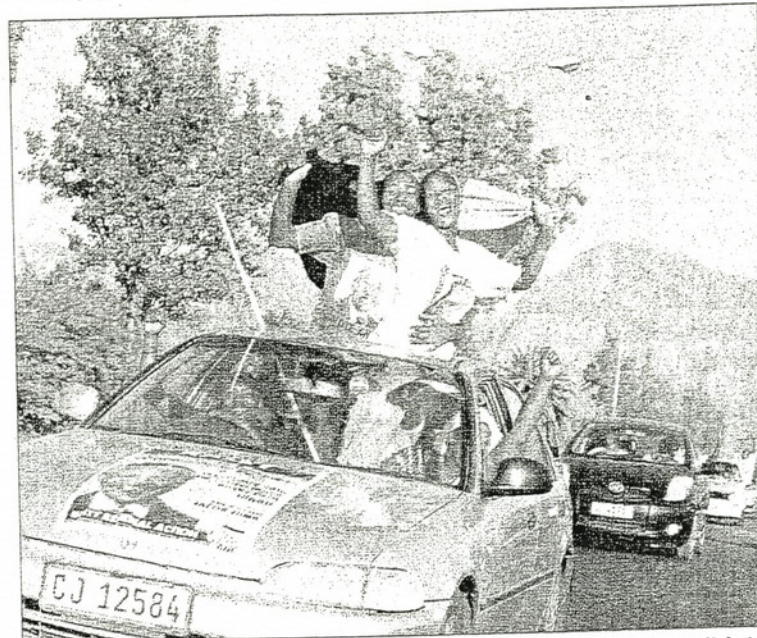
Those close to Zuma outlined to him in private meetings the untenable situation in which he had placed the ANC. "We're forced to defend the indefensible," the NEC member said.

ANC leaders are especially upset that Zuma has now "handed over the moral high ground to the opposition". But the apology gave ANC members some way of deflecting criticism, particularly in Parliament.

Party insiders said that although ANC members largely appeared to accept Zuma's apology, his support in party structures had taken a dive.

"I know a number of people were disappointed, but they've accepted his apology," said ANC's Mpumalanga secretary, Lucky Ndinisa.

Apart from those in KwaZulu-Natal and the Northern Cape,



The ANC's 20th anniversary celebrations in the Western Cape didn't go so well. Less than a quarter of the expected 20 000 attendants turned up. Photo: David Harrison

provincial leaders appeared less inclined to give Zuma unconditional backing for a second term as ANC president.

Ndinisa said Zuma's second term is not secure: "When we elected him, we didn't say it was for two terms. When we go to Mangaung in 2012, the delegates will decide. At some stage, we'll decide what kind of a

leader we want based on their conduct throughout their term."

Gauteng secretary David Makhura denied that he had previously said Zuma should serve two terms. "It wasn't about the second term. We were discussing the leadership of the ANC," he said this week.

Even ANC NEC member Billy Masetlha would not commit himself:

"2012 is still far; many things will happen between now and then."

But Masetlha cautioned that Zuma should not be morally judged. "Zuma must lead us politically. I'm not suggesting he's an angel, but it would be unfair to judge him based on what has happened."

KwaZulu-Natal secretary Sihle Zikalala said Zuma still had the support of his home province for a second term. Northern Cape leader Alvin Botes said he was confident Zuma's conduct would now be above reproach, leaving no doubt about his eligibility.

"He's given us the assurance that it won't happen again, so our support for him is non-negotiable."

There was a poor turnout for this week's Zuma roadshow in the Cape. At the celebrations of the 20th anniversary of Nelson Mandela's release in Paarl on Thursday, less than a quarter of the expected 20 000 people turned up.

Leaders of the Umkhonto weSizwe Military Veterans' Association, Women's League and Veterans' League still support Zuma unconditionally.

Said Women's League deputy president Nosipho Ntwanambi: "[The issue of the love child] does not worry us, it's between the Khoza and Zuma families. You must remember, he's also a human being and he didn't breach the Constitution."

Fresh arms probe ... maybe

Commitment of post-Zuma security establishment in question as NPA chief 'reallocates' prosecutors

Adriaan Basson and Sam Sole

South Africa's efforts to establish the truth about the arms deal are being pulled in different directions — and could end up going nowhere.

The mixed signals bring into question the commitment of the post-Zuma security establishment to delve further into the arms deal closet.

On the one hand, the Hawks recently registered a new probe into the country's purchase of four warships from a German consortium for more than R7-billion in 1999.

This came after arms deal activist Richard Young laid fresh charges with the South African Police Service concerning alleged bribery around the acquisition of the ships.

But pulling in a contrary direction is the news that newly appointed prosecutions boss Menzi Simelane is considering removing from the arms deal investigation the team of prosecutors that successfully prosecuted Schabir Shaik.

The *Mail & Guardian* understands that Simelane is "reallocating" prosecutors who were formerly part of the Scorpions unit. Some have been allocated new cases while others have been given administrative tasks.

Further, the Hawks unit is believed to be scantily resourced and the *M&G* has confirmed that only one investigator, former Scorpions member Johan du Plooy, is responsible for investigating the two legs of the arms deal currently on the

books of the Hawks — the German warships and jet trainers bought from Britain's BAE Systems.

This comes against the backdrop of the decision by Britain's Serious Fraud Office to settle bribery charges with arms manufacturer BAE Systems last week.

The Scorpions reopened the case involving BAE's sale of Hawk jet trainers to South Africa in 2008 and raided the offices of former defence ministry adviser Fana Hlongwane and BAE's Pretoria premises at the end of that year.

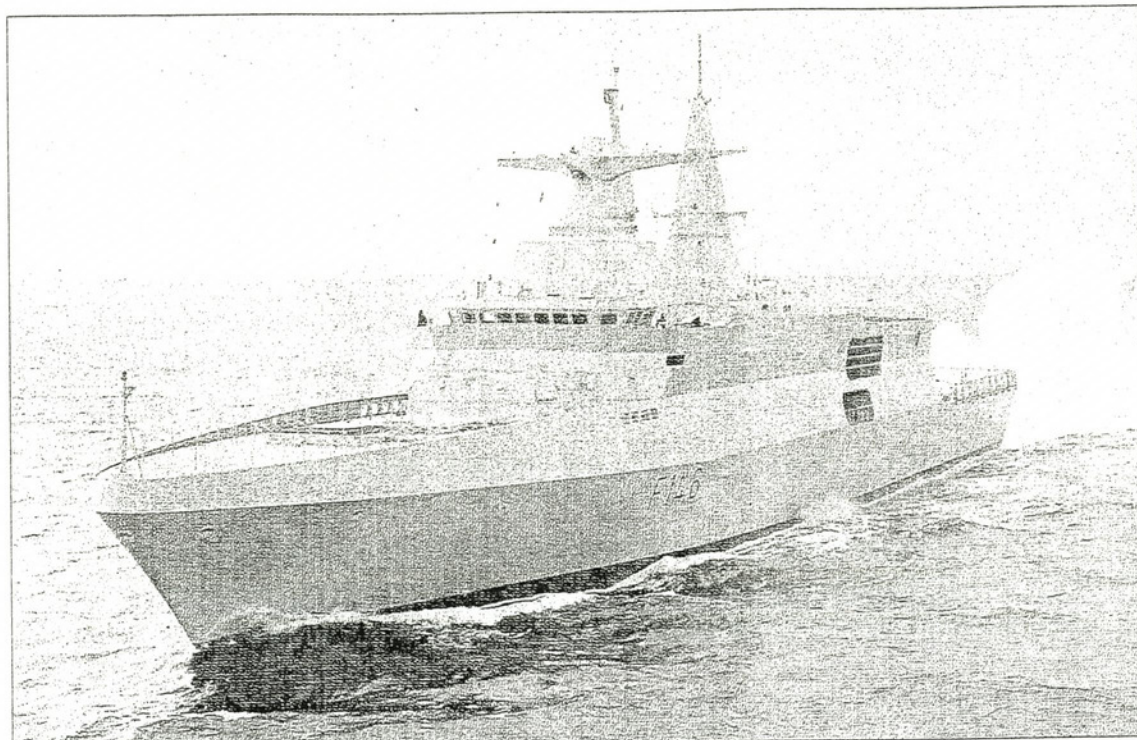
This happened amid the dissolution of the investigating unit. Du Plooy was the lone investigator who worked on the original arms deal team that joined the Hawks.

With the disbandment of the Scorpions, prosecutors working side by side with investigators were redeployed throughout the structures of the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA).

The *M&G* understands a prosecutor who was specifically working on the BAE case was transferred to the NPA's Johannesburg offices and was given "normal prosecutorial duties" on top of massive work outstanding following the BAE raids.

President Jacob Zuma and his supporters have accused the Scorpions of being manipulated by the Thabo Mbeki regime into narrowly and exclusively focusing on the slice of the arms deal that involved himself and Schabir Shaik.

Young's complaint about South Africa's contract with the German frigate consortium (GFC) potentially



A former Scorpion is responsible for investigating the two legs of the arms deal — the German warships and jet trainers bought from Britain's BAE Systems

provides Hawks boss Anwa Dramat and Simelane with an opportunity to probe former president Mbeki's role in the arms deal.

Armscor opened the acquisition process for warships in the early 1990s and originally only Spain's Bazan and Britain's Yarrow shipyards were shortlisted. However, after a visit by Mbeki to Germany, the bidding process was reopened and the GFC included.

But one of Zuma's allies — former defence force head of acquisition Chippy Shaik — is also implicated in this transaction.

The German news magazine *Der Spiegel* reported in 2007 that raids by the Germans on the offices of Thyssen, lead partner in the GFC, produced documents referring to a meeting between GFC bosses and Chippy Shaik.

Chippy Shaik allegedly demanded payment of \$3-million to ensure the success of the German bid — an allegation he has denied.

During his tenure as justice department boss, Simelane frustrated the Scorpions' efforts to extract documents from the British and Germans and criticised the Scorpions when they liaised directly

with the Serious Fraud Office.

According to Young, there was "much unfinished arms deal business" left after the conviction of Schabir Shaik and the withdrawal of charges against Zuma and Thales.

With the demise of the Scorpions, "fresh initiation" of investigations into other aspects of the arms deal was required.

He emphasised that Zuma was not implicated in these matters.

Neither the NPA nor the police responded to the *M&G*'s questions.

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Zuma's zipper malfunction leaks gravitas

Whether the president's baby shower matters politically is debatable, what is concerning is the lack of a skipper on the bridge

THE British High Commissioner's annual reception on the eve of the opening of Parliament is a long-standing must on the diplomatic calendar going back well into the apartheid years.

Twenty years ago ambassador Robin Renwick and his guests, on the terraces of the Cape Dutch-style manor in Bishopscourt, were all a-buzz with speculation about whether then president FW de Klerk would announce the release of Nelson Mandela the next day.

At this year's edition on Wednesday night, hosted by High Commissioner Nicola Brewer, the conversation seemed, by contrast, to focus mainly on whether President Jacob Zuma would make any reference in his speech last night to the "Baby Shower", as the cartoonist Zapiro has put it.

Another grave topic of conversation among the envoys of

powerful nations was: How many babies does it take to bring down a president? What is a president's love child quota? Or, put slightly differently, how many times has Zuma apologised to the nation so far – and how many apologies might be one too many?

Such hefty political speculation was sauced with much sniggering, of course.

"I hear Zuma has taken a few days off the job," said one ambassador. "Yes, he's back in Tuynhuys (the Cape Town presidential office)," quipped another. Some other remarks were unprintable.

The contrast between the 1990 event and the 2010 was a measure of what Zuma's zipper malfunction had done to our national dignity. It has caused a major leak of gravitas from the



Diplomatic Bag
PETER FABRICIUS

presidency. But does that really matter politically? The ANC's majority is so impregnable (so to speak), that even quite a few more little Zumas popping up can surely cause it no lasting damage. At the very most, they might jeopardise Zuma's chances of being re-elected by the ANC to a second term.

And if it hurts the ANC a bit, and puts it on its toes, well so much the better for the country, surely?

A British journalist who has covered South Africa since before De Klerk's famous speech

20 years ago, dismissed all the condemnation of Zuma and the dire speculation about his future by noting that former president Thabo Mbeki was also rather fond of the ladies.

The journalist noted that there had been considerable speculation about who might be first lady during the interregnum presidency of Kgalema Motlanthe (detracting a touch from his image as the ANC's Oliver Cromwell), and that even Madiba himself had not necessarily been a saint in his pre-prison days.

And, of course, former US president Bill Clinton's problem in this department also came up over the cocktails on Wednesday.

What distinguishes Zuma, perhaps, is that the baby shower seems to have become a steady downpour of revelations, although even here, it might be said in his defence, someone – perhaps within the ANC alliance – seems to be doing far more research on his sex life than anyone did on that of his predecessors.

Another difference is that the disclosures of actual off-spring from various illicit liaisons are living proof, so to speak, that Zuma did not take the necessary precautions against being infected with HIV. This, in the context of the immense controversy started

by Mbeki, is a serious failure of exemplary leadership.

The scandal has also undermined SA's diplomatic efforts to reconcile traditional practices and women's rights in the Beijing +15 review process.

And, in the year when many South Africans are pinning big hopes on the World Cup to bury some of the stereotypes about Africa (as World Cup 2006 buried many of the stereotypes about Germany), the baby shower has instead reinforced them.

But the diplomats seem more concerned about Zuma's failure of leadership. His apparent inability to crack the whip and stop his lieutenants squabbling so publicly among themselves within the tripartite alliance is causing concern among our friends that the ship of state is being left to drift rudderless.

While the skipper is, ahem, below decks?

Bail for top KZN official

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A TOP Nongoma municipal official, Sanelisiwe Mncwango, the wife of IFP national organiser Albert Mncwango, was yesterday released on R2 000 bail in the Nongoma Magistrate's Court, where she had appeared on charges of fraud and corruption.

Mncwango, who is the director of community services, was arrested early this week with five other municipal officials on charges relating to the alleged disappearance of municipal funds.

Mncwango is accused of having had a hand in the mismanagement of funds set aside for the mayoral games last year.

She will appear in court again on March 1.

Mncwango is the former Speaker of the Nongoma municipality.

Five other municipal and former municipal employees were also arrested on charges of fraud involving the disappearance of



MNCWANGO

more than R300 000 set aside for the building of a sports field.

The MEC for Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Nomusa Dube, welcomed the investigation and arrests.

"While we will wait for the law to take its course, we view the allegations in a very serious light. We call on the municipality to provide the police with all necessary information with regards to the investigation," she said.

"We are conscious of the fact that the officials remain innocent until proved guilty in a court of law. But we are pleased that the allegations will be probed openly so that those who may have stolen public money can be brought to book," said Dube.

She urged all municipalities in the province to ensure that any form of criminal act was investigated pro-actively by municipalities themselves.

"Any theft of public money is a serious concern to the KwaZulu-Natal provincial government in particular as it impedes the provincial government's service delivery mandate," she said.

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Zuma family 'loves' MaMhlongo

NONKULULEKO Mhlongo was the mother of President Jacob Zuma's two daughters and she was well respected in the family, a relative of the president said yesterday.

"She is our mother. She visits the home of Msholozzi (Zuma's clan name) during functions. She was there in December. I don't understand why people make noise about this issue," said Mike Zuma, the president's younger brother.

He was reacting to a Mercury report yesterday that the president had fathered two daughters, now aged 12 and seven, with a Pietermaritzburg businesswoman.

"The children are known. The mother even attended Zuma's wedding with MaNtuli," said Zuma.

News of the children came barely a month after it emerged

that Zuma had fathered a girl out of wedlock with Sonono Khoza, the daughter of soccer boss Irvin Khoza.

"Journalists must leave Zuma alone. They must stop discussing his private life. We are tired of this behaviour now," said Mike Zuma.

The stories about Mhlongo's children with Zuma invaded the privacy of both Zuma and the children, he said.

"I don't want to say anything about the issue of the children with MaMhlongo. What I want to stress is that the president deserves respect."

The issue should be discussed only by members of the Zuma family.

"When is Zuma going to have peace with his family? His personal life is not for pub-

lic consumption," he said.

Mhlongo was not available to comment. She has been quoted as denying that Zuma is the father of her two children.

Zuma, 67, wed his fifth wife, Thobeka Madiba, earlier this month, two years after his marriage to Nompumelelo Ntuli. He married Sizakele Khumalo in 1973.

His first wife, Kate Mantsho Zuma, committed suicide in 2000 and he divorced Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, who is Home Affairs Minister, in 1998.

He is engaged to Gloria Bongi Ngema, from Durban, whose family presented *umbondo* (gifts) to the Zuma family at the end of December. - Sapa



ZUMA

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First steps to freedom 20 years on

A GALAXY of ANC luminaries and comrades stood in for Nelson Mandela and his former wife Winnie yesterday at the celebration to mark his first steps to freedom through the gates of the Drakenstein Correctional Centre, formerly known as Victor Verster.

Struggle veterans Mac Maharaj, Cyril Ramaphosa, Ahmed Kathrada and Andrew Mlangeni were in the front row of marchers. Among them was Cosatu general secretary Zwelinzima Vavi.

Whereas Mandela's walk in 1990 came after a year of nominal imprisonment in a warder's residence on the prison grounds, yesterday's march followed a sumptuous breakfast laid on by the ANC, with corporate sponsorship, for guests.

As the marchers walked the few hundred metres from the marquee to the gates, officials pleaded with journalists to give them space to move.

"Don't make it a long walk, please," joked Maharaj.

At the gates, where they were met by a crowd of several

thousand people, they halted for speeches at the life-size bronze statue of Mandela.

Planning Minister Trevor Manuel, who was a member of the national reception committee set up at the time to coordinate Mandela's release, told the crowd that the day of the release was etched on everyone's memory.

In his first public speech, Mandela had said he would place his life in the hands of his fellow South Africans to continue as "a fellow soldier in the struggle for liberation".

"Today Madiba continues with that promise," Manuel said. "He hasn't ever given up the responsibilities.

"It was not something that he said because he was happy to be out of prison. He said it because it was fundamental to his belief system. We were here with him then; we are here with him today still."

Ramaphosa, the former head of the reception committee and now a businessman, said the ANC was not unbanned by FW de Klerk: "You unbanned it yourself. You

hoisted the flag of our people high, and you said the ANC leads, the ANC lives.

"When comrade Nelson Mandela was released, as he walked out of these prison gates, we knew that his freedom meant that our freedom had also arrived. As he became free, we knew we were free."

SA Communist Party general secretary Blade Nzimande said it was important, while celebrating Mandela as an icon, not to lose sight of him as a revolutionary. — Sapa

SEE PAGES 12 & 13

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Promises, promises, promises

GAYE DAVIS
DEPUTY POLITICAL EDITOR

PRESIDENT Jacob Zuma last night promised South Africans that this year would see action from his government, with public servants – from cabinet ministers to teachers – bound by agreements on what and when they must deliver.

His key message was that after months of bedding down new departments and planning, his government was ready to start delivering and achieving results.

"This year, 2010, shall be a year of action," Zuma said. "Government must work faster, harder and smarter. We will expect the executive and the public service to comply with this vision."

But he also warned that an iron fist would meet violent service-delivery protests.

Zuma's speech, written by the presidency, was flat and uninspiring, covering vast terrain – much of it old ground.

He also stayed clear of any controversy, although his thanking of the local organising committee, which included a reference to Irvin Khoza, prompted laughter. Khoza's daughter, Sonono, is the mother of Zuma's 20th child, born out of wedlock and for which he was forced to apologise last week.

Opposition parties were critical, with DA leader Helen Zille saying the address was insubstantial, rather vague and full of promises.

The IFP's Mangosuthu Buthelezi found the speech uninspiring and was "amazed" Zuma did not expand on efforts to curb endemic corruption in the public service.

Cope parliamentary leader Mvume Dandala described it as "one of the most disappointing speeches one has heard".

"How much more longer do we need to hear about 'planning' without actual delivery?" asked UDM leader Bantu Holomisa.

Azapo in the Eastern Cape said Zuma and his administration had proved he was unfit to take the country anywhere.

Cosatu, while welcoming that the government was still guided by the priorities outlined in the ANC election manifesto, also expressed "some disappointment".

"We are concerned that there was too little recognition of the extent of the massive crisis of unemployment, poverty and inequality, and consequently no plans for a new economic growth path."

Zuma's 70-minute speech contained few new announcements to spice up what was essentially a list of plans for action.

His promises included:

- An assessment of the 27 000 schools against the target of raising numeracy and literacy rates.

- An increase to 175 000 a year by 2014 of school-leavers who qualified for university, while those who did not would have "a second-chance at education", with training for 16- to 25-year-olds.

- An "urgent focus" on unemployed youth, with plans to subsidise companies for wages paid to young workers "to encourage them to take on inexperienced staff".

- A new R1 billion fund that would guarantee private-sector loans for people whose incomes disqualified them from getting free state housing, but who earn too little for mortgages.

- That informal settlements that were "well-located" would be upgraded and "proper services and land tenure" would be extended to 50 000 households by 2014, with plans to set aside 6 000ha of public land for low-income housing.

- That the cost of communications would come down.

Zuma also promised that R846bn would be spent over the next three years on infrastructure, including maintaining and expanding the road network and cutting by half the water lost through leaking pipes and poorly maintained municipal infrastructure.

He did not say where the money would come from, leaving that to Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan.

An economist warned to prepare for tax hikes. Peter Attard, Montalto emerging markets eco-

ALSO SEE
SEE PAGES 2, 12, 13
& BUSINESSREPORT

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Promises, promises, promises

nomist at Nomura International, estimated there was at least R50bn of additional spending commitments in the Budget year.

Zuma cautioned it was too early to be certain of the pace of economic recovery, despite signs the country was emerging from its first recession in 17 years.

The government's support measures – financial aid for faltering companies and training lay-off schemes for workers facing re-

trenchment – would stay in place.

Zuma said little new about fighting crime, saying plans to boost police numbers by 10 percent over the next three years were being implemented.

A new industrial policy action plan and a new focus on green jobs would “build stronger and more labour-absorbing industries”.

The government's long-term infrastructure plans would also spur economic growth, while education

and skills programmes would “increase productivity and competitiveness”. He also announced that the government would set up an independent system operator, separate from Eskom, that would buy power from independent power producers to feed the national grid. It is understood that this will deal with the potential conflict of interest Eskom has in being both a purchaser and a supplier of electricity.

Full speech: www.iol.co.za

ZUMA SORRY IS LITTLE, LATE

THE State of the Nation Address comes at a very inconvenient time for President Jacob Zuma. He has spent the last week and a half "resting" and pulling out of various engagements.

Last week he pulled out of an important meeting with the Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment Council.

Even his appearance at a Boland gathering earlier this week was stage managed to spare him the pain and torture of facing the world after news of his relationship with Irvin Khoza's daughter made headlines. Instead of the planned door-to-door walkabout, the president merely addressed ANC delegates and avoided the spotlight.

He also failed to arrive at a rally planned to commemorate the release of Nelson Mandela 20 years ago. Yesterday, the president was scheduled to address thousands of people who had been waiting patiently at the Drakenstein Correctional Facility, where our icon Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela spent the last few years of his incarceration.

We will be provided with all manner of explanations about the president's failure to pitch and some will go as far as claiming he was never scheduled to speak in the first place.

The media will be chastised for peddling wrong

President knows he has let SA down

Redi Direko

REDI'S TAKE



information. Imperfect as journalists are, it has become a convenient cop-out to blame them when the truth starts to hurt.

Ducking

A statement issued by the ANC said Zuma was to address the crowd at the prison from 12.30pm to 1.30pm yesterday.

Following this sequence of no-shows, I believe Zuma is hiding because he is ashamed to face the nation. I also believe that if he could, Zuma would have avoided the State of the Nation Address.

Unfortunately, this year's address coincided with a momentous occasion that couldn't be put aside to accommodate his "need" to "rest".

My interpretation of Zuma's ducking and going

under is that, in his heart, he knows that he has let South Africans down. Despite his apology, the storm rages on.

You would have thought that after apologising he would be brave enough to show his face and fulfill his commitments. But he is still running because he knows that his apology is too little, too late.

The reason this apology has not really found fertile ground in many quarters is not because South Africans are unforgiving and judgmental, but it is because the people of this country are smart enough to know that his expression of regret was issued after much defiance.

It was the ANC and the Office of the President who blamed the media and made a preposterous argument that Zuma's private

life is nobody's business. The Presidency went as far as threatening legal action.

Indefensible

Thank goodness they came to their senses, and realised that their position is indefensible because Zuma's position means that he is the face and voice of this country, and his management of his personal life is a reflection of the kind of leader he is.

Obviously, Zuma must take responsibility for his own behaviour but the reason a president needs advisers is so that they can guide him when his public image is in tatters.

It helps when the advisers are smarter than the president because they will have the foresight to prepare for every possible outcome of a scandal.

Instead of closing ranks and issuing brainless statements a smart aide will not put his head in the sand and hope that the matter will die down. His advisers have done the greatest damage to the president.

They themselves believed that all they had to do was lash out at the media and display a congenial case of arrogance.

If this apology had been part of the first statement from Luthuli House and the Office of the President, then I doubt that Zuma would still be avoiding the public like the plague.

Zuma's sex life not a concern

POOR service delivery, not a controversial sex life, could destroy President Jacob Zuma's popularity, the findings of a TNS Research Survey showed yesterday.

TNS's Neil Higgs said the survey was conducted among a sample of 2 000 South African adults living in the seven major metropolitans across the country.

The subjects were interviewed face-to-face in their homes for the survey measured to have an error margin of less than 2,5 percent.

The survey used last year's April general election as its starting point in establishing how the current government has fared since its election nine months ago.

Zuma's approval level rose from 40 percent at the beginning of 2009 to 52 percent at the time of the election and stepped up to 58 percent in November in the same year.

This was despite serious reservations at the time concerning Zuma's practice of polygamy and 74 percent of adults in the metros saying it was a problem for a man to have more than one wife.

"It is clear that many ordinary citizens separate their approval of Zuma as president from his private life," Higgs said.

"Indeed, while just 38 percent of people feel that a leader's morality should be beyond approach, a half do not expect this and 55 percent feel that the press should respect a leader's private life," he said.

But the Brand Leadership Academy Public Service Excellence Awards' 2009 Image-gaugeT scores for local government posed a threat to Zuma's popularity as it stood on an extreme low of 40 out of 100.

This score was the lowest ever seen using this corporate reputa-

tion model and it showed there was extreme unhappiness with the performance of government.

While local government was seen to be particularly poor on leadership skills, its ability to manage taxpayers' money and to deliver on promises. It also scored high on being perceived as corrupt, slow, bureaucratic and treating people unfairly.

Some controversial national government decisions were included in the survey and out of the people interviewed, 61 percent criticised the cost of ministerial vehicles and 37 percent felt Mo Shaik's appointment as head of state security was a mistake.

But the majority, 54 percent, supported the police ministry's "shoot to kill" declaration policy.

Meanwhile, 44 percent of young black youth in the metros aged between 18 and 24 supported ANC Youth League leader Julius Malema, but 43 percent were against him.

Only 27 percent of adults supported what Malema says and 59 percent of them felt he should be disciplined by the ANC.

The survey also found that about 63 percent of respondents believed that the taxi industry had too much power and 69 percent thought the Bus Rapid Transit system was a way to go. But 45 percent felt the government should have consulted more with the taxi industry on the system.

The judiciary was also put in the spotlight and only 44 percent of the people interviewed believed judges in South Africa were free of political interference while 55 percent have confidence in the Constitutional Court. — Sapa



AT HELM: Mo Shaik

Songs of praise and cheers for Madiba

Sowetan Reporter and Sapa

FORMER president Nelson Mandela made a rare public appearance in Parliament yesterday, marking the 20th anniversary of his release from prison.

Those present in the chamber cheered and sang "Nelson Mandela, there is none like you" as the former

president took his seat.

Mandela, now 91, was freed in 1990 after spending 27 years in prison and went on to lead South Africa through the last stretch of a peaceful transition from apartheid to democracy.

In his State of the Nation Address, President Jacob Zuma said Mandela's release was a watershed moment that changed the

face of South Africa.

He said Mandela was released because of the struggles of the South African people and their allies all over the world.

"We express our heartfelt gratitude to the international community for their support," said Zuma.

Zuma paid tribute not only to Mandela but also to South Africa's last two white presi-

dents for the country's transition to democracy.

"On this special day, we must also acknowledge the contribution of those within the leadership of the National Party, who eventually realised that apartheid had no future."

He also paid tribute to Inkatha Freedom Party leader Mangosuthu Buthe-lezi for also calling for Man-

dela's release and that of other political prisoners.

Zuma also praised the late Democratic Party leader Helen Suzman for being "the lone voice" in the apartheid parliament calling for Mandela's release.

He dedicated his speech to Mandela and recalled that he was central in securing South Africa the right to host the upcoming Fifa World Cup.

ZUMA HAMMERED OVER CLAIM ON JOBS

Anna Majavu

OPPOSITION parties have slammed President Jacob Zuma's State of the Nation Address, calling it shallow, disappointing – and even accusing him of misleading the public.

They attacked Zuma's claim that the government had created 480 000 of the 500 000 job opportunities he promised last year.

Zuma explained that most of the jobs were temporary jobs created through the extended public works programme.

"If he says hiring one person for one day is creating a job, he is misleading the public, because people are looking for permanent jobs, not one-day jobs," PAC president Letlapa Mphahlele said.

"Zuma made similar promises as last year, just phrased differently. He says 2010 is the year of action but we have just had 2009 with no action. He has no credibility," said DA parliamentary leader Athol Trollip.

A furious ID president Patricia de Lille accused Zuma of "spin-doctoring" job statistics.

She said Zuma's statement that he never promised jobs – only job opportunities – meant he was "treating people as if they are stupid".

UDM leader Bantu Holomisa described Zuma's claim that he had created 480 000 job opportunities as a "palace statistic".

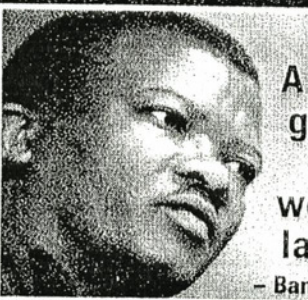
"A million genuine jobs were lost last year," said Holomisa.

Congress of the People (Cope) parliamentary leader Mvume Dandala also questioned Zuma's job statistics, and said that even if he had created 480 000 jobs, Zuma should not be "gloating".



**Zuma is
"spin-doctoring"**

– Patricia De Lille



**A million
genuine
jobs
were lost
last year**

– Bantu Holomisa

**If he says
hiring one
person for
one day is
creating a
job he is
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the public.**

– Letlapa Mphahlele



**I could not
understand
how Zuma
could say he
created
480 000 jobs**

– Mangosuthu
Buthelezi

IFP leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi said he no longer knew what to believe when it came to job statistics. "I could not understand how Zuma could say he created 480 000 jobs and at the same time acknowledge that jobs have been shed. These different figures ... one does not know what to believe".

But an upbeat Julius Malema praised Zuma for speaking about learnerships and skills development. The ANC Youth League leader said the youth had benefited the most from the 480 000 job opportunities.

The Unemployed People's Movement slammed Zuma, saying he had failed to deliver on jobs.

Mncwango on fraud charges

IFP MAN'S WIFE APPEARS IN COURT

Mhlaba Memela

IFP national organiser Albert Mncwango's wife appeared briefly in the Nongoma magistrate's court yesterday on fraud charges.

Nelisiwe Mncwango, 52, turned herself in to the police amid allegations of defrauding tax payers in the impoverished Nongoma municipality of an undisclosed amount of money.

She is employed by the municipality as a head of corporate services.

It is alleged that she had inflated the amounts of money to be paid to service providers involved in the

mayoral cup tournament last year in exchange for kickbacks. She was granted R2 000 bail and is expected back in court on March 1.

It's alleged that in one incident the service provider had charged the municipality R18 000 for services rendered, but that Mncwango had instructed the service provider to increase the quote to R410 000.

Investigators told *Sowetan* that the actual figures could run into millions.

The police had been investigating a number of fraud cases in the Nongoma municipality since 2008.

The mismanagement of

funds in the municipality led to the axing of former mayor Vusi Mabika in 2008.

Mncwango is the third municipal official to appear in court for alleged fraud in less than 10 days.

Two other Nongoma officials, Thulani Dlamini and Vusi Zulu, were arrested and charged with fraud related to tender irregularities amounting to more than R333 000 last week. They were each given R10 000 bail and were expected back in court on the same date as Mncwango.

Investigators close to the case told *Sowetan* that they would add further charges

to the trio's charge sheets following new information they had received.

A source at the municipality told *Sowetan* that the matter had also involved payments to service providers for unfinished projects.

"The council has lost millions," the source said.

Mayor Sithembiso Mathaba said fraud had a negative effect on service delivery in the municipality.

"There are a number of projects that suffer when there is fraud. At this stage the officials will not be suspended as the court case is still under way," he said.

12 ANC councillors get the boot for misconduct

Alex Matlala

THE ANC in the Peter Mokaba region of Limpopo has fired 12 councillors of the Blouberg municipality for misconduct.

The decision was taken at a special meeting held at the Peter Mokaba (formerly Capricorn) district municipal chamber on Wednesday night.

The names of the councillors are ward 18's David Sematla, ward 10's Levy Moholola, ward 21's Bongy Ramolefana, ward 3's Perima Mashite, ward 4's Simon Mokobodi, ward 5's Dorothy Setati and PR councillors Sam Motia, Abrinah Mokami, Chester Malena, Philippine Seratha, Morongwa Mbalakane and Frans Modiba.

ANC regional secretary James Mankge yesterday said the 12 were fired after they had allegedly committed serious cases of misconduct last year.

Mankge said the councillors had tarnished the name of the ANC.

He said they had on several occasions failed to appear before disciplinary hearings called by the party without furnishing valid reasons.

He said among other things the hearings were a sequel to an incident that took place last year in the Blouberg municipality.

A meeting had been called to suspend the former municipal manager.

"Instead of acting like adults and doing things by the book, they brought the municipality to a standstill and disrupted the meeting," Mankge said.

He said: "The councillors were also involved in factionalism within branches of the ANC and held meetings motivated by cabalism."

"In accordance with the policy of the ANC, all those fired are given 14 days, starting from yesterday, to appeal the decision."

"Failure to do so will leave the ANC no option but to appoint new councillors to replace them."

Mankge said the ANC would submit the names of potential new councillors to the Independent Electoral Commission, which would then release a date for bi-elections.

None of the sacked councillors was available for comment at the time of going to press yesterday.

The Times

Release from Aids as important as Madiba's release

YESTERDAY, *The Times* front page marked 20 years since Nelson Mandela's release. We carried a lead story on how the entire country would celebrate the event.

We carried an advertisement on our masthead for an insightful, moving article by Trevor Manuel looking back on February 11 1990.

We carried a picture of Mandela's statue outside the Groot Drakenstein prison against a wonderful blue sky dotted with clouds.

And, to the disappointment of some, we carried an advertisement for socialite Khanyi Mbau's condom test, which we ran on our centre spread.

The disappointed wanted to know why *The Times* would spoil a good package on Mandela with a puff about condoms.

The answer is simple: South Africa, while it has much to celebrate, remains in the grip of an awful Aids epidemic that continues to take the lives of young and old alike.

Sonorous appeals by elder statesmen are not going to persuade this generation to use condoms.

It's going to take the word of a socialite like Mbau — who bravely admitted, in our article, to contracting a sexually transmitted disease — to do it.

The time for squeamishness and moralising has long passed.

We need to do all we can to continue to hammer home the message about how to avoid contracting this deadly disease and we dare not slacken off, even when pressing national issues appear to be "more important".

Mbau putting out a message about safe sex is as important a message as one that celebrates the anniversary of Mandela's release.

Perhaps more so, because it talks to the future.

SA, while it has much to celebrate, remains in the grip of an Aids epidemic

'No justification for violence'

Zuma warns on delivery protests

NKULULEKO NCANA

AFTER promising improved service delivery by local governments, President Jacob Zuma told the police to be tough on lawlessness during service-delivery protests.

Zuma said that the Cabinet, in its efforts to improve service delivery, had approved a turnaround strategy in December.

He said at a meeting with municipal managers last year his administration was given an insight into the problems that have plagued councils, stifling the provision of basic services.

"Local government must work. Municipalities must improve the provision of housing, water, sanitation, electricity, waste management and roads," Zuma said.

He said he had sent a nine-member ministerial team to visit the protest-hit town of Balfour, in Mpumalanga.

A number of the issues raised by the community had received his attention and ministers would attend to outstanding matters.

But Zuma warned: "We reiterate that there are no grievances that can justify violence and the destruction of property. We have directed law-enforcement agencies to take a tougher stance on lawlessness in Balfour and other areas."

He said the turnaround strategy would ensure that local governments had adequate management, administrative and technical skills.

Zuma said his administration had put in place a R1-billion initiative to help people whose salaries were too high to get government-subsidised homes, but earned too little to qualify for a bank mortgage.

The government was working on upgrading "well-located" informal settlements and providing services and land tenure to about 500 000 households by 2014.

"We plan to set aside over 6 000ha of public land for low-income and affordable housing," he said.

Zuma: I've delivered the jobs

NKULULEKO NCANA

PRESIDENT Jacob Zuma yesterday said the government would not abandon any of its programmes to assist ordinary people whose jobs were affected by the global financial crisis.

Key among those programmes is the "training lay-off scheme" that was introduced by the state to allow workers the option of training rather than face the possibility of retrenchment.

Zuma said though the recession cost South Africa about 900 000 jobs, 480 000 public works opportunities had been created. This, he said, was a 97% achievement on the 500 000 jobs he had promised in his inaugural state of the nation speech.

Zuma said: "The Industrial Development Corporation had put aside R6-billion to help companies in distress."

An expansion of public works programmes is under way, he said, and would include local infrastructure and literacy projects, home-based care and schools maintenance.

The newly launched National Youth Development Agency has been mandated to speed up its programmes so that it can play a role in aligning youth development programmes within government.

Despite some negative reports being peddled in the international media on the readiness of South Africa in hosting this year's World Cup, Zuma told the nation that it was all systems go, and that the event would be a success.

Zuma added that given former president Nelson Mandela's central role in securing the opportunity for the country to host the World Cup, its success would be in his honour.

STAFF REPORTER and SAPA

Malema plays down FW's role in history

ANC Youth League president Julius Malema said yesterday that it was not former president FW de Klerk who released Nelson Mandela from prison but the people of South Africa.

Speaking at an ANC breakfast at Drakenstein Prison, near Paarl, in Western Cape, to mark the 20th

anniversary of Mandela's release, Malema said De Klerk was a "product of apartheid" who should not be celebrated.

Malema said racism, unemployment and the housing shortage were all the legacy of De Klerk.

De Klerk announced in 1990 the

decision to free Mandela after 27 years in prison.

"De Klerk never released Mandela ... De Klerk must never be celebrated. De Klerk sponsored black-on-black violence. De Klerk sponsored the IFP to kill our people in KwaZulu-Natal," he said.

Yesterday, Dave Steward, the head of the FW de Klerk Foundation, said: "We don't respond to Julius Malema."

Malema used the Mandela breakfast to lobby again for the nationalisation of the mines.

He said Mandela represented a

generation that had changed the ANC from a "moderate organisation into a fighting force", and had spoken about nationalisation as a policy of the movement.

The youth league yesterday said "Mandela was ... an advocate for the nationalisation of mines as a means of ensuring that the mineral wealth of the country belongs to the people."

Zuma turns screws on slack ministers

BRENDAN BOYLE and NKULULEKO NCANA

PRESIDENT Jacob Zuma grabbed prime time last night to promise that his government will "work faster, harder and smarter" and to put his Cabinet ministers on the spot.

With Nelson Mandela watching from the public gallery of the National Assembly, Zuma promised in his second state of the nation address "a new way of doing things in government".

"This year, 2010, shall be a year of action. The defining feature of this administration will be that it knows where people live, understands their needs and responds faster," Zuma said.

But his proposal for a wage subsidy for companies that take on more employees, got

a firm thumbs down from labour federation Cosatu, usually one of his strongest supporters.

Cosatu general secretary Zwelinzima Vavi said he was disappointed that Zuma was directing financial support for housing and jobs to employers and banks, rather than to workers.

"That is a sure way of further subsidising not the young people but the capitalists themselves," Vavi said.

And DA leader in Parliament Athol Trollip said the wage subsidy idea was borrowed from his party.

Zuma dodged the controversies of his administration, saying nothing about the public criticism of his latest love child, the row within the ruling alliance over nationalisation

of mines or the possibility of presidential pardons for his former adviser Schabir Shaik or for apartheid killer Eugene de Kock.

In the style of Mandela, whose arrival drew thunderous applause, Zuma was generous to former foes, complimenting apartheid presidents PW Botha and FW de Klerk and former Progressive Party stalwart Helen Suzman, IFP founder Mangosuthu Buthelezi — and ANC icon Oliver Tambo — for their contributions to liberation from white rule.

Acknowledging that De Klerk had ordered Mandela's release from prison exactly 20 years ago, he said: "In this, President De Klerk demonstrated great courage and decisive leadership."

Zuma said his government had achieved much in its first nine months in office. It had

come close to meeting his promise of 500 000 short-term jobs between June and December last year with 480 000 job opportunities actually delivered.

But he said the government would have to do better. Cabinet ministers would be given individually tailored targets and deadlines and would each sign "a detailed delivery agreement with the president".

A senior official told reporters the letters setting specific targets for each minister would be drafted soon, but he did not say what would happen to those who failed to

● Continued on Page 5

Zuma promises faster, harder, smarter government

● From Page 1

meet the targets.

"The work of departments will be measured by outcomes developed through our performance monitoring and evaluation systems," he said.

Public servants, too, would be expected to up their game: "We require excellence and hard work. We need public servants who are dedicated and capable and who care for the needs of citizens."

Monitoring and Evaluation Minister in the Presidency Collins Chabane later said the agreements with the ministers would be ready within the next three weeks.

An official who helped to draft Zuma's speech said there had been a deliberate decision to make it more accessible than former president Thabo Mbeki's speeches.

"We did not want to load the speech with too many numbers," he said.

Visibly revelling in the glitz and glamour of the first night-time address to Parliament, Zuma was accompanied by his first wife, Sizakele Khumalo.

His two younger wives arrived separately and were taken to the president's bay overlooking the House.

Zuma listed achievements since

his first address in June and outlined new promises. Officials and ministers said the details of plans approved at a Cabinet *lekgotla* in January would be spelt out by ministers over the next few weeks.

Among the pledges Zuma made were:

- Continuation of the economic stimulus measures designed to lift the economy out of recession, including an enhanced R846-billion three-year infrastructure programme;
- A R1-billion housing-loan guarantee to encourage commercial banks to lend to people who currently fall between the RDP housing ceiling and the minimum income requirement of most

banks;

- A programme to improve school results at all ages, to provide better teaching aids and to monitor progress more closely;
- Implementation of earlier proposals to subsidise companies that give first-time workers opportunities;
- A 50% improvement by 2014 in the performance of school children in standard international literacy and numeracy tests;
- New training plans for

people aged 16 to 25 who had failed to win places in colleges and universities;

- Additional spending on hospitals and clinics, including more government and private-sector partnerships to revitalise facilities; and
- A renewed commitment to municipal service delivery, combined with a crackdown on violent public service protests.

"Local government must work," Zuma said.

"I have directed the ministers to attend to the outstanding matters. We reiterate that there are no grievances that can justify violence and the destruction of property."

He promised further action to reduce the cost of Internet and mobile phone usage.

Zuma said the government would allocate 6 000ha of "well-located public land" for low-in-

come housing.

He promised to give 500 000 families ownership of service land by 2014.



VIEW THE
GALLERY

[http://multimedia.
timeslive.co.za](http://multimedia.timeslive.co.za)

Zuma's family bemused by fresh offspring revelation

Two children by businesswoman 'publicly known'

SAPA

PRESIDENT Jacob Zuma's family yesterday expressed puzzlement over "the big media noise" about his two children with a Pietermaritzburg businesswoman.

The family were responding to reports that Zuma had two daughters, aged 12 and seven, with Nonkululeko Mhlongo.

Mike Zuma, a relative of the president, said: "She is our mother. She visits Msholozzi's (Zuma's clan name) home during functions. She was there in December. I don't understand why people make a noise about this issue."

He said the two children were part of Zuma's 20 children who were publicly known.

"The children are known. The

mother even attended Zuma's wedding with MaNtuli (Nom-pumelelo Zuma)."

News of the children came barely a month after it emerged that Zuma had fathered a girl out of wedlock with Sonono Khoza, the daughter of soccer boss Irvin Khoza.

"Journalists must leave Zuma alone. They must stop discussing his private life. We are tired of this behaviour now," said Michael Zuma.

The stories about Mhlongo's children with Zuma invaded the privacy of both the president and the children, he added.

"I don't want to say anything about the issue of the children with MaMhlongo. What I want to stress is that the president deserves respect. The issue should be discussed only by mem-

bers of the Zuma family.

"When is Zuma going to have peace with his family? His personal life is not for public consumption," he said.

Mhlongo was not available for comment. She has been quoted as denying that Zuma is the father of her two children.

Zuma, 67, wed his fifth wife, Thobeka Madiba, last month, two years after his marriage to Nom-pumelelo Ntuli. He married Sizakele Khumalo in 1973.

His first wife, Kate Mantsho, committed suicide in 2000 and he and Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, the home affairs minister, divorced in 1998.

He is engaged to Gloria Bongi Ngema, from Durban, whose family presented *umbondo* (gifts) to the Zuma family at the end of December.

Veterans stand in for Mandela

A GALAXY of ANC luminaries and comrades stood in for Nelson Mandela and his former wife Winnie yesterday at the celebration to mark his first steps to freedom through the gates of the Drakenstein Correctional Centre, formerly known as Victor Verster.

Struggle veterans Mac Maharaj, Cyril Ramaphosa, Ahmed Kathrada and Andrew Mlangeni were in the front row of marchers. Among them was Cosatu general secretary Zwelinzima Vavi.

Whereas Mandela's walk in 1990 came after a year of nominal imprisonment in a warder's residence on the prison grounds, yesterday's march followed a sumptuous breakfast laid on by the ANC, with corporate sponsorship, for invited guests.

As the marchers walked the few hundred metres from the marquee to the gates, officials pleaded with journalists to give them space to move.

"Don't make it a long walk, please," joked Maharaj.

At the gates, where they were met by a crowd of several thousand people, they halted for speeches at the life-size bronze statue of Mandela.

Planning Minister Trevor Manuel, who was a member of the national reception committee set up at the time to co-ordinate Mandela's release, told the crowd



LOOKING BACK: Trevor Manuel addresses the crowd at the Drakenstein Correctional Centre yesterday during the commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the release of Nelson Mandela.

PICTURE: BRENTON GEACH

that the day of the release was etched on everyone's memory.

In his first public speech, Mandela had said he would place his life in the hands of his fellow South Africans to continue as "a fellow soldier in the struggle for liberation".

"Today Madiba continues with that promise," Manuel said.

"He hasn't ever given up the responsibilities.

"It was not something that he said because he was happy to be out of prison.

"He said it because it was fundamental to his belief system. We were here with him then; we are here with him today still."

Ramaphosa, the former head

of the reception committee and now a businessman, said the ANC was not unbanned by FW de Klerk: "You unbanned it yourself. You hoisted the flag of our people high, and you said the ANC leads, the ANC lives.

"When comrade Nelson Mandela was released, as he walked out of these prison gates, we knew that his freedom meant that our freedom had also arrived.

"As he became free, we knew we were free."

SA Communist Party general secretary Blade Nzimande said it was important, while celebrating Mandela as an icon, not to lose sight of him as a revolutionary. — Sapa

Zuma's zipper malfunction leaks gravitas

ANALYSIS

PETER FABRICIUS



Revelations of the president's 'baby shower' simply indicate that his detractors are hard at work

THE BRITISH high commissioner's annual reception on the eve of the opening of Parliament is a long-standing must on the diplomatic calendar, a tradition going back well into the apartheid years.

Twenty years ago, ambassador Robin Renwick and his guests, on the terraces of the Cape Dutch-style manor in Bishops-court, were all buzz with speculation about whether then president FW de Klerk would announce the release of Nelson Mandela the next day. (Those who claim they also guessed he would unban the ANC, PAC and SACP should be asked for forensic evidence.)

At this year's edition on Wednesday night, hosted by high commissioner Nicola Brewer, the conversation seemed, by contrast, to focus mainly on whether President Jacob Zuma would make any reference in his speech last night to the "Baby Shower", as the cartoonist Zapiro has put it.

Another grave and related topic of conversation among the envoys of powerful nations was: How many babies does it take to bring down a president? What is a president's love-child quota? Or, put

slightly differently, how many times has Zuma apologised to the nation so far and how many apologies might be one too many?

Such hefty political speculation was sauced with much sniggering, of course.

"I hear that Zuma has taken a few days off the job," said one ambassador.

"Yes, he's back in Tuynhuys (the Cape Town presidential office)," quipped another. Some of the other remarks were unprintable.

The contrast between the 1990 event and the 2010 was a measure of what Zuma's zipper malfunction has done to our national dignity – it has caused a major leak of gravitas from the presidency.

But does that really matter politically? The ANC's majority is so impregnable (so to speak) that even quite a few more little Zumas popping up can surely cause it no lasting damage.

At the very most, the infants might jeopardise Zuma's chances of being re-elected by the ANC to a second term.

And if the scandal hurts the ANC a bit, and puts it on its toes, well so much the better for the country, surely?

A British journalist who has covered South Africa since before De Klerk's famous speech 20 years ago dismissed all the condemnation of Zuma and the dire speculation about his future by noting that former president Thabo Mbeki was also rather fond of the ladies.

The journalist noted that there had been considerable speculation about who might be the first lady during the interregnum presidency of Kgalema Motlanthe (detracting a touch from his image as the ANC's Oliver Cromwell) and that even Madiba himself had not necessarily been a saint in his pre-prison days.

And former US president Bill Clinton's problem in this department also came up over the cocktails on Wednesday.

What distinguishes Zuma, perhaps, is that the baby shower seems to have become a steady downpour of revelations, although even here, it might be said in his defence, someone – perhaps within the ANC alliance – seems to be doing far more research on his sex life than anyone did on that of his predecessors.

Another difference is that the disclosures of actual offspring from various

illicit liaisons is living proof, so to speak, that Zuma did not take the necessary precautions against being infected with HIV.

Which, in the context of the immense controversy started by Mbeki, is a serious failure of what should be exemplary leadership.

The scandal has also undermined South Africa's diplomatic efforts to reconcile traditional practices and women's rights in the Beijing +15 review process.

And, in the year when many South Africans are pinning big hopes on the World Cup to bury some of the stereotypes about Africa (as World Cup 2006 buried many of the stereotypes about Germany), the baby shower has instead reinforced them.

But the diplomats seem more concerned about Zuma's failure of leadership. His apparent inability to crack the whip and stop his lieutenants squabbling so publicly among themselves within the tripartite alliance is causing concern among our friends that the ship of state is being left to drift rudderless.

While the skipper is, ahem, below decks?

GRASS-ROOTS POLITICS

THE WITNESS, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2010

WRITING in a Sunday newspaper last weekend, Njabulo Ndebele argued that public debate is trapped within a disabling memory of struggle. South Africa, he wrote, has not been fully released from the psychological prison of apartheid and is in urgent need of a new style of politics.

Ndebele stressed that this does not mean forgetting history. A sustainable South Africa requires a balance between the lessons of the past and fresh ideas about the future. Perhaps most crucially, he advanced the view that "diversity of thinking is a national asset".

In parts of the ruling tripartite alliance this will be regarded as subversive or counter-revolutionary. The language of liberation once provided space for tolerant engagement. But South Africa has been transformed into a nationalist state that calls into question the very idea of citizenship. Of course, the country has been there before — the previous version owed more to Calvin than to Lenin.

The obvious response to Ndebele's call is a consolidation of parliamentary opposition politics. There are early signs of a new party alignment and this can only strengthen democracy. South Africans deserve a realistic alternative to the sterility of African National Congress policy and the inefficiency, corruption and entitlement that underwrite it. But is this a sufficient response to Ndebele's call?

Some commentators believe that real opposition to the government lies not in Parliament, but in social movements. Another outbreak of township insurrection in Mpumalanga is a timely reminder. Academic Richard Pithouse points out that the media's label of service-delivery protest is insufficient. The violence is an extreme reaction to poverty in all its senses and a demand for a political system that gives the poor greater control over their lives.

Again, history is relevant. Twenty years ago South Africa had an emergent system of grass-roots local government through a network of civic associations. They were ruthlessly absorbed by the new post-apartheid rulers obsessed by the top-down control that came with vanguard thinking. That attitude is one cause of the current state of national crisis. Ndebele is right — but new politics must be a politics for, and of, ordinary people.

• Zuma address 'let-down'

OPPOSITION: Speech 'full of promises' and 'shallow'

PARLIAMENT — President Jacob Zuma's second state of the nation speech found little favour with most opposition party leaders yesterday.

Addressing a joint sitting of the two houses of Parliament, Zuma promised accelerated government delivery and a new focus on industrial policy to spur growth and job creation.

"This year, 2010, shall be a year of action. Government must work faster, harder and smarter," Zuma said in the speech coinciding with the 20th anniversary of former president Nelson Mandela's release from prison.

However, Democratic Alliance leader Helen Zille said Zuma's address was insubstantial, but included a shift to DA policies.

"It was full of promises, rather vague and certainly insubstantial as to how he plans to do all the things he says he is going to do," she said.

"He said he is going to do some things, like for example wage subsidies for young people. That is straight out of DA policy."

Other examples of DA policy Zuma mentioned, she said, include the shift to service sites and services, rather than just top structures, and measuring outputs and outcomes.

This was a gradual adoption by the ANC of practical policies of the DA.

"Now the big challenge is to implement them and make them

work. But there was a precious lack of detail. Again, assertions about 'we will do this and we're committed to that', but frankly, none of the how," Zille said.

Congress of the People parliamentary leader Mvume Dandala described the speech as "one of the most disappointing speeches one has heard".

"Firstly it was lacking in vision. At this point what you need is a galvanising speech to galvanise the people."

The speech lacked compassion, notably for crime victims.

"I was thinking the president would at least recognise that damage," Dandala said.

African Christian Democratic Party leader Kenneth Meshoe was blunt, calling Zuma's speech "shallow".

"It did not have depth and we are disappointed that fighting corruption is not one of the five priorities of government," he said.

The United Democratic Movement said it was an "unimpressive" speech laden with "planning".

"How much more longer do we need to hear about planning without actual delivery taking place?" party leader Bantu Holomisa asked.

The uncertain and hesitant delivery of the speech reflected "uncertain and stuttering attempts" by the government to deliver on its basic obligations, Holomisa added. — Sapa.

'Leave Zuma's kids alone'

PRESIDENT Jacob Zuma's family yesterday expressed puzzlement over "the big media noise" about his two children with a Pietermaritzburg businesswoman.

The family was responding to reports that Zuma had two daughters, now aged 12 and seven, with Nonkululeko Mhlongo.

Mike Zuma, a relative of the president, said: "She is our mother. She visits Msholozisi's [Zuma's clan name] home during functions. She was there

in December. I don't understand why people make noise about this issue."

He said the two children are known and are among the president's 20 children who were publicly known.

"The children are known. The mother even attended Zuma's wedding with MaNtuli."

News of the children comes barely a month after it emerged that Zuma had fathered a girl out of wedlock with Sonono Khoza, the daughter of soccer boss Irvin Khoza.

Michael Zuma, the president's younger brother, reacted angrily to reports about Zuma's children with Mhlongo.

"Journalists must leave Zuma alone. They must stop discussing his private life. We are tired of this behaviour now," said Michael Zuma.

The stories about Mhlongo's children with Zuma is an invasion of the privacy of both Zuma and the children, he said.

"I don't want to say anything about

the issue of the children with MaMhlongo. What I want to stress is that the president deserves respect."

The issue should be discussed only by members of the Zuma family.

"When is Zuma going to have peace with his family? His personal life is not for public consumption," he said.

Mhlongo was not available to comment, but has been quoted as denying that Zuma is the father of her two children.

Zuma (67) wed his fifth wife Thobe-

ka Madiba earlier this month, two years after his marriage to Nomapumelelo Ntuli.

He married Sizakele Khumalo in 1973.

His first wife, Kate Mantsho Zuma, committed suicide in 2000 and he and Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, who is Home Affairs Minister, divorced in 1998.

He is engaged to Gloria Bongile Ngelema of Durban.

— Sapa

THE WITNESS, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2010

'A YEAR OF ACTION'

PARLIAMENT — President Jacob Zuma promised accelerated government delivery and a new focus on industrial policy to spur growth and job creation yesterday, as he delivered his second state of the nation address since the 2009 general elections.

"This year, 2010, shall be a year of action. Government must work faster, harder and smarter," Zuma said in the speech to Parliament, coinciding with the 20th anniversary of former president Nelson Mandela's release from prison.

He said the government plans to build labour-absorbing industries, and in a nod to financial markets, he pledged to keep in place economic rescue measures implemented last year, because the pace of recovery from the country's first recession in 17 years is still an unknown factor.

"Economic indicators suggest that we are now turning the corner. Economic activity is rising in South Africa and we expect growth going forward ... It is too soon though to be certain of the pace of recovery. Government will therefore not withdraw its support measures."

Zuma revisited his promise, made last May, to create half a million job opportunities, and contradicted the widely held view that government had failed to make good on it.

He stressed that these were "not jobs in the mainstream economy", but temporary positions meant to provide jobless people with "an income, work experience and training opportunities".

"We are pleased to announce that by the end of December, we had created more than 480 000 public works job opportunities, which is 97 % of the target we had set."

He said the jobs were in construction, community-based care and environmental projects, and that government has identified ways to create more work opportunities through labour-intensive projects and the expansion of public employment programmes.

A special focus will be on creating jobs for young people who bear the brunt of unemployment.

"The most urgent focus of policy change must be interventions to create jobs for young people."

Zuma announced that government planned to spend R846 billion on its three-year infrastructure in-

'A YEAR OF ACTION'



President Jacob Zuma waves as he arrives for the opening of Parliament in Cape Town last night, passing an honour guard of children.

PHOTO: AP

• **WHAT THE OPPOSITION THOUGHT: PAGE 6**
• **WHAT THE PEOPLE WANTED TO HEAR: PAGE 6**
• **LEAVE ZUMA'S KIDS ALONE, SAYS FAMILY AFTER LATEST REVELATION OF CHILDREN WITH A PMB BUSINESSWOMAN: PAGE 3**

vestment programme (some R60 billion more than planned so far), suggesting that it remains its main vehicle for driving growth. He described it as "underpinning our strategy for economic recovery and growth".

Zuma alluded but briefly to government's much-awaited, revamped industrial policy action plan, which sources in the presidency say was approved by cabinet on Wednesday and will be introduced to Parliament by Trade and

Industry Minister Rob Davies before month's end.

"Our industrial policy action plan and our focus on green jobs will build stronger and more labour-absorbing industries."

He reiterated his administration's ambitions to get down to business on bettering education and health care, fighting crime and focusing on rural development, as well as his plan to hold his ministers to strict performance targets.

"We are pleased to announce a

new way of doing things in government," he said.

"The ministers, who are responsible for a particular outcome, will sign a detailed delivery agreement with the president. It will outline what is to be done, how, by whom, within what time period and what measurements and resources will be used."

He said the state plans to introduce rigorous school inspections, and aims to improve literacy and numeracy by 20 % by 2014. It will also reintroduce health programmes in schools.

On crime, Zuma said the state will work harder to reduce serious and violent crime and ensure the justice system works efficiently.

Police numbers will be increased by 10 % over the next three years, Turn to page 6

Unkosikazi wesikhulu uphume ngebheyili

KWANELE NCALANE

Ebika kwaNongoma

UPHUME ngebheyili ka-R2 000 unkosikazi Sanelisiwe Mncwango; ongunkosikazi womholi ophézulu we-IFP, uMnuz Albert Mncwango (osesithombeni) ngezinsolo zenkohlakalo.

UNkk Mncwango ubekwe ngokusemthethweni icala lokukhwabanisa izolo ngesikhathi evela enkantolo yaKwaNongoma.

Kusolakala ukuthi lesi sikhulu esinguMqondisi wezinto ezithinta umphakathi nomasipala waKwaNongoma, sakhwabanisa imali eyabe ibekelwe ukuhlinzeka ngokudla izihambeli ngemidlalo yebhola eyabe ingonyaka odlule.

UNkk Mncwango, owake waba nguSomlomo kulo masipala, uboshwe ngaleli cala kanye nabanye abathathu.

Ukuboshwa kwabo kwenze isibalo safinyelelwa kwabayisithupha abasebenzi ababoshiwe, abanye abangasekho kulo masipala.

Abathathu babhekene necala eliphathelene nohlelo lwenkundla yezemidlalo okwabikwa ukuthi



yakhiwe ekubeni ingakhiwanga.

Ukuboshwa kwalaba basebenzi, phakathi kwabo okunabaqondisi ababili kanye nowake waba yisikhulu esiphezulu ophikweni lwezimali,

kushayelwe ihlombe nguNgqongqoshe woMnyango wezoHulumeni baseKhaya nezindaba zoMdabu esifundazweni, uNkk Nomusa Dube

IMeya yalo masipala, uMnuz Sthembiso Mataba, phambilini itshele *Isolezwe* ukuthi azikho izinyathelo zangaphakathi ezithathelwe lezi zikhulu ngoba bafake icala kwabomthetho.

Amanye amakhansela ngaphakathi kulo masipala asezina nokuthi uNksz Dube adle amandla okuphathwa kwezimali kulo masipala ngoba ekhala ngokuthi sekukaningi kuqhubeka izenzo zokuphathwa budedengu kwezimali zomphakathi.

ISOLEZWE, ULWESIHLANU, FEBHUWARI 12, 2010

UMengameli ugcizelele ukubaluleka kwemfundo

SIMPHIWE NDWANDWE

UMENGAMELI Jacob Zuma usephinde wakugcizelela ukubaluleka kokuba sesikoleni ngesikhathi amahora ayisikhombisa kothisha nabafundi ngosuku.

Uthe uhulumeni uzolekelela othisha ngezinsiza kusebenza nokuzokwenza bakwazi abazokufundisa izingane ngosuku.

Abafundi bazonikezwa izincwadi zokubalekelela ezifundweni ngezilimi ezingu-11. Okunye akushilo ukuthi abafundi abenza amabanga 3, 6 no-9 bazobhala izivivinyo zokukwazi ukubhala ngendlela nokubala ezizohlolwa ngokuzimele. Uthe inhloso kahulumeni ukukhuphula izinga lokuphaswa kwalokhu kuhlolwa lisuka phakathi kuka-35% no-45% liya kuka-60% ngo-2014.

Imiphumela yalezi zivi-

vinyo izothunyelwa kubazali ukuze babone ukusebenza kwabantwana babo.

Uthe kuzobuyele kubhekwe inqubekela phambili yezikole ezingu-27 000 ezweni lonke ezobe iqashwe ngelokhozi yizikhulu zoMnyango weMfundo eyiSisekelo.

Uthe uhulumeni uzimisele ukukhuphula isibalo sabafundi bakamatiku-letsheni abathola imiphumela emihle ebavumela ukuthi bayofunda emanyuvesi ngo 175 000 ngo-2014.

Uncome isitatimende sezinyunyana zothisha iNaptosa, Sadtu neSAOU sokuzibophezela ohlelweni

lokwenza ukufundisa kothisha nokuzimisela kwabafundi okusezingeni eliphezulu. Uthe kusaxoxiswa nezi-

khungo zemfundo ephakeme mayelana nokuthi kuhlinzekwe abafundi abantulayo ngosizo lwezimali ngaphansi kwesikhwama esibizwa ngokuthi yiNational Student Financial Aid Scheme.

ISOLEZWE, ULWESIHLANU, FEBHUWARI 12, 2010

Ubuholi bendabuko abunikwe amandla

MHLELI: Ngicela ukuba ngihlale phezu kodaba lwabaholi bomdabu kanye nezinkantolo zesizwe. Ngizothanda ukusuka phansi ezibondeni, izinduna kuze kufike emakhosini esizwe.

Ingihlupha kakhulu le nto emphefumelweni wami, ngeke ngihlale ngingayikhulumi ukuze wonke umuntu aqhamuke nombono wakhe ngayo. Leyo nto wukungani kwa kwabaholi bendabuko amandla ngokufanele ukuthi basingathe izindaba zesizwe nakho konke okuthinta umphakathi kepha amandla abo anqindwe. Yingakho isizwe sethu sesinezinkinga ngalolu hlobo. Kusadliwa ngoludala kwakumnandi kabi.

Izinkantolo zesizwe kudala zaba khona kodwa umsebenzi wazo kawubonakali. Abaholi bomdabu njengezibonda, izinduna, kanye nabanye, okwakuvamise ukuthi kube zingwevu ezivuthiwe zomakadebona asebenkatshebomvu azisashaywa mkhuba kanti yibo abantu ababebalulekile, behlonishwa ngenxa yokuthi uma kunezinkinga emphakathini babehlanganisa amakhanda

bafune isixazululo. Noma kukhona izinkinga zomndenithile kwakuba yibo abahlangana komkhulu kuhlangani-swe lowo mndenithile ukuze welulekwe kubuyiswane kube nokuthula.

Kunamacala engingasiboni isidingo sokuthi aze ayiswe emaphoyiseni nasezinkantolo zikahulumeni oxube zonke izinhlanga ezinenqubomgomo yazo. Abantu abaninzi ngezikhathi zengcindezelo bahamba bayocasha kwamanye amazwe nangaphesheya kwezilwandle, okuthi uma sebethatha amandla okuphatha bafuna ukusiphilisa ngendlela abayibone yenziwa kwamanye amazwe. Kunemithetho abayicobelele kwamanye amazwe efike yadala izinkinga eziningi kulesi sizwe sethu. Bayishicilela nakuMthethosisekelo ngaphandle kokuba isizwe sibe yingxenywe yokubonisana ngayo ukuze kube ngelandlelwayo nakuleli zwe lethu.

Yileso naleso sizwe sinenqubomgomo nendlela esenza ngayo izinto. Kusilima-zile ukugamanxa kwepolitiki ezindabeni zemindenithile nezomphakathi, okudala ukudideka ebantwini ngoba

yilowo nalowo ufuna ukufafaza izimfundisoze ebantwini, ikakhulukazi kwabasha. Kunezinto eziyohlale ziyisisekelo sempilo yethu bantu bomdabu ukuze sibe yisizwe esiphumelelayo kukho konke, impumelelo yethu ingagajwa yizinkinga. Lokhu engikhuluma ngakho yinhlonipho, ukuthobeka, ukubekezela, uxolo, ukubambisana, ukukhuthazana, ukusizana, ukwakhana kanye nokunye okubumba isizwe ukuba sithuthuke.

Ngithe kunemithetho efike yadala izinkinga ethathelwe kwamanye amazwe enjengo Domestic Violence Act, engalawuli kodwa yabhebbhezela inzondo kakhulu ngoba thina besinokwethu nendlela ebesiqhuba ngayo okuyiyona yona. Amacala anjengodlame lwase mndenini, ukwebiwa kwemfuyo, ukuthakatha, impi yombango, umbango womngcele, ukuthwala, ukuthuka (crimen injuria), yiwo afanele ukuba asingathwe ezinkantolo zamakhosi. Amaphoyisa nezinkantolo zikahulumeni sekungaba yinto ekude kanti

futhi yokugcina, hhayi ukuthi umuntu uxabana nonkosikazi wakhe usegijima uya emaphoyiseni usefuna nencwadi abathi eyokumvikela kodwa engamgqokisi ijazi lensimbi noma imbiyele ngodonga ahlale ehamba nalo lokuthi lowo axabene naye angakwazi ukusondela eduze kwakhe.

Umbuzo wami kulaba abaqhamuka nalowo mithetho ngukuthi ngabe bayabona yini ukuthi badala umonakalo ongakanani esizweni ngoba yize kade kukhona izigameko zokubulawa kwabantu besifazane kodwa seziya ngokwanda kakhulu ngoba abanye okuthiwa bangabahlukumezi basuke besukeliwe noma ngesinye isikhathi yibo kanye abahlukunyezwayo.

Ngicela ukuba ke babuyekeze le mithetho yabo babuyebayibheke, mhlawumbe kungakuhle ukuthi bayihoxise ngoba ayisizi ngalutho, babuyisele amandla ebantwini abafanele ukuba basingathe izindaba zabo.

Mina ngikholelwa eku-thini izeluleko okuyizonazona ngingazithola kwabadala

kunami futhi nabo hhayi noma yibaphi. Ngisho izimpunga ezihluzile emqondweni nezimaziyo uNkulunkulu. Umuntu naye obhekwe ngezakhe izinkinga angazixazulula kanjani ezakho? Uma usemncane ngeminyaka ungabobona ukuthi uhlakaniphile kunabanye ngoba unezinto ezithile abanye abangenazo ngoba kuzothi kusasa usuhlangabezana nezinkinga uqale phansi uthi ufelelwa umona. Uma ungakabi nankinga usuke usazoba nayo. Uma uke waba nenkinga noma usenkingeni usuke usondele ekunethezekeni kwakho ngoba usuke usulungisiwe wavivinywa wabe usuphumelela.

Umuntu omusha obeqhamuka nezimpawu zobuholi ubeba yigugu nethemba lomphakathi, evikeleka aziswa nangabadala ngokuba eyisibonelo esihle kwabanye abeza emuva kwakhe. Ukuzethemba nokuma kulokho akholelwa kukhona yikho okumenza abenentshisekelo yokwakha ngaso sonke isikhathi. Ngefunda ukuthi ngingabo-

mzonda umuntu ngezinto ezimbi ezishiwo ngabantu ngaye kepha angoqaphela ukwenza kwakhe emphakathini ukuze ngigxeke ngendlela eyakhayo.

Elami lokugcina ngithi mazibuyee emasisweni zize ekhaya. Ngifisa ukubona izinkantolo zesizwe ziba yizixazululo zomphakathi, ikakhulukazi uma kudingi-dwa izinkinga eziqondene nalokhu engikubalulile, amaphoyisa angasethenziswa ngemitheshwana ecobelelwe kwabezizwe edala umonakalo kunokuthi ilawule inhlalakahle yomphakathi.

Abantu base-Adams Mission kuya eMbumbulu ngithi abazazi izibonda, izinduna, amakhosi ezigodi zawo endaweni, uzihloniphe uzithobele futhi ngoba akekho umuntu ongaphezu komthetho. Amakhansela kahulumeni awagxile ezintweni ezithinta intuthuko, athobele abaholi bendabuko, alandele imithetho kamasipala injengoba injalo.

Zwakele Msane
AMANZIMTOTI

ISOLEZWE, ULWESIHLANU, FEBHUWARI 12, 2010

Babhiyozele ukukhululwa kukaMadiba

INTATHELI YESOLEZWE

UKUSEBENZELA ukubumbana kwesizwe nokulwela intando yabantu kwalowo owayenguMengameli wezwe uDkt Nelson Mandela, kwamakhela ugazi kubantu emhlabeni wonke jikelele. Izinkumbi zabantu ebezihambele umgubho weminyaka engamashumi amabili aphuma ejele bezingawuvali umlomo ngamagalelo aleli qhawe.

Izolo amaqhawe omzabalazo okubalwa phakathi kwawo oMnuz Mac Maharaj, Mnuz Cyril Ramaphosa, Mnuz Ahmed Kathrada noMnuz Andrew Mlangeni babe ngabanye babantu ebebehamba phambili kulabo ebebehhiyozele ukuphela kweminyaka engamashumi amabili uTata adedelwa ejele iDrakenstein phambilini elalaziwa ngeVictor Vester ngasePaarl, esifundazweni iWestern Cape.

La masango uMandela aphuma kuwo esekhululwa ngomhla ka-11 Febhuwari 1990 ngemuva kokudonsa



IZIGAGAYI zomzabalazo bezihamba phambili emashini ebise-Drakenstein Prison, eKapa, lapho bekukhunjulwa ukukhululwa kukaMnuz Nelson Mandela ngo-1990. Lapha la maqhawe omzabalazo abemi ngaphandle kwamasango aleli jele

Izithombe: BRENTON GEACH

iminyaka engu-27 ejele asenesithombe sakhe sensimbi esikhulu esiwuphawu lokumhlonipha.

Kule migubho uMadiba ubengekho kanti nalowo owayengunkosikazi wakhe

nowayembambe ngengalo ngesikhathi ephuma ejele uNkk Winnie Madikizela-Mandela ubengekho.

Nabanye abaholi bebephume ngezinkani ukuzogubha lolu suku kanti

phakathi kwabo bekukhona noNobhala Jikelele weCosatu uMnuz Zwelinzima Vavi, uMengameli we-ANC Youth League (ANCYL) uMnuz Julius Malema noNgqongqoshe weKhomi-

shini yokuhlela esehhovisi likaMengameli, uMnuz Trevor Manuel.

UManuel utshele izinkumbi zabantu kulo mcimbi ukuthi naye wayeyingxenye yethimba



ISITHOMBE sikaTata uNelson Mandela esisemasangweni ejele iDrakenstein, eWestern Cape, esakhelwa ukumhlonipha

elalihlela ukumukelwa kukaMandela ngesikhathi ephuma ejele.

“UMandela akakaze afune ukulaxaza umsebenzi wokunakekela abantu. Wayebathanda abantu futhi kubalulekile ukuthi abalwele,” kusho uManuel.

U-2010 wunyaka wokwenza: Zuma

SIMPHEWE NDWANDWE

UMENGAMELI Jacob Zuma uthi u-2010 wunyaka wokwenza njengoba uhulumeni wakhe uzibophezele ukusebenza kanzima, ngokushesha futhi nangobuchule.

UZuma ukusho lokhu ngesikhathi ethula inkulumbo abeyibhekise esizweni izolo kusihlwa. Kube ngokokuqala emlandweni wakuleli ukuthi inkulumbo yalolu hlobo yethulwe ngalesi sikhathi.

“Sikwenze lokhu ukuze abantu abaningi bakuleli okuhlanganisa abasebenzi nezingane zesikole bakwazi ukuba yingxenye yale nkulumbo,” kucacisa uZuma.

UZuma uphinde wakugcizelela ukuthi basazogxila ezintweni ezinhlanu eziwumogodla wezwe abale kuzo ezemfundo, ezempilo, ukudala amathuba emisebenzi, ukulwa nobubha, nokuthuthukisa



LIVULWE ngehubo lesizwe kanje iPhalamende eKapa izolo. Kusukela kwesokunxele nguSomlomo, uMnuz Max SiSulu, iPhini likaMengameli, uMnuz Kgalema Motlanthe, uMengameli Jacob Zuma nowakwakhe uMaKhumafo, noSihlalo we-NCOP uMnuz Mminawa Mahlangu ngesikhathi bengena ePhalamende kuculwa iculo lesizwe

izindawo zasemakhaya.

Ubuye wamemezela izindlela ezintsha athi zizolandelwa ekusebenzeni kukahulumeni awuholayo. Enkulumweni yakhe ebidle ngokunanelwa ngehlombe, uZuma uthe indlela yokusebenza kweMinyango kahulumeni isizobhekwa ngeso lokhozi.

“ONgqongqoshe bazozibophezele ngokusayina isivumelwano sokwenza lowo msebenzi abasuke benikwe wona, lesi sivumelwano sizobe sicacisa ukuthi yini ezokwenziwa, izokwenziwa ngubani, kanjani futhi kubekwe nesikhathi lowo msebenzi okumele

uphothulwe ngaso,” kugcizelela uZuma.

Enkulumweni yakhe uZuma uveze ukuthi uhulumeni wakhe unezinhlelo zokwehlisa ukubhebbhetheka kwesifo sengculazi nesifo sofuba.

Uthe izinqumo ezathathwa ngosuku olwaziwa nge-World Aids

Day bazoqikelela ukuthi ziyaqala ziyasebenza.

Enkulumweni yakhe ethathe ihora nemizuzu eyishumi uZuma uvumile ukuthi isimo sokuntenga komnotho esihlasele leli zwe ngonyaka odlule sibe nomthelela ekulahlekeni kwemisebenzi. Uthe lesi simo saholela ekulahlekeni

kwemisebenzi engu-900 000.

Sishayelwe ihlombe isiphakamiso sikaZuma sokuthi eminyakeni emithathu ezayo izingane ezineminyaka engu-15 kuya kwengu-18 eziphuma emindenini ehlwempu zizothola izibonelelo zezingane. Uthe uhulumeni wakhe uzibophezele ekulweni nenkohlakalo njengoba eveze ukuthi kuleli sonto banqamule izibonelelo ezingu-32 687 ebezingumkokotelo ebezidla u-R180 million.

Ukhuthaze abantu bakuleli ukuthi babe yingxenye yemidlalo yeNdebe yoMhlaba, waphinde wagqugquzela ukuba kuthengwe amathikithi.

UZuma ubephelezelwa owakwakhe uMaKhumafo obegqoke econsa.

UMengameli akathanga vu ngodaba olulokhu lubhedlwe uMengameli we-ANC Youth League, uMnuz Julius Malema, lokuthathwa kwezimayini zenganyelwe uhulumeni.

Uyaziqhenya ngakwenzele iZululand

KWANELE NCALANE

Ebika eDumbe

USIHLALO kazwelonke we-IFP, uNkk Zanele Magwaza-Msibi (osesithombeni), uzishaya isifuba ngemisebenzi ayenzele iqembu lakhe futhi uthi ngeke alishiye ngoba akanalo elinye ikhaya ngaphandle kwalo.

UNkk Magwaza-Msibi obuye abe yiMeya kaMasipala wesifunda iZululand, utshele *Isolezwe* ukuthi noma enikezwa muphi umsebenzi uyohlale njalo ewenza ngobuqotho nangokukhulu ukuzikhandla.

Lokhu uNkk Magwaza-Msibi ukusho engxoxweni ekhethekile abe nayo ne*Solezwe* eDumbe ngemuva komhlangano namakhosi angaphansi kwesifunda sakhe.

I-IFP ithathe isinqumo sokuthi asuswe ekubeni yiMeya ayoba yilungu lesiShayamthetho kanti lokhu kulindeleke ukuthi kwenzeke ngo-Ephreli uma sekufike isikhathi sokuthi amaqembu ahlele kabusha izinhla zawo zabacuphele ukungena eziShayamthetho nasePhalamende likazwelonke.

“Uma unginikeza umsebenzi noma yimuphi kumele uhambe uyolala ngoba ngiyathanda ukwenza

into ngokuzikhandla nangempumelelo,” kusho yena.

Uchaze umholi we-IFP uDkt Mangosuthu Buthelezi njengomholi obambe elikhulu iqhaza ekuthuthukiseni leli zwe.

“Iqiniso wukuthi uMntwana usebenzile esebenzela abantu baseNingizimu Afrika. Kwayikhona ukuthi uMkhandlu waseZululand sekuphele iminyaka eyisishiyagalombili uthola imibiko emihle kumcwangingi mabhuku kukhomba khona ukuthi izimfundiso zakhe zinhle ngoba wasifundisa ukulwisana nenkohlakalo,” kusho uNkk Magwaza-Msibi.

Uveze ukuthi isikhathi asihlalile kumasipala kusuka ngo-1996 uyambonga uNkulunkulu ngoba akakaze alingeke ezimalini zomphakathi futhi akukho lapho ezisola khona ngokuthi akenzanga kahle khona.

Utshele leli phephandaba ukuthi isithombe esakhiwa ngumkhandlu wakhe esiwumfanekiso kaButhelezi, basezinhlelweni zokuthi basidayise.

“Ngemuva kokuba i-ANC izwakalise ukukhathazeka ngokuthi simosa izimali zomphakathi sibone ukuthi ngoba sesikhona sakhiwe, kumele sisidayise. Bakhona

esebevelile abanesifiso sokusithenga,” kusho yena.

Mayelana nokweshelwa ngabaholi be-ANC ngoba bebona ukuthi akaphethwe kahle kwi-IFP, uthe akukho mholi we-ANC oseke waxoxisana naye kodwa ulokhu ezwa bezibangela “umsindo ezinkalweni”

Ngesikhathi ethatha izintambo njengeMeya ngo-1999, uthe babengenawo amahhovisi kodwa manje lo mkhandlu unamahhovisi kanokusho akhiwa ngo-R6 million kanti manje uthe lo mkhandlu usukwazile ukuvulela intsha amathuba emisebenzi engu-600.

Uthe umkhandlu wakhe wenze umehluko omkhulu ezimpilweni zabantu njengoba ethe ukwakhiwa kwesikhungo sezempilo, iPrince Mandisa Health Care Centre, esoLundi ngezinye izinto aziqhenyayo ngazo.

“Sihlose ukwenza umehluko, isifiso sami wukuthi lesi sikhungo sibe yisibhedlela, abantu abahaqwe yingculazi bakwazi ukuthola usizo,” kusho yena.

Phakathi kokunye okwenziwe kumasipala wakhe aziqhenyayo ngakho wukwakha amahhovisi abiza imali ecela ku-R3 million eNdlu yabaHoli boMdabu eZululand.

Uthe manje abantu



sebenawo amanzi kanti banezinhlelo ezinhle zabafelokazi, ondlunkulu kanye nezintandane.

Uveze ukuthi yize kungewona umsebenzi kamasipala ukwakha amagumbi okufundela kodwa

umkhandlu wakhe ngosizo abelufuna ngaphandle ukwazile ukwakha amakilasi angu-540.

Akuvezwe ukuthi yimalini eyondla umndeni kaZuma

Mhleli

KWELAKHO lodumo ngifisa ukuba ngibuze isizwe ukuthi ngakube uMengameli wezwe, uMnuz Jacob Zuma, usesemgudwini yini?

Izinto ezingamachashaza avela ngokuphindelela kumhlonishwa uMengameli zingenza ngilokhu ngizibuza ukuthi ngakube izwe lizoba nenkinga yini ngobuholi bukamhlonishwa uNxamalala.

Ngicabanga kodwa ukuthi uma abantu bebona ukuthi singase sibhekane nengwadlwa, kufanele isizwe sike simnxuse ukuba athathe isibonelo kome-ngameli abendulelayo okungomhlonishwa uMnuz Nelson Mandela nomhlonishwa uMnuz Thabo Mbeki.

UMengameli uMandela akakaze ashade nabesifazane ababili ngesikhathi esisodwa kanjalo noMengameli uMbeki akakaze, futhi, kwala noma eseshiywe yingane eyayinguzinyo-bulala wakhe kodwa akaze abheke enxenye.

Umhlonishwa uMbeki washiya isibonelo esiyinqayizivele phezu kokuba engumengameli abesifazane bonke beziphonsa kuye nje okwezinyosi ekhekheni, kepha wakhwazi ukuziqoqa watshengisa ubunono ekubhekaneni nezindaba zakhe zangasese, yingakho nje futhi umphakathi waseNingizimu Afrika ungazange wathi vu ngezindaba zakhe zangasese ngoba wayehlale ngokuziqoqa njengenhloko yesizwe.

Angazi noma ukufunda kubaluleke kakhulu yini uma unika umholi amandla ngoba phela omengameli engikhuluma ngabo bafundile, nokho-ke angisoze ngehlulela umhlonishwa uMengameli ngemfundo ngoba naye ukungafundi lokhu akusilona i-



UMNUZ Thabo Mbeki

phutha lakhe kepha isimo sezombusazwe sangaleso sikhathi esamholela eku-theni angafundi kanjalo nesimo sasekhaya nje-ngoba nje nami ngiphuma emndenini ontulayo.

Okubaluleke kakhulu njengamanje ukuthi umhlonishwa uyazifundisa izingane zakhe njengama-nje.

Umndeni kamhlonishwa uMengameli ngokwazi kwami ubhekwa nguHulumeni ngakho uma okaNxamalala eqhubeka nokwenza akwenzayo e-

ngakaphothuli ngisho iminyaka emibili ehhovisi lobengameli, umbuzo uzothi iyothi iphela emhlanu kuyobe kunjani?

Isithembu sikamhlonishwa umengameli asiyona inkinga kodwa-ke uma sizokondliwa ngemali yakwaNxamalala hhayi yabakhokhi-bentela abavuka ekuseni ngovivi beyofukuziswa ngamaBhunu emapulazini nasezimayini bejike behole ubala nabentela baxebule eyabo esabekayo kodwa kungabonwa ntuthuko ngaphandle kwesithembu sikaMhlonishwa uZuma.

Singumphakathi asaziswe ngemali enakekela umndeni kamhlonishwa uMengameli ukuze sazi ukuthi intuthuko igqoza kangaka emakhaya imali yethu singabakhokhi-ntela ishonaphi futhi leyo mali iqhathaniswe neyayondla omengameli bangaphambili.

Umhlonishwa uMengameli wayelindeni engasithathi lesi sithembu esengusekelamengameli noma wayelinde ukuthi asithathelwe yimali yabakhokhi-bentela?

Bhekezakhe Ntuli
HLUHLUWE

Kazi konakalaphi kuShenge neNkatha ngamaNazareth?

Mhleli

KWELAKHO elingashayi phansi ngifisa unqiphe isikhala ngibhale incwadi evulelekile eya ebuholoni beNkatha ngibucela ukuba balungise ngokushesha ubudlelwano neBandla lakwaShembe obubonakala busuzelwe ngumzondo.

Ngingumlandeli we-IFP futhi ngikhonza eBandleni lamaNazareth eBuhleni.

Eminyakeni eminingi sisakhula eBandleni besibona uShenge njalo engalibali ukufika eBuhleni ezovela eBandleni njengomholi onohlonze. Futhi ukufika kwakhe bekuba nelikhulu isasasa nedumela.

UShenge bekuthi uma enikwa ithuba enkonzweni akhulume aze abalule ngisho ubudlelwano anabo neBandla lakwaShembe.

Kodwa mumva nje uShenge ubonakale eziqhelelanisa neBandla lakwaShembe ikakhulukazi uhlangothi lwaseBuhleni.

Kukhona nezinkomba ezikhomba ukuthi uShenge usengene embangweni wobuholi beBandla lamaNazareth futhi ubonakala evuna uhlangothi lwaseKuphakameni.

Nginezizathu zalokhu engikushoyo futhi ngizokubala kuyo le ncwadi.

Ngisho umhedeni ongakaze alubhade esontweni uyazi ukuthi ukungenza emanzini kusho ukuthini. Kusho ukugezwa zonke izono zezwe nokuzinikela ngokupheleleyo eNkosini.

Kusho ukubhabhadiswa uthabathe isifungo sokuzinikela eNkosini kulelo hlelo/ibandla obhabhadiswe ngaphansi kwalo.

Loku sikubonile kwenzeka kuShenge ebhabhadiswa yiNkosi yamaNazareth uThingu lwenkosazane eBuhleni.

Ubufakazi

Sinazo nezithombe ezifakazela loku. Sinabo nofakazi. Owokuqala nguye kanye umNtwana uButhelezi.

Sithe sisajabulela lezo zindaba zesinye sezikhulu ezihlonishwayo ezweni esesikhanyiselwe indlela yobuNazareth, gwiqiqi, washintsha umnta kaMathole wgxuma wama ngentaba esho kona ukuthi yena ubengeve ebhabhadiswa kodwa ubebusiswa nje kwasehusha-ke thina ukubusiswa okuze kungenelwe emanzini sibe sazi kahle kamhlophe ukuthi uma iNkosi yamaNazareth ikubusisa, ikubusisa nje ngezwi kuphela elithi "Inkosi ikubusise".

Lokho kuba sekwanele ukuqqa wonke amafindo akubophile.

Lokhu kukaShenge kwasixaka impela. Thina balandeli beNkatha nabeBandla sabona uShenge ezibona yena engafanele ukuba yilunga leBandla hlawumbe elibukeleka phansi, elihlala phansi, lisontele emnyango, lihambe ngezinyawo, nelingaphucuzekile. Asazi-ke nguyena uShenge owaziyo.

Ngasekupheleni konyaka ka-2008 singabalandeli beNkatha sike sabi-

Kazi konakalaphi kuShenge neNkatha ngamaNazareth?

UMLOBI ukhathazekile ngokuthi bonakala kuphi ubudlelwane obuhle obebuphakathi kweNkosi uMangosuthu Buthelezi, iqembu lakhe Inkatha namaNazareth aseBuhleni

zwa ngobuningi bethu eCity Hall eThekwini lapho kwakuyo kwe-thulwa khona ngokusemthethweni umkhankaso weNkatha wokhetho.

Kulowo mcimbi iNkatha yadlala i-video ekhuluma ngomlando weNkosi uMangosuthu Buthelezi.

Leyo video yayiphinde iveze bonke abantu abanohlonze nababamba elikhulu iqhaza empilweni kaShenge nabasondelene kakhulu naye oKaMathole.

Phezu kwezinkulumbo ezingaka ayehlale ezethula eBuhleni uShenge eqhakambisa ubudlelwano bakhe neBandla lakwaShembe, kwama-ngaza kakhulu ukuthi uma sekubalwa ababambe iqhaza empilweni yakhe, lingabe lisaphathiwa nhlobo elikaShembe.

"Inkatha Story"

Kukabili-ke. Lokhu kungasho ukuthi wayevele elikhohlisa iBandla lakwaShembe ngezinto ayezi-sho efike eBuhleni, noma waba namahloni okuthi kuzwe abantu ukuthi kanti unomlando omhlanga-nisa neBandla elidelelekile nje-ngaleli lakwaShembe.

YiNkosi uButhelezi kuphela owa-ziyo ukuthi kungani engabubalu-langa ubudlelwane bakhe neBandla lakwaShembe emlandweni wakhe owawudlalwa eCity Hall.

Kwelinye lamaphephandaba esi-Zulu iLanga elaliphume ngoDecem-ber 7, 2008, kwakunamakhasi

ayi-16 ayethulela umNtwana wa-KwaPhindangene isigqoko.

Nakhona lapho kulelo phephanda-ba kwakunezithombe zabo bonke abaholi aseke wasebenzisana nabo uShenge nababe neqhaza ngezindlela ezahlukeni empilweni yakhe kubalwa o-Oppenheimer, o-Mnuz Mandela, uMnuz FW de Klerk, uNkk Helen Suzman, u-Mnuz Kenneth Kaunda, iDalai La-ma, uMnuz Thabo Mbeki, uMnuz Tony Leon nabanye abaningi, kodwa akushiwo lutho ngo-She-

'NGIYABEXWAYISA

abaholi bonkana

nje beNkatha

baze

bangayingeni

le nto yombango

wobuholi

beBandla

lakwaShembe

ngoba

iyobakhingca

ibabangele

amashwa ayoba

ngaphezu kwalawa

avele akhungethe

iqembu

le-IFP kumanje...'

mbe, lo uShenge ayehlale ekhu-luma kahle ngaye uma efike eBu-hleni.

Kunoshicilelo lomlando wokusu-nguleka kweqembu le-IFP obizwa ngokuthi "Inkatha Story".

Nawo belu lo mlando wethulwa khona eCity Hall ngalo usuku olu-fanayo.

Uma uwufunda lo mlando ekhasi-ni le-10 kukhona lapho iNkatha i-qagula khona ukuthi inhloko yeBa-ndla lakwaShembe nguMfu Londa Shembe (ongasekho).

Ilotshwe kanje: "...in 1986 the Re-verend Londa Shembe, head of the Nazareth Baptist Church..."

Yingane kuphela engaboni ukuthi njengoba kusagqigqwa iziNkatolo nje ngodaba lokunguyena mholi weBandla lamaNazareth, iNkatha yona kade yamqoka okunguyena mholi njengoba sengicaphunile e-mlandweni obhalwe yiyo kanye i-Nkatha le yakwethu.

Ngiyabexwayisa abaholi bonkana nje beNkatha baze bangayingeni le nto yombango wobuholi beBandla lakwaShembe ngoba iyobakhingca ibabangele amashwa ayoba ngaphezu kwalawa avele akhungethe iqembu le-IFP kumanje.

Ngifisa ukukhumbuzisa abafundi baleli phephandaba ukuthi kuyi-mfihlo esobala ukuthi iLanga yi-Project ye-IFP.

Yingakho nje nangawo uDecember 7, 2008 kwaba yilona kuphela iLa-nga elashicilela amakhasi ayi-16 ethulela umNtwana waKwaPhi-dangene isigqoko.

Nakho-ke intatheli yalo belu iLa-nga isisukeleka ibhala amanga alu-hlaza cwe ngeNkosi yamaNazare-tha iNkosi MV Shembe uThingu lweNkosazane.

Libuyiselwe ikhansela abantu abathi kabalifuni

IKHANSELA likaWard 9 eMpumalanga Township, eHammarisdale libuyele emsebenzini walo emva kwesikhashana lingasabonwa kulandela ukubhikishelwa wumphakathi othi kawusalifuni. Lithi selize-lwe kabusha, kubika u**NASH NGCOBO**

UMNUZ Njabulo Prince Ntanzini ikhansela likaWard 91 elokishini laseMpumalanga eHammarisdale elibhikishelwe wumphakathi ngonyaka odlule uthi awulifuni ngokwehluleka ukuletha izidingo kuwo, libuyiselwe ehhovisi lalo wubuholi be-African National Congress (ANC) esifundeni saseThekwini.

UKhansela Ntanzini obengasalubhadi ehhovisi ubuyele ngomSombuluko ngaphandle kokuchazelwa komphakathi obukhala ngalo mhlo, ozwakalise ukungamfuni nalapho ehambe khona ngokuwenzela phansi, utshele UMAFRIKA ukuthi usezelwe kabusha.

"Asingabe sisabuyela emuva ngokwenzekile, ngikholwa wukuthi ukubhikisha kwabantu bekukhombisa amaphutha engiwezenile, lokhu kube ngumyalezo wokuthi angizinu amakhwapha.

"Kungivule umqondo ngabona ukuthi uma ngifuna ukukhula nokuvuthwa ngokwepolitiki kufanele ngizehlise ngenze okufunwa ngabantu futhi ngingabambeli muntu amagqubu," kusho uKhansela Ntanzini.

Uqhubeke ngokuthi usebheke phambili, ukulungisa konke okonakele nakuba azi ukuthi baningi abantu abephule imimoya, kodwa uzose-

benza ngokwemiyalelo yobuholi obumbuyisile ukuzoqedela abesekualile.

Kwenzeka lokhu nje isimo senhlahlo asisihle neze emphakathini waseMpumalanga kulandela umdoniswano wokusebenza esizeni se-New Town Centre okuzokwakhiwa kuso iShopping Mall.

Kunezinkonondo ezingakaxazuleki zehlangano Izwi Labasha ekhala ngokushaywa ngesithende wuMkhandlu weTheku uma sekualwa lesi sakiwo, ethi kwakungumqondo wayo ukubakhona kwalesi sakiwo.

Ukungenami kweZwi Labasha kugcine sekuletha usihlalo wesifunda saseThekwini se-ANC, uMnuz John Mchunu ezobhula umlilo wokumiswa kwentuthuthuko obekuthiwa ubaselwa ngamalungu eSouth African Communist Party (SACP) ewumbimbi ne-ANC.

Kulo mhlangothi uMnuz Mchunu ukugcizelelele ukubaluleka kokubonisana ngezingxoxo uma kunokushayisana kwemibono kanjalo nokuqiniswa kokufundiswa kwamalungu nobuholi ngepolitiki, okuyimbangela enkulu yezinto ezenzeka kule ndawo.

Ubuholi beSACP busolwa yihhovisi likaKhansela Lucky Mngwangwe obhekele intuthuko kule ndawo



KWESOKUNXELE nguMnuz Senzo Mhlango usihlalo weZwi Labasha etoyitoya namalungu eSACP emva komhlangothi uMnuz John Mchunu abechaza kuwo ngokusungulwa kwamakomiti azodudula ukuqhubeka kwezakhiwo zomphakathi eHammarisdale

Isithombe: Nash Ngcobo

ngokuhlangana namalungu ekomiti likaWard 91 ebeliphambili ekushweni kukaKhansela Ntanzini nasekumisweni kokuqhubeka kokwakhiwa kweShopping Mall.

Abaholi beZwi Labasha bayaku-

phika lokhu, bathi bafisa ukwazi ukuthi umphakathi uzoza kanjani ngalesi sakiwo nokuthi bona nje ngabasunguli bazonxeshelwa kanjani njengoba uMasipala usubaphika kanti yibona abangumvusi wenyamazane.

Lokhu sekuholele ekutheni kwakhiwe amakomiti amabili azosebenzisana ekududuleni inqubekela phambili yalesi sakiwo ngaphandle kobuhixixi okuyiPolitical Task Team neMpumalanga New Town Centre Stakeholders Forum.

Womabili la makomiti kuthiwa azomelwa yizinhlanga zomphakathi nezinhlangano eziqhamuka kuwo wonke amaWard eMatthews Meyiwa Zone okuyiHammarisdale namaphethelo ngokwe-ANC.

UMnuz James Nxumalo onguSomlomo woMkhandlu weTheku u-

tshele leli phephandaba ukuthi umphakathi kaWard 91 usazobizwa waziswe ngezizathu zokubuyiselwa kukaKhansela Ntanzini emhlanganweni olusazomenyezelwa usuku lwawo njengoba kuvunyelwe emazingeni obuholi.

"Siyazazi izizathu eziholele esinqumweni esithathwe wumphakathi futhi sizimisele ukuxazulula izinkinga ngokubonisana.

Ngalesi sinqumo asiwudeleli umphakathi kodwa sizama ukuqinisa ubambiswano njengoba kukunengi okudinga kuxazululwe yiKhansela nekomiti lalo," kusho uSomlomo Nxumalo.

Kuningi ukunganeliseki komphakathi wakule ndawo ngendlela ubuholi obenza ngayo izinto kanti ukhiye wukufundisana ngokubaluleka kobuholi nhlangothi zombili.

...UKUBHIKISHA
kwabantu
bekukhombisa
amaphutha
engiwezenile,
lokhu kube
ngumyalezo
wokuthi
angizinu
amakhwapha...

Libuyiselwe ikhansela abantu abathi kabalifuni

Le ntatheli ibhala ukuthi iNkosi u-Thingo beyizishaya isifuba phezu kwentaba iNhlankakazi ithi yiyo ingqungqulu eBandleni lamaNazaratha. Uma sekubukwa amaDVD entshumayelo yaseNtabeni kuyavela ukuthi ayikho yonke le nto ebishiwo yintatheli yeLanga, kodwa beyihubhuza nje uhubhu kaBhejane.

Kuqondene kabi-ke intatheli esebenzela iLanga eliyi-project ye-IFP ivele ibhale izinto ezingekho futhi ezincika embangweni wobuholi beBandla, ekubeni iNkatha isanda kuqagula ukuthi ngubani umholi waleli Bandla njengoba sengichazile.

Ngiyazi ukuthi abaningi abazofunda le ncwadi yami, bazodidwa ukuthi kungani ngithi ngikhuluma ngeNkatha kodwa futhi khona phakathi ngizwakale sengiqondise ku-Dkt Buthelezi.

Inkulumo-mpikiswano

Cha bakwethu ningadideki phela iNkatha noShenge yinto engahlukaniseki.

Lokhu kufakazelwe nanguMfu KM Zondi ohlelweni lweGagasi lapho athi khona abantu bavotela iNkatha ngoba bevotela umNtwana. Nami-ke uma ngikhuluma ngomNtwana ngisakhuluma ngayo iNkatha.

Sengiphetha, angiqondile kona ukususa inkulumo-mpikiswano ngalolu daba, kodwa bengenzela ukqwashisa nje umholi wethu uShenge nobuholi be-IFP ukuze buzi-nuke amakhwapha ngamashwa abonakala ehlala iqembu lethu muva-nje.

Angisho ukuthi uShenge akakhohlwe kwaShembe, cha, futhi angikhankaseli iBandla lami abalandeli, vele kumanje baningi ngendlela edida uSathane.

Kuhlubuka oyedwa kungene abayiyi-10. Ngisiza abaholi bami ukuze baqondise ukunyathela kwabo ngoba kubuya kuzoshaya thina kusi-phendule inhlekisa ezweni.

Ngiyaxolisa ngokwanda ukuthi iyangihlupha le nto eyenziwa abaholi beNkatha ngoba isibangela amashwa okuloku sehlulwa njalo, sihlamukwa nangabalandeli ngezingxabano ezingenasidingo.

Sandile Dlomo
PIETERMARITZBURG