

INKATHA

Inkatha Freedom Party

IQembu leNkatha Yenkululeko

RESPONSE TO STATEMENTS BY MR BLADE NZIMANDE DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN OF THE ANC NATAL MIDLANDS REGION AND THE ANC ON THE RELEASE OF MR SAMUEL JAMILE

BY: MANGOSUTHU G BUTHELEZI
PRESIDENT OF THE IFP

I think that it is time the ANC's leadership learnt some lessons from the well known saying that what is good for the goose is good for the gender.

Eversince Indemnity was extended to ANC convicted criminals at the request of the ANC, we have never said a word. Some of these criminals killed our members, and other South Africans for political reasons. There are several other ANC leaders who are alleged to have committed heinous crimes in the so-called ANC camps in African States against their own members. Some of those mentioned in some of the reports of the Commissions that have held inquiries with ANC atrocities in ANC camps are members of the National Executive of the ANC.

We have been very restrained in commenting about the ANC's criminals that have been given Amnesty at the request of the President of the ANC and his National Executive.

Mr S B Jamile and Mr Wilbert Biyase were granted Amnesty by the State President under the Further Indemnity Act. And because this has happened all of a sudden Hell is let loose in the ranks of the ANC. Mr Blade Nzimande who is famous for having as his hobby the foul-mouthing of the IFP leadership suddenly waxes indignant merely because Mr Jamile and Biyase were members of the IFP leadership. There was no evidence in Court that they committed the crimes that they committed on the instructions or orders of the IFP leadership. We did not condone their criminal acts in the past and we do not condone their criminal acts now. The ANC's leadership has perfected the use of double standards into an art. ANC criminals are always canonised as heroes and in this case these two men were convicted of ordinary crimes. It is the ANC which is campaigning even now for the abolition of Capital punishment.

I wonder what really goes on in Mr Nzimande's mind. I find no nexus between the crimes of these men which were not political and the IFP leadership. What has happened to the murderers in the ANC who were given indemnity at the ANC's request?

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In terms of the KwaZulu Constitution no person who is committed of murder can be a member of the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly. So the question of Mr Jamile continuing to occupy his position as Deputy Minister falls away. By the way Mr Nzimande perhaps does not know that Deputy Ministers are not members of Cabinet. They are of course members of government.

We are not prepared to go through a re-trial of Mr Jamile with Mr Nzimande. He was convicted and he has now been granted amnesty that is the end of the matter. I referred to a possible uproar about the release of Mr Jamile precisely because I knew that we are dealing with men of double standards of the ilk of Mr Nzimande.

Mr Nzimande must also know that while he has a right to criticise the IFP leadership, he should be careful not to go beyond what is known as fair comment. What the ANC leadership does with its released criminals is their business. We never pry into what they do with them. What we do with IFP's released criminals is the IFP's business.

ISSUED BY MANGOSUTHU BUTHELEZI PRESIDENT OF THE IFP AND CHIEF MINISTER OF KWAZULU

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