

Wednesday, 7th January 2009

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Minister urges Motlanthe to replace suspended Selebi

BY GILL GIFFORD

National Police Commissioner Jackie Selebi will this month have been idle for a full year following former president Thabo Mbeki's announcement that the top cop was going on "extended leave".

Now Safety and Security Minister Nathi Mthethwa has approached President Kgalema Motlanthe to appoint a permanent police commissioner.

Tim Williams is acting commissioner while Selebi is on leave.

"We need stability in that front. We need a permanent commissioner. So we've done the proposal; it's the president who appoints the commissioner," Mthethwa told talk-show host Kieno Kammies on Talk Radio 702.

Asked yesterday if this meant that Mthethwa was essentially calling for Selebi to be fired, ministerial spokesperson Hangwani Mulaudzi said: "I don't want to put words

into his mouth."

Mulaudzi said the minister's concern regarding the issue was sparked at a crime summit two months ago when he was petitioned by business community organisations and NGOs, all calling for someone to be

“
It's the president
who appoints
the police
commissioner
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permanently appointed to a position of command.

"The minister believes this is imperative, and so he has approached the president to engage him in finding a permanent commissioner, and that is where the matter currently stands," Mulaudzi told *The Star*.

Selebi made headlines after

he admitted to being friends with self-confessed drug smuggler Glenn Agliotti, who has been linked to the murder of mining magnate Brett Kebble.

Soon after Selebi went on leave, he appeared in court and was accused of accepting more than R1,2-million in bribes; receiving expensive gifts; trying to cancel a fugitive's warrant of arrest in return for \$30 000 (about R280 000); and leaking top-secret information to protect Agliotti.

Last year, Mbeki chose to renew Selebi's contract for another year, even though he was on extended leave, meaning that Selebi holds his job until the middle of this year.

Selebi remains on indefinite leave until his trial starts in the Johannesburg High Court on April 14.

Presidential spokesperson Thabo Masebe yesterday said Motlanthe would not comment on the matter, as he felt it was the responsibility of the Safety and Security Ministry.

Incompetents will be fired, says ANC

BY MOSHOESHOE MONARE
Group Political Editor

If the ANC wins the elections, the performance of its ministers and other politicians will be evaluated by the party's new policy institute, and incompetents will be fired.

This is according to ANC secretary-general Gwede Mantashe, who yesterday emphasised that the party, and not the president, would monitor the performance of all its politicians.

This is a departure from practices in the past 14 years, when incompetent ministers and other politicians were tolerated because the decision to fire them was vested in the president.

In an interview with *The Star* on the eve of the ANC's 97th anniversary, Mantashe said there would be early-warning systems to identify incompetence.

"Within the next few weeks we will be opening our policy institute. It will have an evaluation capacity and a monitoring element.

"We must not wait for the (press) to evaluate ministers, or wait for the opposition to evaluate ministers. We must be able to say 'Minister X, we don't think things are moving in your area'.

"We are engaging our ministers in a way that is dynamic, but not antagonistic," Mantashe added.

"If we want to understand certain things in the department, we

call ministers here, that minister gives us a presentation, we engage, we comment and critique.

"The ANC must be able to engage public employees, including



the president ... and be able to say we think this should be attended to. It is the ANC in government that will be judged by the electorate. It's not individuals."

Asked if they would fire

politicians whose performance is questioned by the institute, Mantashe said: "Yes, even if we have to send for a particular subcommittee (of the national executive committee) and say there are weaknesses.

"In the areas of non-delivery, it was mostly not a question of lack of money and resources or absence of policy, but a more institutional capacity," he said.

In its manifesto, to be officially launched on Saturday in the Eastern Cape, the ANC also promises to review government structures and place the right people in the right positions.

The ANC is expected to gloat about its 15-year record, but admit

to massive challenges, including high unemployment and poverty.

It is expected to promise the electorate improved services, introduction of national health insurance, streamlined unemployment, road-accident and occupational-injury funds, and a comprehensive social security system.

While the ANC will also promise to review the criminal justice system, the prosecutions and the police are currently led by acting heads.

Both National Police Commissioner Jackie Selebi and prosecutions head Vusi Pikoli are on suspension for separate but related issues.

DA mourns death of officials in train smash

BY ANGELIQUE SERRAO

The victims of Monday's train smash have been identified as two Democratic Alliance councillors and a senior party official from Ekurhuleni.

Andre and Hendrika (Rika) Hunter and DA Ekurhuleni fundraising chairperson Gentina Doubell were on holiday in Stellenbosch, Western Cape, when a train smashed into their car.

The public relations officer for the DA in Ekurhuleni, Edward Taylor, said the council would "miss two wonderful human beings". He said members of the council were in a state of shock after hearing the news.

The three DA members were knocked over by a train while on holiday visiting Andre's mother, Joan. His father had passed away a few months ago.

DA leader Helen Zille sent out a statement saying she was deeply saddened by the trio's passing. "They will be remembered for their invaluable contribution to our party, and their service to their constituents and to the country.

"They were dedicated South Africans with an unflagging energy for our cause. I will deeply miss their warm and close friendship."

Ekurhuleni councillor

Johanna Roos was in tears yesterday after hearing the news of the deaths.

"Rika was my best friend for 19 years. She was like my sister," she said. "It's a tremendous loss for us all."

Rika had been a councillor in Kempton Park since 1995. She was elected to the metro in 2000 and represented the corporate affairs portfolio and the rules committee.

Andre was elected to the

metro in 2006 in the finance portfolio. He was a qualified accountant and engineer.

Doubell was a member of the Kempton Park constituency, organising fundraising events.

"These three people did a tremendous amount of work and were committed to local politics and the Kempton Park community," Taylor said.

The fourth victim had not been identified at the time of going to press.

Intolerance worries COPE official

BY XOLANI MBANJWA
Political Bureau

On her way to visiting a supporter allegedly assaulted by ANC members, COPE's second deputy president, Lynda Odendaal, said she feared for her own safety as political intolerance escalates ahead of the tense elections.

While driving from Joburg yesterday to meet Isaac Moloi in Parys, Free State, Odendaal nervously checked her rear-view mirror for any tailing cars.

This was after a car, with two men inside, followed her from

COPE's makeshift headquarters in Morningside, Sandton.

The little-known Odendaal, elected last month at COPE's inaugural congress in Bloemfontein, said she was concerned about political intolerance that leads to violence.

Asked specifically if she was concerned about her own safety since she joined COPE, the 44-year-old mother-of-two said: "When it comes to my own safety I am concerned."

However, ANC secretary-general Gwede Mantashe said political intolerance and violence were

"totally exaggerated".

Yesterday, Odendaal travelled nearly 300km to see Moloi and his family in Parys, where she got a glimpse of the brutality of political intolerance that seems to be gripping South Africa.

Moloi, a 25-year-old father-of-one and the breadwinner in his family of five, was assaulted with a hammer by a group of alleged ANC supporters during a COPE rally on Sunday.

He was distributing COPE registration forms to residents.

He said his collarbone and his left arm were broken.

The Star WEDNESDAY JANUARY 7 2009

VIP Protection Unit under scrutiny

BY LEE RONDGANGER

The SA Police Service's VIP Protection Unit is to come under the spotlight over the next few weeks as investigators from the Independent Complaints Directorate begin a full-scale probe into its bullying tactics.

The investigation is the result of yet another scandal involving the unit, which over the past few years has gained a reputation for harassing motorists with their speeding motorcades and blue lights.

In the latest incident, a Joburg motorist was allegedly assaulted by members of President Kgalema Motlanthe's protection unit after the man's car got too close to the president's cavalcade on Saturday.

Gunshots were apparently fired at the man's car, and a

crew from the SABC had their equipment seized at the scene near the Benoni Atlas offramp.

Tommy Tshabalala, general manager of investigations at the Independent Complaints Directorate (ICD), said the investigation should be complete within a month.

Among the aspects that the ICD would probe is whether the unit complies with the standard operating procedures, and the discipline of its members.

"This is going to be a high-level investigation because this unit operates from the national police office," said Tshabalala.

"We want to find out how many complaints the units has received over the past 12 months, how these complaints were dealt with and whether appropriate action was taken."

Over the past few years, several motorists have complained

about being pushed off the road by the VIP unit, having guns pointed at them and even being assaulted.

The incidents have become so common that the unit - responsible for transporting

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There is
definitely
an issue of
discipline
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the president, deputy president, cabinet ministers and MECs - has been nicknamed the "blue light gang".

In November, a 28-year-old constable attached to the protection unit of KwaZulu Natal's

Social Development MEC, Meshack Radebe, was charged with eight counts of attempted murder after allegedly shooting at a vehicle that apparently did not move over fast enough.

The Democratic Alliance's Dianne Kohler-Barnard has welcomed the probe, saying the VIP Protection Unit had become a law unto themselves.

"Saturday's incident is not an isolated case, but rather one of many instances of callous disregard towards the interests of the public from a unit of the SA Police Service which costs taxpayers some R312-million annually to keep in operation."

ANC spokesperson Carl Niehaus said the ICD had every right to probe the conduct of the VIP unit.

"The actions of the VIP unit should be determined by the risk they face, and must be

based on security and not if someone is late for a meeting. And they should act in a responsible way for every road user."

Tshabalala said the investigation would take into account the various incidents that have occurred across the country.

"There is definitely an issue of discipline that needs to be looked at. Nobody is a law unto themselves."

He added he should have a progress report complete in two weeks and the investigation complete in a month.

Kyle Condon, a personal bodyguard for the past 15 years, said 90% of transporting a VIP came down to planning.

"These guys should work out their route five or six hours in advance by doing a reconnaissance, and they should be aware of traffic flows and other factors."

SA played crucial role on UN council

The occasion of the conclusion of South Africa's first-ever term as an elected member of the United Nations Security Council presents an opportunity to reflect on our participation in this important multilateral body.

At the outset, it should be recalled that not so long ago SA itself was a conflict-afflicted society that was subject to Security Council sanctions as a result of its aggressive actions in the region, including the occupation of Namibia and its nuclear weapons programme.

Membership of the Security Council was, therefore, historically significant for SA. Endorsed by the African Union, SA was elected unopposed onto the Security Council by the UN membership on October 16 2006 and commenced its two-year term on January 1 2007.

SA's membership of the Security Council was influenced by its own national experience in transforming peacefully from apartheid and isolation to democracy and assuming its role as a responsible member of the international community. Our participation in the council was therefore informed by our desire to assist other countries to emerge from conflict. Whether the issue before the council was Lebanon, Kosovo or Iraq, SA sought to help create an

enabling environment in which the parties themselves could achieve peace through dialogue and reconciliation. SA actively engaged with as many parties to a conflict as possible to better understand their views on the complex issues before the council. This consultation process included key international partners and role players.

This approach proceeded from the premise that multilateralism and respect for international law are the most appropriate means of achieving global political and economic stability and security. It is our experience that multilateral bodies like the Security Council should play an important role through their good offices in bringing parties together to find mutually acceptable solutions.

SA's central strategic objective in the Security Council was to help advance the African agenda, but it also actively engaged on all issues on the Security Council's agenda pursuant to the global mandate associated with council membership to maintain international peace and security.

During its membership, SA achieved leadership positions in the Council. This included co-leadership with the United Kingdom of the Security Council Mission to Africa to develop the Council's partnership with the African Union and to engage

on specific African conflict situations; SA's leadership on the issue of Timor-Leste and SA's chairing of the Somalia Sanctions Committee, the Ad Hoc Committee on Mandate Review and the Working Group on African peacekeeping.

Indeed, in 2007 and 2008 SA was active in the Security Council on virtually all the issues on the council's agenda. Our experience showed that it is possible to, and serves as an example for, non-permanent members to engage on the full spectrum of political, technical and procedural issues on the council's agenda, even with relatively modest resources and limited institutional knowledge and experience of the council. SA has shown that it has the capacity and resources to operate effectively in the council.

The council was a useful platform for intensifying the work SA had already undertaken in conflict resolution in Sudan, Ivory Coast, Burundi, the DRC and elsewhere.

SA was instrumental in bringing about the lifting of sanctions against Rwanda, securing Council endorsement of a home-grown peace agreement in Ivory Coast, the adoption of a resolution authorising the deployment of a hybrid AU-UN peacekeeping force in Darfur and a commitment to deploy UN peacekeeping forces in Somalia.

SA has been particularly instrumental in helping to revitalise the debate on the relationship between the UN and regional organisations in terms of Chapter VIII of the UN Charter, which was the theme of our presidency of the Council in March 2007 and April 2008 and sustained throughout our membership. This included enhancing the co-ordination of positions between the UN and AU on African issues.

SA also drew attention to the important role of women in furthering peace and security, as well as the need to prevent the proliferation of small arms and light weapons, which is a major contributor to conflict in Africa.

Overall, it is my impression that SA has benefited from its membership of the Security Council and we have made a positive contribution, in our own small way, to the maintenance of international peace and security.

At the end of our membership, it is time for us to assess our participation. Consequently, the Department of Foreign Affairs is conducting an in-house assessment of SA's participation in the Security Council and will be convening a round-table discussion with civil society early this year.

■ *Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma is SA's Minister of Foreign Affairs.*

Let's affirm SA, not elites

The Times Wednesday January 7 | 2009

A YEAR after the theatrical ANC conference in Polokwane, South Africans of all races converged on Bloemfontein to chart a new path for our beloved republic.

Brought together by their love for South Africa, her flag, the anthem and the constitution, they joined hands in song and dance, and boldly declared their intention of building a new and credible political home — a home that would give expression to their longing for change.

In one voice, they declared that the future had arrived.

The road to Bloemfontein was not laid with roses. The change seekers had to withstand intimidation, characterised by political purges, disruption of meetings and court cases.

But there was no stopping the momentum for change and hope.

The Congress of the People has landed.

The arrival of Cope means that South Africans have taken another step in consolidating our constitutional democracy.

Many people have asked why our members left the ANC. Various reasons have been given, some

“ South Africa does not come first: the ANC reigns supreme

right and some wrong. But it is clear that the reasons were not petty or irresponsible, and had nothing to do with poor sportsmanship or personalities.

The ANC members' departure was precipitated chiefly by a commitment to principle. The ANC under its current leadership has demonstrated, in theory and in practice, that South Africa does not come first: the ANC reigns supreme.

What does Cope offer in these troubled political and economic times?

We believe in the unity of South Africa. In order for our country to grow and prosper, ordinary South Africans need to embrace their country.

We need economic policies that work in the real world.

Cope wants to deal with the issues that face our country and could change its destiny. We want

actions that will reaffirm South Africa as a winning nation. Some of these actions require a rethink and frank discussion.

Take affirmative action as an example.

As a corrective action after apartheid, affirmative action is a crucial instrument of change, but over the years it has created its own problems.

The public sector has done well quantitatively in this regard. But would it not be difficult to explain to villagers in areas like Hoita, in Cofimvaba, or Taung, in North West, where there is a virtually all-black civil service, why the dream of a better life for all remains only a pipe dream?

It seems that for one to enjoy the fruits of democracy one must meet the criteria for senior positions in the public service, such as political affiliation, and time spent in exile or in prison for political activism.

“ Affirmative action has created its own problems

There is complete disregard for sound technical capability and a near-total ban on skilled people from minority groups. This is affirmative action gone wrong.

In the private sector, empower-

Let's affirm SA, not elites

ment has become the privilege of a tiny group in the urban middle class. For many of them, these are the days of milk and honey.

These beneficiaries, who include the most vociferous proponents of economic empowerment policy, hop between companies, leaving no plausible accomplishments behind.

Isn't it about time we debated honestly whether we should broaden the criteria and include the working class and rural population? Shouldn't there be a cut-off point for the top serial beneficiaries and the rich?

Isn't it about time we probed the deficiencies in implementation that have caused the poor performance of these policies? Are there

sufficient mentoring, training and advancement programmes? Are the laws effective?

South Africa needs a progressive 21st-century leadership that has the courage of its convictions — not political chameleons. It needs people who know that leadership is about choices.

Cope is offering a morally upright leadership that understands, and is deeply committed to, democracy.

As we move closer to the general elections, our challenges are formidable but not insurmountable. What we need now is a ruling party that has visionary leadership. South Africa deserves better.

● *Ngwema is head of media relations for Cope*

Giving Selebi the boot will make us all feel a lot safer

THE firing of Jackie Selebi is long overdue. The national police commissioner will have been on "extended leave of absence" for exactly a year next week.

His suspension from duty followed the issuing of a warrant for his arrest on charges of corruption and defeating the ends of justice.

Selebi has admitted to a close "friendship" with Glenn Agliotti, who is on trial for the murder of mining magnate Brett Kebble.

Agliotti bought Selebi expensive clothes at Sandton boutiques.

These facts alone ought to have led to the dismissal of Selebi.

But, even leaving aside this embarrassing association, Selebi should have been fired for sheer incompetence a long time ago.

His single biggest failing has been losing the fight against crime.

Fighting crime is one of this country's top priorities and the police force needs leadership, direction and the ability to map out and execute creative crime-fighting solutions.

Selebi is not the man for the job.

It is largely thanks to his efforts that the Scorpions are being disbanded and incorporated into the SAPS, robbing this country of its most potent weapon against organised crime.

He once famously asked: "What's all the fuss about crime?"

In March of 2007, he outrageously proposed that prostitution and public drinking be legalised in South Africa for the duration of the 2010 soccer World Cup.

What could he have been thinking? That South Africa should descend into a state of debauchery, but only while the whole world was watching?

This in a country where ordinary people, rich and poor, live in fear of criminal thugs in their houses.

President Kgalema Motlanthe will make us all safer by kicking Selebi out now.

His single
biggest
failing has
been losing
the fight
against
crime

The Times Wednesday January 7 | 2009

Smaller parties still vital

SA needs alternative perspectives in parliament

OPPOSITION parties cannot be faulted for believing that this year will provide them with a real opportunity to turn the country's political landscape on its head — at least as it relates to the governance of a number of provinces.

But do all the country's opposition parties really stand to benefit from the political crises that have weakened the ruling ANC over the past three years?

Clearly, the new kid on the block, Cope, and the DA, have every reason to celebrate. Having broken away from the ANC, Cope is guaranteed much more than just a handful of parliamentary seats from large sections of disgruntled, traditionally ANC voters.

As for the DA, its goal of becoming the next Western Cape government now looks likely to be achieved without any threat from an ANC whose structures in the province are in disarray.

The ID, the African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP), the

Inkatha Freedom Party and a number of other parties could find themselves becoming power brokers in those provinces, where the ANC might not win enough votes to continue ruling by itself.

But what of the other former liberation movements and parties on the left of the ANC and its alliance partners, Cosatu and the Communist Party?

For a number of decades before our liberation from racial oppression, the assumption — especially among left-wing thinkers — was that post-apartheid politics would be dominated by a contest between the ANC, Pan Africanism and Black Consciousness.

These assumptions were wrong. As we enter the 15th year of our liberation, the PAC is threatening to self-destruct instead of presenting itself as a viable political

alternative to the majority of voters.

Black Consciousness parties, such as the Azanian People's Organisation (Azapo), have long been crippled by internal divisions and misguided political decisions.

Not that the proponents of Pan Africanism and Black Consciousness have ever done well at the polls. But the forthcoming election could see the PAC and its splinter groups — the newly formed Pan Africanist Movement (PAM) and the African People's Convention (APC) — failing to win even a single seat in the national assembly.

That is also most likely to be the case with Azapo and other Black Consciousness groupings.

Since the attainment of democracy, the big problem for all these organisations has been that they fish, as it were, in the same pond as

the well-resourced and, until recently, better organised ANC.

But, instead of the split in the ANC providing these parties with more space in which to manoeuvre, they appear to be even weaker than before and ill-placed to exploit the current crises to their favour.

Cope's arrival has not made things easier for them, but has meant that some of their traditional voters might be swayed into voting for the new party, which is seen to provide a more serious challenge to the ANC than all the Pan Africanists and BC parties put together.

The problem is that, for the constituencies that the likes of the PAC would be trying to win over, the forthcoming election would be about a personality and very little else. It would be about ANC president Jacob Zuma.

Those who believe that Zuma

would make a great president would obviously vote ANC, and those who are opposed to him will vote for Cope.

Until now, the other former liberation movements have not come up with any political messages that could win over those in their targeted constituencies not fully convinced by either the ANC or Cope.

But the presence of parties such as the PAC and Azapo in the national assembly is as important as that of the DA and the Freedom Front.

This is because they, too, represent different perspectives that need to be heard as we continue with our endeavour to build a new and democratic society.

Our parliament would be poorer if the only perspectives to be heard are those of the Freedom Charter school of thought — by the ANC and Cope — and the rightist alternatives in the form of the DA, the IFP and the ACDP.

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Knives out for Jackie Selebi

'He must go as soon as possible'

DOMINIC MAHLANGU
and WERNER SWART

A YEAR after being placed on special leave, scandal-plagued police commissioner Jackie Selebi is reportedly about to be fired.

Selebi was placed on extended leave in January last year, after he was charged with corruption.

In June last year, former president Thabo Mbeki drew flak for his decision to renew Selebi's contract until mid-year.

Minister of Safety and Security Nathi Mthethwa revealed on Talk Radio 702 on Monday night that he has asked President Kgalema Motlanthe to replace Selebi.

Mthethwa said: "We need stability [on] that front so we need a permanent commissioner. So we've done that proposal; it's with the president. It's the president who appoints the commissioner."

Commissioner Tim Williams is acting head of the SAPS.

Senior ANC officials told *The Times* yesterday that the ruling party wanted Selebi gone as soon as possible.

"The view by the party is that Selebi must go as soon as possible. While the labour laws needs

to be respected, the country can not afford to go for such a long time without a permanent commissioner," said a member of the party's powerful national executive committee.

The NEC member added that Mthethwa's plans to fight crime can be effective only once a permanent appointment is made. Also, the allegations of corruption against the country's top cop could not be ignored.

"The debate amongst us is no longer whether he [Selebi] must be removed, it's about how much [money] he must get to vacate the position," the NEC member revealed.

Another member of the party's NEC slammed Mbeki's decision to renew Selebi's contract. Selebi has earned about R1-million since being put on extended leave.

"Mbeki was supposed to let the man go. Now we are sitting with a problem of a commissioner getting money for doing nothing," the NEC member complained.

"I don't know the financial implications of letting him go, but Nathi [Mthethwa] has the

'Debate is about
how much he
must get to vacate
the position'

Security minister wants permanent commissioner

● From Page 1

backing of the ANC to ask the president to settle the matter.

"We can't wait for his term to end before we act, the situation requires immediate action," the NEC member said.

Hangwani Malaudzi, spokesman for Mthethwa, would not reveal further details of the letter to Motlanthe, but said: "When the minister took office last year he said he wanted a permanent police commissioner to control the police."

Presidential spokesman Thabo Masebe said he could not comment because the matter was "between the minister and the president".

Selebi is accused of receiving money and gifts from drug dealer and Brett Kebble murder accused Glenn Agliotti in return for protection from prosecution.

Selebi is due to go on trial on April 14 in the Johannesburg High Court. The state will attempt to prove that he received at least R1.2-million from Agliotti between 2004 and 2005. When asked about his association with Agliotti, Selebi famously said he was his friend, "finish and klaar".

In an affidavit last year, Agliotti alleged that he had paid for a pair of shoes bought by Selebi for Mbeki. "He took one pair of shoes for the president, Thabo Mbeki, on my account... the president had small feet which were broad and therefore he required a size 7 in a soft leather."

Opposition parties have all welcomed Mthethwa's move.

However, Independent Democrats leader Patricia de Lille questioned what she called a "breakdown of communication" between Motlanthe and Mthethwa. Motlanthe late last year said that Selebi could not be fired unless found guilty in court.

Dianne Kohler-Barnard of the DA said: "Almost as outrageous as the charges facing Selebi is the fact that he remains on the government payroll, drawing a R1-million annual salary."

Selebi did not return calls seeking comment.

'We'll fight fire with fire'

NKULULEKO NCANA and
DOMINIC MAHLANGU

DESPITE worldwide condemnation of Israel's attacks on Palestinians in Gaza, Israel's ambassador to South Africa has vowed that his country will "fight fire with fire" in defence of its citizens.

Israeli ambassador Dov Segev-Steinberg told *The Times* yesterday that Israel would not allow Hamas to "shell" its people without retaliating.

He accused the South African government of being "one-sided" following its "unequivocal condemnation" of Israel's assault on Gaza.

Israel began its offensive on December 27 in response to rocket attacks from Gaza.

The number of Palestinians killed rose to 635 yesterday — a quarter of them civilians, accord-

ing to the UN.

Segev-Steinberg said he was "very sorry" to see a "completely unbalanced stand" from South Africa which, he believes, has not taken cognisance of the suffering of the Israeli people.

Referring to a meeting with deputy foreign minister Fatima Hajaig, the Israeli ambassador said: "My impression was that they were not even willing to listen to us and this is unfortunate. South Africa can be helpful in the [peace] process ... but if they are one-sided, it cannot be a country that could be part of the process."

Yesterday, the ANC described the Israeli attacks as "horrendous", saying innocent people were being "slaughtered" in Gaza.

Israeli envoy angry at SA criticism

Following a meeting with Palestinian ambassador to South Africa Ali Halimeh, the ruling party's secretary-general, Gwede Mantashe, told journalists that Israel was "in violation of international laws governing retaliatory engagements" and was creating a "deep" humanitarian crisis.

"The ANC calls for an immediate end to the ongoing Israeli bombing and ground attacks on civilians in Gaza, which has led to the death of hundreds of civilians and injury to thousands more."

"Collective punishment is not going to resolve the enmity between Palestine and Israel," Mantashe said.

Halimeh echoed Mantashe's sentiments, saying there was no

"political or human justification" for Israel's actions.

"What is happening is war crimes against the people of Palestine in the Gaza strip. We, as Palestinians, have no option but to resist this inhumane attack. Israel cannot claim any objective out of this, we need to stop this madness," he said.

He added that the attacks on Gaza would result in more hatred and that "if they think by killing innocent lives they can satisfy their constituency, it's not going to happen".

But Segev-Steinberg maintains his country has done nothing more than protect its people from "terror attacks" by Hamas militants whom, he says, had been firing rockets into Israel for the past eight years "without provocation".

Recognition of heroes, heroines 'not the preserve of the ANC'

YAZEED KAMALDIEN

DEMOCRATIC Alliance leader Helen Zille wants parliament's Marks Building to be renamed after politician Helen Suzman.

Speaking in Cape Town yesterday, Zille said she also wants Suzman's portrait to be hung in parliament.

Zille said her party was determined to ensure Suzman's role in politics will be remembered.

Suzman, 91, was buried at the weekend.

Zille said: "The party that is heir to her legacy must make an effort to preserve it."

The DA leader held a press conference in the Helen Suzman Caucus Room in the Marks Building. The building was named after the colonial era entrepreneur Sammy Marks and is home to offices of the DA and other political parties.

Suzman's portrait hangs on a wall of the room named after her.

This portrait was removed from parliament shortly after 1994's democratic elections. Tony Leon, the former DA leader, found the portrait of Suzman in a cellar on the premises.

"The DA salvaged it and hung it in our caucus room. We would now like to hang it in a prominent place in parliament," said Zille.

She added that Suzman and others had been "given insufficient public recognition for the role they played".

Suzman was one of few dissident voices in the apartheid parliament.

In a letter to Gwen Mahlangu-



PORTRAIT OF A LADY: Democratic Alliance leader Helen Zille wants this portrait of Helen Suzman to be rehung in parliament

Picture: ESA ALEXANDER

Nkabinde, the Speaker of parliament, Zille requested that the Parliamentary Oversight Authority considers a "proposal to commemorate Suzman in parliament".

She said that the City of Cape Town has planned memorials to honour Suzman.

"All our heroes and heroines need to be reflected in our city.

It's not the preserve of the ANC," Zille said.

She was, however, cautious about suggestions that Cape Town's airport be renamed after Suzman:

"You should not take places like airports and rename them after a person. They are markers of places. But if people put that on the table we can take it forward."

Zille wants a place in parliament for Suzman

THE WITNESS, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2009

DA: Name opposition's hall after Suzman

SUE SEGAR

CAPE TOWN — Democratic Alliance leader Helen Zille has called for Parliament's historic Marks Building, which houses the opposition parties in Parliament, to be renamed after celebrated anti-apartheid campaigner Helen Suzman.

Suzman died last week at her home in Johannesburg, aged 91.

Addressing a media briefing yesterday, Zille said she has called on National Assembly speaker Gwen Mahlangu-Nkabinde to take part in plans to commemorate Helen Suzman in Parliament.

In a letter to Mahlangu-Nkabinde, Zille said naming the Marks Building after Suzman, as one of the foremost opponents of apartheid, would be an appropriate symbolic gesture. She asked the speaker to place the matter

on the agenda of the next meeting of the Parliamentary Oversight Authority.

"Naming the building after Helen Suzman would be a fitting way to honour the legacy of a woman who, for a long time single-handedly, fought to legitimise the notion of political opposition at a time when the governing party vilified and persecuted its opponents. For 13 years, between 1961 and 1974, hers was the sole voice in Parliament to oppose apartheid. It is also the appropriate way to commemorate publicly her contribution towards building a non-racial society based on constitutional democracy," Zille said.

The DA leader said that, after the transition to democracy in 1994, Suzman — and many like her — were given insufficient public recognition for the role they played.

"Ironically, the incoming ANC government actively sought to minimise

her legacy: one of the first things it did after the 1994 election was to take down her portrait in Parliament. That portrait was rescued from the parliamentary cellars by [former DA leader] Tony Leon and now hangs in the DA caucus room ... We would like to rehang her portrait in a prominent position in Parliament."

Zille said that what is often forgotten in the tributes to Suzman is that she opposed power abuse, corruption, patronage and racism in government both before and after 1994.

"It was welcome and appropriate that President Kgalema Motlanthe ordered the nation's flags to be flown at half-mast and personally attended Helen's funeral. I trust the government will now back this up by supporting a tangible and significant gesture that will serve as a permanent tribute to Helen Suzman's legacy ... " she said.

Selebi issue creating tensions

CAPE TOWN — The ongoing saga relating to suspended national police commissioner Jackie Selebi looks set to create tensions between President Kgalema Motlanthe and Safety and Security Minister Nathi Mthethwa in the year ahead.

This week, Mthethwa called on Motlanthe to fire Selebi, but the president has made it clear he will only take action once a court of law rules on the charges that Selebi faces.

Selebi is on extended leave after being charged with crimes relating to his relationship with Glen Agliotti, the man accused of murdering business tycoon Brett Kebble. He has been replaced by acting Police Commissioner Tim Williams.

In a letter to Motlanthe, he called for Selebi to be fired, saying that South Africa needs stability in dealing with safety and security matters. "We need a permanent commissioner. So we've done the proposal; it's the president who appoints the commissioner," Mthethwa said.

Since being appointed in Motlanthe's cabinet reshuffle last year, Mthethwa has indicated that he means business in the fight against crime, and that corrupt police officials will face the full might of the law.

Independent Democrats (ID) leader Patricia De Lille said yesterday that while the Selebi issue remains unresolved, South Africans are "forking out" millions to pay his salary.

"In the meantime, it appears that honest ... citizens will have to accept that every time we go to a police station we will be greeted by a framed picture of the accused on the wall. Just a fraction of the enthusiasm the president used to get rid of former NPA head Vusi Pikoli would have saved us the trouble," she said.

The Presidency declined to comment.

Amanda Dissel, manager of the criminal justice programme at the Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation, said it is crucial to have someone with a "spotless reputation" leading the police.

"There is no doubt that the perception of corruption spills over into the workings of the police force. It is very important for the police force to be led by an upstanding citizen without allegations against them, who can focus on doing what the police force is supposed to do."

Marks delay goes on

SPHUMELELE MNGOMA

REPORTS of anger and frustration over still outstanding matric results continued to pour in yesterday as those affected told their stories in the hopes that they would be helped.

A woman whose son attended Linpark High last year has described the experience as appalling and unacceptable.

She asked not to be named, as she has a younger child who is still at the school and she is looking for a new school.

She said that about 80% of matriculants in that school still don't have their English and Afrikaans marks. This means that those pupils who passed will never have the pleasure of seeing their names printed in the papers.

"Our children have been miserably failed by the department and the school. These children have worked hard for [their matrics] and to have their names not printed with the hundreds of other learners was heartrending, to say the least. It is quite shocking. Some of these pupils still don't know whether they have passed."

She said the explanation given by the school was that marks were sent to the department but were never captured.

"That is the excuse they are giving us, but we can't prove that the results were sent [to the department] ... The real problem is that none of these teachers were adequately equipped to handle this ridiculous OBE system. They did not know what was going on and their lack of knowledge has now harmed our children's future."

The mother said they have been told that new marks have been sent to the department, but they don't know when they will be released.

In addition to this, she said pupils who did Electrical Studies were informed of the practical

Those who have worked hard deserve to know that ... their results haven't been rendered meaningless by a political crusade to make the new curriculum appear more successful than it is.

DESIREE VAN DER WALT DA MP

exam only a week before the due date, but they did not know that it counted towards the end of year marks. As a result, the practicals were never done.

"The kids are saying the teacher did not know what they were doing. For the first term, they did not have text books. The next term they did, but the teacher did not know what to do with them and the third term was spent watching DVDs."

Unions said about 17 000 pupils have been affected by this in the province and 56 000 in the country, making it 10% of those who wrote.

The Democratic Alliance (DA) claims to have been approached by two independent sources claiming that the marks of weak pupils were deliberately inflated by markers upon instruction from department officials.

DA MP Desiree van der Walt said this adds to concerns over what has widely been expressed as the "window-dressing" of this year's matric exam result.

"We have formally written to the Education Minister, Naledi Pandor, asking for an independent inquiry.

"Until such an inquiry is initiated, we call on any other teachers or officials who wish to report instances where they have been instructed by superiors to inflate results, to approach us directly."

Preacher, teacher, writer

JOHN Langalibalele Dube, a founding member of the African National Congress and its first president, was also the author of the first novel to have been written in the Zulu language, *U-Jeqe, Insila ka Tshaka*. Published in 1930, it has never been out of print. An English translation, *Jeqe, the Body-servant of King Shaka*, first published in 1951, has now been reissued as a Penguin Modern Classic.

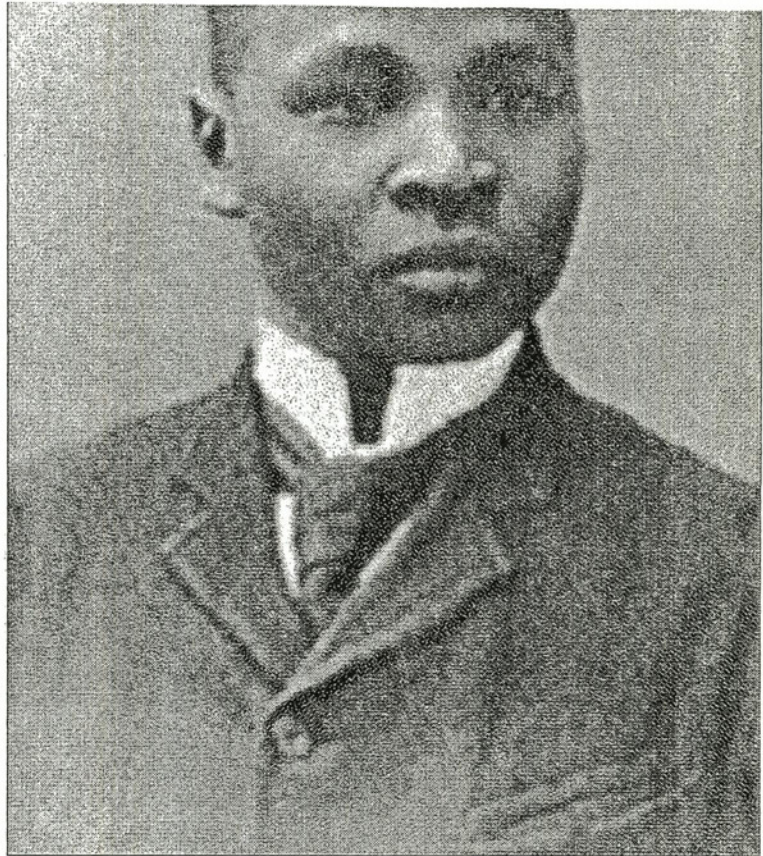
Dube was born in 1871, the son of an American-Zulu mission pastor, James Dube. He was christened John Dube, with the middle name Langalibalele meaning "bright sun".

Dube's grandmother, Dalitha, had been the first convert of the Lindley Mission Station in Inanda in the late 1840s, while his father, Reverend James Dube, who died in 1882, had been an ordained minister. In 1886, Dube's mother, Elizabeth, asked the American missionary Reverend William Wilcox to take her son to the United States to be educated and Wilcox agreed. In 1887, the young Dube accompanied Wilcox to the U.S. and attended Oberlin College, working at various jobs to support himself. When he returned to Natal he accepted a teaching post and in 1894 married Nokutela Ndima.

Along with his brother-in-law, John Mdimba, Dube established two churches and three preaching stations. After completing his theological training at Union Missionary Seminary in the U.S., he was ordained as a Congregational minister in 1897. During this time, he raised money for an industrial school based on the Tuskegee model of Booker T. Washington. In 1901, he obtained 81 hectares of land in the Inanda district and opened the Ohlange School.

In 1903, Dube founded the newspaper *Ilanga lase Natal* (the *Sun of Natal*) which he ran until 1934. His journalism established his political reputation and in 1912 he became a founding member and the first president of the South African National Congress (SANNC), which later became the ANC. In June 1914, he led the party's first deputation to London to protest the recent Land Act (with Sol T. Plaatje as secretary).

In the April prior to this trip, Dube met the novelist Henry Rider Haggard in Durban. Haggard is best known as the author of *King Solomon's Mines*, *Allan Quatermain* and *She* written in the 1880s, but by 1914 he was recognised as an agricultural authority and it was for his expertise in this area that he was appointed to the Dominions Royal Commission tasked with visiting the dominions of Australia, New



Photos: SUPPLIED

ABOVE: John Langalibalele Dube was the first president of the African National Congress and the author of *Jeqe, a Body-servant of King Shaka* (right), which has never been out of print in its original Zulu version.

FAR RIGHT: Author Henry Rider Haggard in 1914. Dube presented his objections to the new Land Act to Haggard in April 1914.

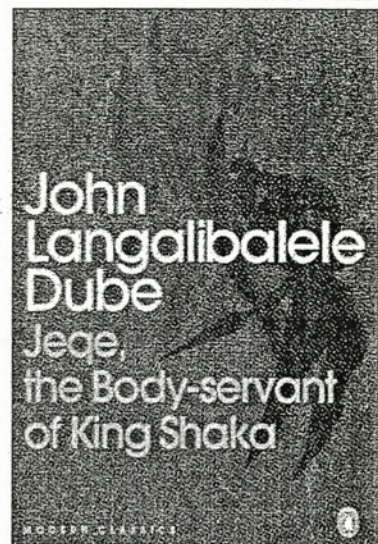
Zealand, Canada, Newfoundland and South Africa to investigate how they could assist Britain, then up against tough economic competition from Germany and the U.S.

While he was in Durban, Haggard made a point of seeing Dube and their meeting is detailed in Haggard's *Diary of an African Journey*. Haggard initially recorded the interview in his rough notebook, reading it back to Dube who "declared it to be correctly set down".

Haggard noted that "[Dube] impressed me most favourably" and, after Dube had detailed his objections to the Land Act, observed that "the case which he presented seems to me one hard to answer".

"There is no doubt this new Land Act inflicts great hardships ... and if an effort were made to enforce it everywhere I do not know what would happen."

However, Haggard thought Dube's petition to the British king had little hope of success. Pondering South



Africa's future, Haggard added prophetically that the majority African population could not "be permanently neglected (or is oppressed the word?) by one million-and-a-quarter whites. Compressed steam will escape somehow and somewhere."

If Haggard was impressed by Dube it is unfortunately not known what Dube thought of Haggard. Although Dube frequently wrote about his meetings with famous people in *Ilanga*, this was one meeting that he does not appear to have recorded. But Haggard was clearly

Preacher, teacher, writer

in Dube's mind when he wrote *Jeqe*. At the time Dube was also involved in F. L. Ntuli's translation into Zulu of Haggard's novel, *Nada the Lily* (published as *Umbuso kaShaka*, also in 1930), for which Dube wrote the preface.

Nada the Lily is also set in the time of Shaka, who is portrayed by Haggard as a heartless tyrant. Dube's version of the Zulu king is slightly more ambivalent. Shaka is acknowledged as being a good leader who created the Zulu nation but also as a man given to excessive behaviour. "Merciless and indifferent to human suffering", he forces Jeqe to take part in a number of atrocities.

Jeqe, who was initially appointed the king's body servant as a reward for bravery in battle, finds his own life at risk following Shaka's assassination and flees Zululand. He subsequently enjoys a series of adventures and becomes a great healer and doctor to the Swazi King Sobhuza.

The English version of *Jeqe* was translated after Dube's death by J. Boxwell, a family friend and professor of the Zulu language.

Although *Jeqe, the Body-servant*

of *King Shaka* was Dube's only venture into creative writing, he was also the author of several biographies and topical pamphlets. The new Penguin edition reprints Dube's address given at the Seventh General Missionary Conference of South Africa in 1928.

Back in 1917, Dube had been ousted from the presidency of the ANC and returned to Ohlange. Over the years, he was involved in a number of attempts at improving conditions for blacks and fostering better relations between the different race groups. His work in education was acclaimed and in 1936 he was awarded the honorary degree of doctor of philosophy by the University of South Africa. A year later, Dube was elected to the first Natives Representative Council, an advisory body to the government.

In these later years, then a widower, he married Angelina Khumalo and they had three sons and three daughters.

Dube died in Durban in 1946 and was buried in the cemetery alongside the chapel of the school he had established close to half a century before.

ISOLEZWE, ULWESITHATHU, JANUWARI 7, 2009

Sisazoba sibi isimo sezulu KwaZulu-Natal

S'CELO KHUZWAYO

KUNOKWESABELA ukuthi ungase uqhubeke umonakalo nokulahleka kwemiphefumulo yabantu KwaZulu-Natal njengoba kuqagulwa ukuthi iziphepho nesimo sezulu esingasihle kungase kuphinde kuhlasele ezingxenyeni eziningi zesifundazwe.

Izolo uNdunankulu wesifundazwe, uMnuz Sbu Ndebele, utshele abezindaba eMgungundlovu ukuthi ngokwemibiko abanayo benguhulumeni, ngoLwesihlanu singase siphinde sihlasele isimo sezulu esingasihle.

UNdebele uthe isibalo sabantu abalahlekelwe yizimpilo zabo ngenxa yesimo sezulu esingasihle sesenyuke safinyelela kubantu abangu-15.

Phakathi kwabo kubalwa nekhansela le-ANC ku-ward 3 ngaphansi kukaMasipala waseMtshezi, uMnuz November Elliot Mbambo.



Ngokwemibiko uMbambo ushone ngemuva kokuthi imoto abehamba ngayo imuke nomfula obudla izindwani.

"Isibalo zamanje kusengenzeka zishintshe njengoba kusaqhutshekwa nokubala nokuhlwaya

ezindaweni ezikhahla-mezekile," kusho uNdebele.

Izindaba zokuhlasela kwezinye izivunguvungu okulindeleke ngoLwesihlanu kuletha itwetwe kubantu abaningi asebevele bahlalele ovalweni.

Lokhu kuvela nje vele imindeneni eminingi esifundazweni isele dengwane, kanti eminye ayikazi ukuthi izothathani ihlanganise nani njengoba kufanele ihlele imingcwabo yamalungu emindeneni yawo

edlule emhlabeni ngenxa yeziphepho nesimo sezulu esingasihle esibonakala sesithole ikhaya esizozinza kulo KwaZulu-Natal.

UNdebele uthe abantu kumele bahlale belindele uma kwenzeka nokudla

UNGQONGQOSHE wezokuThuthukiswa koMphakathi, uMnuz Meshack Radebe, uNgqongqoshe wezeziMali esifundazweni uDkt Zweli Mkhize, noNdunankulu wesifundazwe saKwaZulu Natal uMnuz Sbusiso Ndebele, esithangamini nabezindaba eMgungundlovu lapho bekudingidwa khona izinhlelo zokubhekana nezinhlekelele ezihlasele lapha KwaZulu Natal

Isithombe: ENOS MHLONGO

kwabo bakuvalele ezintweni ezifana namathini ukuze kuvikeleke.

Uqhube wathi ngokwemininingwane yamanje ibalelwa ku-4 017 imindeneni ekhahlamezekile kulandela izivunguvungu zakamuva ezindaweni ezahlukene okubalwa phakathi kwazo iNdwedwe, KwaSwayimane, Mgababa, KwaMakhutha, Molweni, Bhamshela nakwezinye izindawo.

Umonakalo kulezi zindawo usulinganiselwa emalini engu-R180 million.

"Isibalo sabantu abakhahlamezekile ngu-12 736 kanti abangu-83 basale bengondingasithebeni. Iningi lalaba bantu ngabaseBhamshela," kuchaza uNdebele.

Inhloko yethimba lezinhlalelele esifundazweni, uMnuz Mthokozisi Duze, uthe bayakwazi ukuzibona ezinye izinhlekelele ngaphambi kokuthi zenzeke bese bebaxwayisa abantu abasuke bezothinteka.

Ibhekwe ngabomvu induku yokhetho ye-ANC

IQEMBU elibusayo kuleli, i-African National Congress (ANC), lizokwethula umhlahlandlela womkhankaso wokhetho lwalo nyaka ngempelasonto.

Lokhu kumenyezwe izolo nguNobhala-Jikelele wale nhlangano, uMnuz Gwede Mantashe (osesithombeni), esithangamini sabezindaba ebesikomkhulu le-ANC, eLuthuli House, eGoli.

UMantashe utshele izintatheli ukuthi umcimbi wokwethulwa kwalo mhlahlandlela uzoba yindumezulu, kanti uzoba se-Absa Stadium, eMonti, eMpumalanga Kapa, ngoMgqibelo.

UMantashe uphinde waveza ukuthi uma i-ANC iqhubeka nokuthola amandla okuphatha ngemuva kokhetho, izoba nohlelo lokubuyekeza ukusebenza koNgqongqoshe nabanye



osopolitiki abasezikhundleni zokusebenzela umphakathi.

Lolu hlelo luzobheka ukuthi oNgqongqoshe nosopolitiki basawusebenzela ngakho yini umphakathi, kanti uma betholwa bengekho ezingeni bazokhonjwa indlela.

UMantashe ugcizelele ekutheni lolu hlelo luzosusa kuMengameli

wezwe amandla okuxosha oNgqongqoshe, liwanike inhlangano ebusayo.

"Akumele size silinde abezindaba noma iqembu elibusayo baveze ukungasebenzi kahle koNgqongqoshe abathize, kumele sikwazi ukutshela uNgqongqoshe othize ukuthi akuhambi kahle eMnyangweni wakhe uma sibona kanjalo," kusho uMantashe. – *Intatheli yeSolezwe*

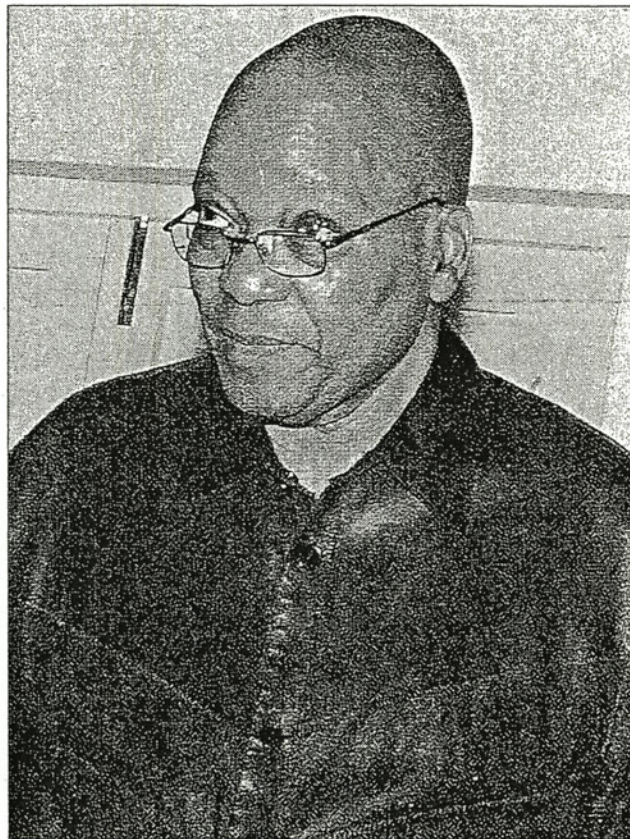
ISOLEZWE, ULWESITHATHU, JANUWARI 7, 2009

Qhubeka nokuzisondeza kubantu

MHLELI: Ngithi angiphawule ngento enhle engiyibonileyo. Ngibone uMsholozzi (osesithombeni) ehamba nabaqaphi bakhe ngendlela ebebehamba kahle ngayo ubungafunga ukuthi yizimoto nje ziyazihambela kanti cha, wuMengameli we-ANC.

Nami bengizihambela ngibheke ngapha ekhweni lami oLundi olumahlilikhiki ngase ngidlula ngasezimakethe eNkundulu. Sengithenga kukuhle ngizwe ngomkikizo abadayisi bashiya nezithelo zabo abazidayisayo bagcwala umgwaqo. Ngithi ubaba uMsholozzi akaqhubeke nokuzisondeza nabantu ngoba ngizwe omunye umama esethi noMandela akaze afike ngapha.

Phambili Msholozzi, ukhohlwe yilaba bantu abangakholelwa kubantu ukuthi bayakhuluma ngevoti, abazibona bebakhulu kanti abalandelwa muntu emva kwabo. Kukhona abanye ababanga umsindo lapha KwaZulu-Natal kodwa asiboni lutho. Inzondo izophela



bakuvotele Msholozzi.

Sama Zungu
EMANDENI

ISOLEZWE; ULWESITHATHU, JANUWARI 7, 2009

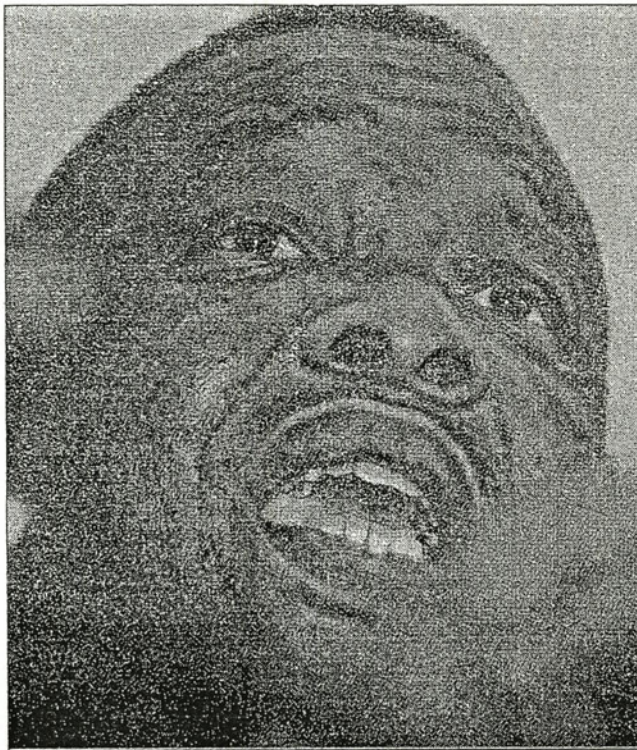
Udinga ukuncela embeleni ogwansile lo ongawazi umlando ngoBlade Nzimande

MHLELI: Ngithanda ukulungisa le nsizwa ephawulile esihlokweni esithi "Ngifuna ukwazi ukuthi uqhamukaphi uBlade Nzimande"

(osesithombeni) eyaphuma kwelakho langoDisemba 29.

Ubhuti lo kuyacaca ukuthi ngempela usancela ngoba akabazi abaholi bakhe kodwa uzobuza ngabo emthonjeni wezindaba. Lokhu kukodwa sekumkhombisa ngokusobala ukuthi akazange uwuncela umbele ogwansile kaKhongolose ngoba kunokuthi ufune ulwazi ngabaholi bakho kumbe ngomlando wabo ezindaweni ezifanelekile kodwa waqoma ukubuza kwabezindaba, wehla wenyuka ushumayela amanga.

Ngeke ngikunike impendulo yombuzo wakho kodwa ngizokuqondisa. Uma ngempela eyilungu elethembekile lombutho kaKhongolose njengoba ebehlale esho, lesi yisikhathi sokuthi acele ubuholi begatsha lakhe bumnike umhabulo ukuze azi ukuthi wawujoyinelani umbutho nanokuthi yini eyamenza waqoka ukuba yilungu



lombutho uma kuhluleka lapho axhumane nami ngiqale ngimhabulise bese siyamnika-ke umlando kaComrade Blade lo akhala ngaye.

Noma singeside kangako

isikhathi usembuthweni kodwa sekufanele ngabe usuyawuqonda manje umlando ngabaholi bombimbi ukuze nalaba abakunxenxa ukuthi ungene embuthweni bezozigqaja

ngolwazi osunalo, futhi kufanele ukuqonde ukuthi akumele uze udume njengamakhhekhe kasheleni ukuze ube sebhulini obuphezulu, imisebenzi kuphela oyikhethelwa amalungu enhlangano okuyona.

UComrade Blade akazange azikhethele ukuthi abe ngunobhala wamaBomvu ngokunjalo futhi akazange azikhethele ukuba abe yilungu lesigungu esiphezulu kuKhongolose. Wena ongalazi iqhaza lakhe elimbeka lapho ekhona woza sikuchazele kodwa hhayi emaphepheni. Singakuhlelela nokuthi sikufundisele lapho KwaDukuza. Ngakho-ke okulindelekile njengelungu lombimbi kanye nemigudu elandelwayo uma kukhona ongakuqondi, bese uhlukana phansi noComrade Blade uqinisekise ukuthi usebenzela umbutho KwaDukuza ngendlela ilungu elifaneleke ukuthi lenze ngayo ngoba isikhathi sokhetho sesisemome.

**Xolani Kubheka
ENTUZUMA**

Iziphathimandla zithi ukufunda ngeke kume

S'CELO KHUZWAYO

UMNYANGO wezeMfundo KwaZulu-Natal uthi yize kunezikole eziphephukile ngesikhathi kuhlasele izingaphansi ezinamandla kwezinye izingxenye zesifundazwe, kuzokwenziwa konke okusemandleni ukuthi ukufunda kuqale ngesikhathi uma sekuvulwa izikole.

UNgqongqoshe walo Mnyango, uNkk Ina Cronje (osesithombeni), izolo utshele izintatheli esithangamini sabezindaba eMgungundlovu ukuthi bakubeke eqhulwini ukwenza isiqiniseko sokuthi bonke abafundi babuyela esikoleni ngomhla ka-21 kule nyanga.

Izivunguvungu neziphepho ezinamandla zishiye izikole eziningi ziyizindonga nje ngomhla ka-3 kule nyanga ngemuva kokuphephuka kophahla.

Izindawo

ezikhahlamezeke kakhulu ezingaphansi kukaMasipala wesifunda uMgungundlovu, owaseThekwini, iLembe, iSisonke noMzinyathi.

NaseNdwedwe izikole eziningi zasala zingenalo uphahla ngemuva kwalezi zivunguvungu.

Ngasekupheleni konyaka odlule abafundi baphoqelesa ukuthi babhale izivivinyo zokuphela konyaka ngaphansi kwezimo ezibucayi kulandela ukuhlasele kweziphepho ezashiya izikole zipheshukelwe wuphahla.

Phakathi kwezikole ezakhahlamezeke ngezase-Adams, Mbumbulu, eManzimtoti, eMnambithi naseHammarisdale.

I-Napemo ithi ayiwona uShembe

KWANELE NCALANE

UMENGAMELI weqembu elisanda kusungulwa lezombusazwe, iNational Peoples Movement (Napemo), uMnuz Aubrey Mbatha, uthi akusilo iqiniso ukuthi iqembu lakhe livumbuke ngaphansi kwebandla, i-Nazareth Baptist Church, elidume ngokuthi yikwaShembe.

UMbatha uthi leli qembu lizimele futhi lizimisele ngokungenisa kuwona wonke amabandla.

Kumanje leli qembu libhalise ngaphansi kwenhlangano eyengamele ukhetho kuleli, i-Independent Electoral Commission (IEC), futhi lizimisele ngokungenela ukhetho kuzwelonke.

"Kumanje iqembu selethuliwe nakwamanye amahlelo, futhi sizimisele ngokuthi sithole abalandeli kuwona wonke. Iqembu silethulile

naseBuhleni kodwa akukhona ukuthi sisebenzisa igama lebandla ukuqhuba ezezipolitiki ngoba thina sizimele," kusho uMbatha.

Nokho uMbatha uvumile ukuthi yena uyilungu eliqavile lebandla laseBuhleni, kodwa wathi eqenjini lakhe kukhona abaholi abaningi abangamalungu ezinye izinkolo.

Uthe bona bamele konke okuyiqiniso waveza nokuthi leli qembu lakhe selinezinhlobo nakwezinye izifundazwe zakuleli.

Leli qembu lithi eliphikisana nakho wumthetho ovumela izingane ukukhipha izisu njengoba lithi alihambisani nokuthi izingane ezincane zigunyazwe ukuya ocansini.

UMbatha uthe iqembu lakhe lifuna abantu kube yibona abanezwi kakhulu futhi kube yibona abazikhethela neziMeya ezindaweni zabo.

Badiniwe abebemakela u-matric

MHLENGI SHANGASE

UYAQHUBEKA nokugajwa yizinkinga uMnyango wezeMfundo KwaZulu-Natal njengoba othisha abebemaka amaphepha akwa-Matric bedinwe beveva ngokuthi balinde umnyama ongenafu njengoba kuze kube yimanje bengakazitholi izimali zabo zokwenza lo msebenzi.

Izinkinga zizwa ezinye njengoba kusakhalwa nangemiphumela yabafundi abebefunda leli banga engakaphumi kuze kube yimanje njengoba bebaletwa ku-17 000 okuthiwa basayilindile.

Labo thisha abathelwa ngamanzi yintukuthelo bathi bakhala abanakwe muntu futhi nendaba yabo

ayikhulunywa, kodwa kulokhu kuqhakanjiswa inhlekelele yemiphumela ka-matric edumazile.

Okubacika kakhulu ngokuthi akekho nomuntu obazisayo ngokuthi bazozithola nini lezi zimali njengoba sekuqale nonyaka omusha.

Omunye wothisha oshayele *Isolezwe* obedla amagalane, uthe namanje basalinde imali okwakufanele ngabe bayithola kungakashayi ngisho noKhisimusi.

Uthe ngeminye iminyaka kuke kushaye uKhisimusi noma kuqale unyaka omusha sebezitholile lezi zimali.

"Izinto zimapeketwane eMnyangweni wezeMfundo ngoba ayikaze yenzeke le nto ukuthi kuze kuqale unyaka omusha

singazitholile izimali. Saqeda ukumaka ngoDisemba 12 kanti kufanele ngabe sekwapothulwa konke ngazo saziithola," kusho lo thisha.

Omunye wothisha obemaka iMaths neMaths Literacy eVyrheid, uthe nabo bayabuzana baziphendule ngalezi zimali ngoba abasazi ukuthi benzenjani.

"Sihlale sifonelana nabanye ozakwethu sibuzana ukuthi kanti lezi zimali zingena nini ngoba kufanele ngabe sesazidla zaphela. Besibheke ukuthi sizoyithola ungakashayi noKhisimusi ukuze sicoshacoshe lapha nalaphaya kodwa do, kwadlula noNcibijane nakhona kwacweba iziziba. Kuyacaca ukuthi siyoze sihole ngesonto elizayo singazitholile," usho kanje.

Imali athe kufanele bayithole icela ku-R8 000 ngoba bahola u-R99 ngehora.

Ubuye wathi kungcono uma bezotshelwa ukuthi abeze bezovolontiya bangaholi ngoba abakuthokozeli ukulinda kanje.

Abanye babasebenzi leli phephandaba elithole ukuthi nabo abakazitholi lei zimali ngonobhala, abaziwa ngele-admin officials, abebesebenza ezikhungweni zokumakela.

Okhulumela uMnyango, uMnuz Ntokozo Maphisa, uvumile ukuthi bakhona othisha abangakayitholi le mali ngoba kusasetshenzwa udaba lwabo.

Uthe abakaze bakhipe i-circular ebeka umnqamulajuqu wosuku lokubakhokhela wathi kodwa bakhona abanye asebezitholile lezi zimali.

"Abanye abakazitholi kanti abanye sebazithola ngoba izicelo zingena ngokuhlukana kodwa singakuqinisekisa ukuthi bonke bazozithola izimali zabo," kuphetha uMaphisa.