

Na o iketseditse molemo ka ho se kgethe?



Bongata ba batho Afrika Borwa ho kenyeletsa Mangaung, ba ile ba ya kgetha, mme ka kakaretso ba kgetha ANC ka bongata.

SETSHWANTSHO: BROOKINGS INSTITUTION

Ho na le baahi ba bang ba sa nkang karolo dikgethong tsena tse sa tswa feta tsa selehae. Na ba unne molemo ka ho etsa jwalo?

Tokoloho e fetotse maema a kgethollo ao setjhaba sa Afrika Borwa se neng se phela ho ona, ba ba ngata kajeno ba bile ba lebetse kapa ha ba tsebe bophelo bo boima ba nakong tsa mmuso wa kgethollo. Tokoloho e boetse e tlisitse tekatekano le toka ho ma-Afrika.

Dikgetho (ka mekgahlelo yohle ya tsona) ke tiiseo le ntshetsopele ya boitlamo ba rona re le setjhaba sa Afrika Borwa ho aha naha botjha ka ho ntshetsa pele demokerasi ka ho tswara dikgetho. Kahoo ho nka karolo dikgethong ke ho hlalisa lentswe la hao pusong ya naha ena kappa tsamaiso le puso ya dibaka tseo re dulang ho tsona. Ho nka karolo dikgethong ke ho nka taolo jwaloka moahi le ho ba karolo ya diqeto tsa tsamaiso le ntshetsopele ya dibaka tsa rona tsa bodulo le setjhaba ka kakaretso.

Dikgethong tsena tse sa tswa feta tsa selehae ho na le batho ba ileng ba etsa qeto ya ho se nke karolo ho tsona le ha ba ne ba na le tokelo ya ho kgetha, hobane ba ne ba ingodisitse jwalo ka bakgethi. Ba bang ba hlalositse mabaka a bona a ho se kgethe - mabaka a neng a akga le akaretsang la hore ' ke tokelo ya ka', Molaotheo wa naha o fana ka tokelo ho moahi e mong le e mong ya boikgethelo.

Le ha molaotheo o fa motho e mong le e mong boikgethelo, moelelo ona wa ho fa motho e mong le e mong tokelo ya boikgethelo, ha se moelelo o o reretsweng ho se tswale motho

kapa setjhaba molemo. Tokelo eo ha e ya rerelwa ho isa maemo a botho fatshe le ho kgutlisetsa morao tsohle tse molemo tseo Ditokelo tsa mantlha tsa Botho le ona Molaotheo wa naha di di beheletseng ka pepepele.

Ka tsela e jwalo ho nka karolo dikgethong ke boikarabelo ba moahi e mong le e mong wa naha kapa wa motse e le karolo ya hae ya ho aha bokamoso bo tjhabileng bakeng sa hae le letlobo la ka moso. Ha motho a etsa kgetho ya ho se kgethe ka mabaka a itseng, a ke ke a qobellwa. Empa kgetho eo ya ho se kgethe ha e mo tswale molemo wa letho hobane ba bang ba nkang karolo dikgethong ba mo etsetsa qeto ya tsamaiso ya naha kapa ya motse le tsohle tse amanang le taolo ya sepolotiki sebakeng seo.

Dipalo tsa bakgethi di tla fokola haholo ha batho ba ba ngata ba etsa qeto ya ho se kgethe, empa seo se ke ke sa thibela ba bang ho ya dikgethong. Hobane ha ho se na dikgetho na tsamaiso ya setjhaba etla etsahala jwang? Ha eba o entse qeto ya ho se kgethe na o nahana hore dintho tsohle tseo o sa di kgotsofallang di tla lokiswa? Di lokiswa ke mang hobane wena ka bowena o entse qeto ya ho se kgethe motho kapa mokgatlo oo o nahanang hore o tla ntshetsa pele toro ya hao ya bophelo bo botle.

Ke taba ya bohlokwa ho etsa qeto ka maikutlo a phodileng. Ho senke karolo dikgethong ho tliša tiehiso e kgolo ntshetsopeleng le kgolong ya demokerasi. Mme ho a hlokeha hore le ha moahi e mong le e mong a na le tokelo, bohle ba

nang le tokelo ya ho kgetha ba lokela ho etsa jwalo. Le ha dikgetho tsena tsa selehae di se di fetile, ha re a lokela hore re aha serobe Phiri e se e jele. Thuto ya dikgetho ke thuto e tswelang. Haufinyane ho tla be ho tshwarwa dikgetho tse akaretsang tsa naha. Sena ke temoso ka mora' sephetho se nyahamisang sa dikgetho, se bakilweng haholo ke ho se nke karolo ya b

a bang, hore ha taba ena e sa le ntjha mehopolong ya rona, re phahamise boleng ba thuto, kwetliso le kgothaletso ya boikarabelong ba ho nka karolo dikgethong.

Ba sa kgethang ba ipolaile ka matsoho! Empa ha se sena feela, ho se kgethe ha bona ho bile le kahlamelo empe ntshetsopeleng ya demokerasi. Ena ke taba e lokelwang ho thijwa e sa le jwale.

Ntombi Mekgwe elected as Treasurer



Parliament, - The South African Parliament has welcomed the election of the Speaker of the Gauteng Provincial Legislature, Ms Ntombi Mekgwe, as the Treasurer for the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) - Africa Region, during the Annual General Meeting held in Abuja Nigeria.

Ms Mekgwe takes over from the West Africa CPA-Africa and will serve her three-year term up to 2024. Her election to the continental executive of CPA was hailed as a great success by the leader of the South Africa delegation and Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, Mr Lechesa Tsenoli.

"Ms Mekgwe's election is a befitting recognition of her good leadership traits in the South African Legislative Sector, the Southern Africa sub-region and the CPA-Africa Region at large.

We feel honoured both as South Africa and the Southern African block of Parliamentarians. It affirms and encourages the exemplary performance of many women representatives in national and sub-national parliaments and legislatures," said Mr Tsenoli

Reflecting on her election as Treasurer of the CPA-African Region at its 51st conference, Ms Mekgwe expressed her gratitude for the confidence and trust placed on her by the continental body of Parliamentarians. She expressed hope that the resolutions adopted at this 51st Conference of the CPA-African Region will be progressively and successfully implemented by all national and sub-national legislatures. She said the fight against Covid-19 and its impacts on women, children, poorer communities, national economies and on lives and livelihoods of people, has to make a real difference.

The five-day 51st CPA - Africa Region Conference, held under the theme: "**African Parliaments and the challenges of Covid-19 pandemic**", adopted a number of resolutions on what continental Parliamentarians must do to fight Covid-19, build continental resilience and readiness for fight pandemic, and strengthen research and

development to reduce the continent's dependence on advanced countries of the world for life-saving medicines. The Parliamentarians condemned the non-equitable share of the world's capacity to fight the global pandemic through inter alia, vaccines, most of which are patented and therefore inaccessible to many underdeveloped nations especially in the African continent.

The 51st CPA-Africa Region conference took a number of resolutions that included:

- *Strengthening of African Parliaments' oversight on governments' strategies; use of funds, loans and aids secured in the name of combating the Covid-19 pandemic;
- *Step up efforts to fight all forms of corruption;
- *Driving the adoption and tracking of the execution of the Abuja Declaration that calls for the allocation of at least 15% of national budgets to the health sector;
- *Enhance developmental models aimed at solving economic challenges and ensure achievement of the Sustainable Development goals, many of which suffered setbacks because of the global health crisis occasioned by the outbreak of Covid-19;
- *Enacting of laws to protect the interests of African countries in the context of skewed global power relations and access to resources to fight the pandemic including patenting of vaccines and to enhance continental research and development as well as local production of vaccines;
- *Stepping up efforts to fight gender-based and domestic violence that reared its ugly face during Covid-19 lockdowns

Greater Sophiatown Parliamentary Constituency Office (PCO) in action

October sprang into action with the launch of a series of hybrid dialogues centred on the **Significance of Local Government within the Three Spheres of Government** hosted by the Greater Sophiatown PCO under the leadership of ANC MP, Ms Nompandolo Mkhathshwa who is also the Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Higher Education, Science and Technology.

The dialogues aim to encourage critical conversations and engagement about the shape of our democracy, elections, active citizenry and how to grow our young democracy to the extent that people can, without fear or favour ensure that all organs of state including Parliament remain answerable and accountable to its citizens.

Ms Mkhathshwa at the launch expressed that before asking citizens to vote for party x or person x, it is essential to create a foundation of understanding of what this process of our democracy actually is, for citizens to place the most suitable collectives or individuals at the helm of these mammoth tasks.

The multi-party nature of our elections is an important characteristic of our democracy. Citizens have long been calling for our representatives to put the needs of citizens first, to end political infighting and point-scoring and for political parties to work together in the interest of all citizens.

This is in keeping with the oath that Members of Parliament take when they are sworn in and *'solemnly affirm to be faithful to the Republic of South Africa and to obey, respect and uphold the Constitution and all other laws of the Republic, and solemnly promise to perform their functions as Members of Parliament to the best of their ability.'*



Ms Nompandolo Mkhathshwa, says ANC Parliamentary Constituency Offices serve all community members regardless of their political affiliations.

PHOTO: afternoonexpress.co.za

The launch of the dialogues, while hosted by an ANC Member of Parliament included representation from other political parties such as the Patriotic Alliance and the Democratic Alliance. Testament to Ms Mkhathshwa's views that "the PCO may be one allocated to the ANC, but it services all the people of Greater Sophiatown regardless of their political affiliation."

Ms Mkhathshwa intends to continue inviting all parties to these dialogues. It was inspiring to witness mutual

respect in the room considering the critical engagements that were being had. Truly, a testimony to our multi-party democracy. Students from Wits University and the University of Johannesburg joined the launch and expressed that the dialogue left them 'conscientized and with a greater understanding of the link between democracy, elections and active citizenry across the spheres of government'. They called for more of these programmes by Parliamentary Constituency Offices and Parliament's Public Education Office. This call by the students was taken up, as the Greater Sophiatown PCO together with the Wits Student Representative Council and other stakeholders intend to jointly host a hybrid dialogue at Wits University.

An important call from these dialogues was the urgent need for regular and consistent engagement of this nature in constituencies with Members of Parliament and representatives from provincial and local government. Communities need to know where their Parliamentary Constituency Offices are, who their constituency Members of Parliament are and how to contact them to ensure that representative and participatory democracy is strengthened to reflect the will and needs of the people.

An edited article by Parliament's Public Education Office (PEO)

ABOUT Nompandolo Thobile Mkhathshwa

Nompandolo Thobile Mkhathshwa is the youngest woman on the benches of the African National Congress in the National Assembly of the South African Parliament.

She serves as the Chairperson to the Portfolio Committee on Higher Education, Science and Technology. She holds a BSc Geography (Wits University), a Post Graduate Certificate in Education (University of South Africa) and Post Graduate Diploma in Educational Management and Leadership, (Regent Business School) with the aspirations of enrolling for her Masters in Education in the year 2022.

Mkhathshwa sits on the Board of Trustees of the Ahmed Kathrada Foundation and on the Board of Trustees of the South African Student Solidarity Foundation for Education. She is the Former Youth Representative on the Presidential Gender Review Committee on Women Empowerment and Gender Equality appointed by President Cyril Ramaphosa (2019). And, a former Non-Executive Director at the Matthew Goniwe School of Leadership and Governance appointed by MEC of Education in Gauteng, Mr Panyaza Lesufi (2019).

Mkhathshwa as a student activist served as the President, Wits SRC (2015/2016) and was one of the leaders of the Wits Fees Must Fall Protests (2015/2016). Prior to that she served as the Deputy Secretary, SASCO Wits Branch (2013), Chairperson, SASCO Wits Branch (2013/ 2014) and the Deputy Chairperson, ANCYL Wits Branch (2014/2015).

In 2018, Mkhathshwa founded Yenza Foundation which focuses on youth, women, the environment, knowledge and the African continent. Mkhathshwa defines herself as an activist and aspirant specialist in education!

Source: UNIVERSITIES SOUTH AFRICA

Makoloane o sebeditse ka bokgabane le boitelo

Ha se ha ngata moo mothoa thoholetsang le ho leboha a sa phela. Empa ho a hloka hloka ka 'nako tse ding hore makgabane a batho a ele hloko le ho pepeswa. Sena ha se morero wa ho hodisa le ho tumisa motho.

Morero ke ho jala thuto e ntle le ho kgothaletsa ba bang ho etsa tse ntle le bona moo ba fuweng boikarabelo. Lebakale leng ke ho kgothaletsa le ho laya yena motho ya sebeditseng ka bokgabane hore le moo a yang teng boikarabelong bo botjha a nne a phehelle ho etsa hantle.

Monghadi Itumeleng Makoloane o sebeditse Diofisi tsa Boemedi ba Palamente tsa ANC dibakeng tsa Bakgethi, Parliamentary Constituency Offices, ka bokgabane dilemo tse fetang tse 6.

Oile a qala pele ka ho ithaopa Parliamentary Constituency Office ya Mme Lucy Mapena, Ntjapedimme hamorao a a sebetsa Parliamentary Constituency Office ya Monghadi Lechesa Tsenoli, Ofising e Tshweu.



Mong. Itumeleng Makoloane

Kajeno Makoloane ke e mong wa ba kgethilweng jwaloka molekgotla wa ANC, ward 36 Lekgotleng la Motse la Mangaung. Baahi ba ba ngata ba hlalositse ha ba saretswe haholo ha Makoloane a tlhela ho sebeletsa ANC Parliamentary Constituency Office. Leha ho le jwalo ba mo lakaletsa mahlohonolo mosebetsing le boikarabelong bo botjha.

Monghadi Makoloane yena o hlalosa ha a le motlotlo ka seabo sa hae tshhebeletsong ya setjhaba ka Parliamentary Constituency Office ya ANC.

O re o leboha monyetla, tataiso le tshehetso ho tswa ho bohle ba sebeditseng le yena ho ntshetsa setjhaba pele. Athe ho setjhaba teng o re ke yena ke "Pelesa e meuba" – ka hore rialo o bolela ha e le mosebeletsi le morumuwa wa setjhaba.

Monghadi Lechesa Tsenoli, Setho sa Parlamente sa ANC), o lakaleditse Monghadi Makoloane katleho mosebetsing o motjha w abo-khanselara. "Re thoholetsa molekgotla Itumeleng Makoloane ho atleha tsamaisong tse ka hare tsa ANC, esita le tsamaisong tsa setjhaba sa ward 36 tsa ho kgetha molekgotla dikgethong tse sa tswa feta tse neng di tsamaiswa ke IEC.

"Re re pele ya pele mor'a Makoloane, o se furalle setjhaba setjhaba sa ward 36 le ka mohla o le mong!"

Ho sa le jwalo Makoloane ke karolo ya letlobo le letjha la balekgotla ba ANC, ba boletseng ha ba ikemiseditse ho kena ka mafolofolo mosebetsing wa setjhaba.

Ba hlalositse hore ka sehlohong ke ho ikopanya le setjhaba pele e le ho utlwisisa ka botlalo ditaba le ditlhoko tsa setjhaba. Ba hlalosa ha ba tseba boima boo ba tobaneng le bona empa ba itetse ho nka karlo ho imolla setjhabeng mathateng ao se leng ho ona le ho fihlela ditabatabelo tsa sona.

"Ke tsela wa dikgokahano pakeng tsa baahi le dibopeho tsohle tsa masepala tse amanang le baahi. Mme ke tla dula ke latellisa ditaba tsa baahi ho tswa mafapheng a ikarabelang".

Ho bolela Itumeleng Makoloane. "Shine" Nichodemus Banyane ke Molekgotla e motjha wa ward 27, yena o re: " Ntle le phano ya ditshebeletso, eo re lokelang ho e beha ka sehlohong, hona le tse ding tse ngata tsa dintho tseo lokelang ho thusa baahi ka tsona, e le ho ba thusa ho fumana mekgwa ya ho iphedisa le ho hodisa moruo ka theho ya mesebetsi ya selehae.

Re tla lokela ho etsa diphuphutso le ho ikopanya le batsetedi ba ka dumelang ho fana ka kwetliso ya mesebetsi e itseng, haholoholo batjheng ho fokotsa leqeme la mesebetsi ka hara motse – ke ho ba batlela menyetla ya thupelo ya mesebetsi."

Teboho Tukulaya kenang ward 30 o re ho bohlokwa ho ikopanya le setjhaba pele, e le ho nka thomo e phethahetseng. O re setlhare sa puso e ntle ke kopano le dipuisano kgafetsa le setjhaba.

Bofihla - quest to tell African stories unadulterated

One of our drawbacks as South Africans, particularly blacks, is that our stories are told by others than ourselves. They tell the stories from their own perspectives, revealing and obscuring issues and facts alike, with timeframes to suit their narrative.

Today, there are no excuses for black people to tell their own stories - resources and information are relatively available.

Mr. Mpho Letula is the Managing Director of the museum. He wrote the article to give an overview of this initiative and to inspire other young people in the path of self-rediscovery, in protecting and preserving part of (Black South African) heritage:



Bofihla museum is an institution established by cohorts of young people in an attempt to capture and preserve some of the African indigenous stories and culture(s). The museum was formed in 2014. It is a heritage tapestry, environmental and education data resource, and archiving platform devoted to preserving and protecting indigenous African heritage, both tangible and intangible. The museum has a designed 'Heritage Restoration and Preservation Programme', a 'pop-up exhibition' to be installed at previously disenfranchised areas of the Eastern Free State in the first quarter of 2022, with a permanent museum launched within the next six months in Qwaqwa. "Bofihla Museum attempts to tell the African story, in an African way, stories that define us as a people, including those (stories) that were painful to experience and reminiscence about today."

This young institution of enquiry, and reflection in thought of the past, to read the present and contemplate the future is determined to maintain the organic nature of history and hand it over in succession so that the legacy does not perish but becomes more generative in growing our story as part of the human race and all that is within our existence.

The inferiority complex painted of us is an unfortunate resentment to discourage our rise to self-knowledge and preserve our dignity as a people". It is in the background of this that he and others founded the museum. The museum is guided and run in accordance with corporate governance dictates. As a beneficiary of the rich African heritage, I understand my responsibility of ensuring that the story is told truthfully, and the institution's primary objectives of reminding, educating, commemorating and preserving such are realised. We will not fully achieve the realisation alone, neither in person as a collective, nor as an institution. We need to tell ours (stories)

together, relentlessly and ensure that no one with a much louder voice can scream boisterously to feed their guided narratives. Africans are known for their extraordinary passion for learning, artistry, craft and storytelling skills. However, colonialism and western influence seem to have 'blindfolded us' with her glow that we ended up being consumers and no longer great independent discoverers and indigenous people highlighted how indigenous cultures and traditions were corrupted through systematic exclusions and discriminations from political and economic power in the last three decades. Language specialists emphasise how these unfortunate activities led to a significant decline in indigenous languages worldwide. The persisting suppression of indigenous ethnic groups predicted the possible extinction of at least 90% of some indigenous languages by the end of the century.

It is essential that, as communities, we continue to contribute towards programmes that encourage societal, language and heritage development as these are beneficial towards a developed self-consciousness. My call is a cry to young people, explicitly the previously marginalised, to rise above the self-insignificance and activists. Should the present and coming generations continue to shun protecting and preserving our fragile stories but allow this gradual decline of culture, heritage and indigenous languages, our inheritance will become extinct sooner than anticipated.

A study commissioned by the United Nations several years ago on the state of the world's equip themselves with indigenous knowledge as this may guide their independence. heritage, irrespective of how Europeans, especially in South Africa, realised those achievements. The reality of our country exposes us to the existence of multiple and well-preserved museums and monuments

Through our designed heritage restoration and preservation programme, which is intended as a 'pop-up' museum, we aim to introduce communities gradually to the idea of revisiting their past experiences whilst preserving what they have learned and achieved for the coming generation. The state of indigenous norms and behaviour in the continent is in sharp decline due to many factors such as foreign-imposed behavioural patterns, centuries of colonial dictation and discrimination, government and We aim to develop an awareness campaign that will encourage communities, primarily rural communities, and the youth in particular of the importance of learning and equipping themselves with indigenous knowledge, archiving for both purposes of stimulating and protecting Africa's rich heritage. sites in previously categorised white areas. In contrast, a differing scenario dominates predominantly and once black areas.

The inspiration behind this initiative's formation came as a result of an urge to archive muted stories of indigenous men and women. It may sound contradictory; we have also been inspired by the Europeans' technique and steadfast commitment to archiving and profiling their achievements and economic policies unfavourable to the natives. In recent years there have been other foreign demeanours guided by either social media or other societal pressures. Most of these policies and behaviours dictate that parents teach and talk to their children in the dominant languages to create optimal conditions for their social success. The course then presents a challenge since indigenous languages and mother tongues are often known and used only by the older generation. An unfortunate hiccup befalls the entire generation as they are then denied access to quality indigenous knowledge, which dies with the elders, due to an invented language barrier. It then becomes the responsibility of institutions such as Bofihla Museum to take forward the baton. The challenge remains the robust critics' intent to kill the morale of the story that is genuinely told.

Bofihla Museum remains a dream conceived of a vision to promote and protect indigenous African stories."

PARLIAMENTARIANS WELCOME ELECTION OF THE GHANIAN MP AS VICE CHAIRPERSON OF CPA INTERNATIONAL

Parliament, - The African Parliamentarians have congratulated the Ghanaian Member of Parliament, Mr Osei Yyein-Mensah-Bonsu, who has been elected to serve as Vice Chairperson in the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association International (CPA-International).

The election of Mr Bonsu was conducted



virtually after the 50th CPA Africa Executive Committee meeting which took place in Kenya, Nairobi in July 2019. The appointment was commended in the Sub-Committee meeting of the 51st CPA-Africa Region currently taking place in Abuja - Nigeria.

Commenting on Mr Bonsu's election, the leader of the South African delegation and Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, Mr Lechesa Tsenoli, who also serve in the governance structures (regional representative committee member) of the CPA-Africa region, said the election represented a good step in transforming the CPA International and in ensuring appropriate representation of Africa as the biggest block of the CPA International

Mr Tsenoli said all members of the CPA-Africa Region congratulated Mr Bonsu, they cherished the commitment made towards building CPA as a serious multilateral forum

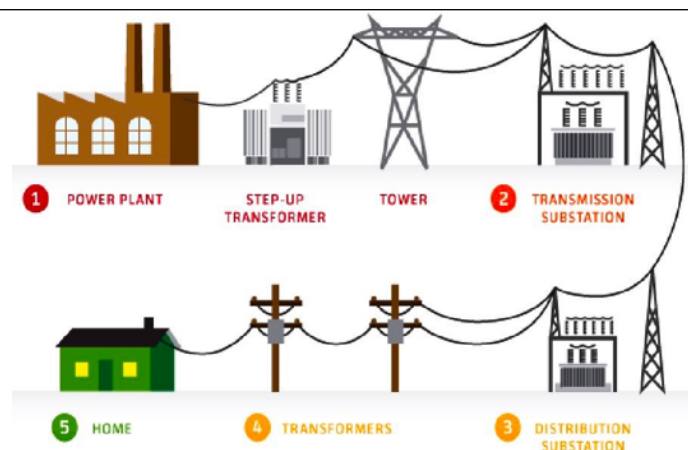
of Parliamentarians instead of a charity organisation, and they appreciated the adoption of a resolution to review laws discriminating against women and girls in the Africa. Dr Bonsu expressed his profound gratitude to the Africa Region for its confidence in him to represent the interest of Africa at CPA International.

The CPA-Africa-Region's Executive Committee resolution on the review of discriminatory legislation, followed the tabling of a report on the continent's efforts to curb the scourge of gender-based violence (GBV), presented by the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians (CWC) Steering Committee. The CWC report calls for, among other things, the elimination of discriminatory laws against women and girls, heightened efforts to eradicate all forms of GBV, more active involvement of male Members of Parliament (MPs) in the gender mainstreaming programmes; improvement of women representation in Parliaments; and for Parliaments to adopt the United Nations He-for-She global solidarity programme.

The report acknowledged a number of pockets of good practice noted in various member states of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, such as, the Sexual Offenders' Registry in Botswana, the Gender Empowerment Act in Sierra Leone, and a women's webinar and a women's Parliament in South Africa.

Mr Tsenoli is accompanied by the National Council of Provinces' House Chairperson for International Relations, Ms Winnie Ngwenya, Ms Audrey Maleka (African National Congress), Mr Mamagase Nchabeleng (African National Congress) and Mr Noko Masipa (Democratic Alliance). They are representing Parliament at the 51st conference in Nigeria held under the theme "African Parliaments and the challenges of Covid-19 pandemic".

ISSUED BY THE PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Tseba hore motlakase o hlaha kae hore o tle o utlwisise theko ya ona, 'Load shedding' le ho nka seabo ditelong tsa ho fumana 'tsela tse ding tsa ho fehla matla. (SETSHWANTSHO:Semanticscholar.org)

GROUND-BREAKING CHILD PARTICIPATION IN THE CHILDREN'S AMENDMENT BILL

An edited article by Parliament's Public Education Office (PEO)

The Portfolio Committee on Social Development conducted its second closed virtual public hearing on the CAB with children following on the historic first ground-breaking and successful closed public hearing for children on the Children's Amendment Bill (CAB) last year.

Meaningful child participation in law-making and other activities of Parliament that impact directly and indirectly on children is gaining a footprint in Parliament's work. Child participation refers to the active involvement of children in the decisions, processes (practices), programmes and policies (rules) that affect their lives.

The sessions with children on the CAB is guided by the principle that "the best interest of the child is paramount in every matter concerning the child" and also by an international Child Participation Framework for good practice when working with children. The main objective of the Child Participation Framework is to contribute to creating child-friendly, inclusive, and safe platforms for the participation of children. Keeping children safe is the responsibility of all adults,

including parents, guardians, caregivers, school authorities, digital technology companies/service providers, social service workers and governments.

This year's preparation for the closed public hearings with children, held in September, involved collaboration between Parliament's Portfolio



Human Rights cannot be complete without Rights of children. The Children's Amendment Bill is a gateway to the Rights of children. PHOTO: SAHISTORY.ORG.ZA

and *are protected and safe at all times.

The guidelines further aim to assist adults working with children to ensure meaningful Committee on Social Development, Committee support staff, ICT, Public Education Office, and child-focused civil society organisations and individuals like the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund, the Children's Institute, the Western Cape Commissioner for Children and the child participants as the main stakeholders.

For the Closed Virtual Public Hearing with children on CAB, a set of guidelines was developed by the Public Education Office to ensure the online safeguarding and protection of children during virtual meetings. The guidelines aim to ensure that children:

*are properly prepared for online consultations, discussions, surveys, and other similar online activities involving children;

*from different backgrounds and situations are included in the activities; child participation and the safeguarding of children's rights.

Many of these principles are set out in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) which is a legally-binding international agreement setting out the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of every child, regardless of their race, religion or abilities. Organs of state including Parliament are the primary duty bearers for fulfilling children's rights and have the obligation to respect and protect the rights of children.

Meaningful child participation in the CAB is a step in the right direction to hear the voices of children in Parliament because as young citizens – children's voices matter. The Child Participation Framework will also guide and strengthen Parliament's Public Participation Model and the growing understanding that public participation is a shared mandate across the work of Parliament. It is important that all adults working with children including Members of Parliament and support staff need to be sensitised to working with children, and other vulnerable groups such as youth, women, persons with disabilities and the LGBTIQ+ community.

Keep an ear on the ground for Public Hearings that are soon coming, including in the Free State as well.

COVID-19

If you are 12 and above, don't wait any longer! Go and get vaccinated at a site near you.

You can speed up the process by registering before you get there. When you register online, you can even choose when and where to go.

You don't have to wait for an SMS. Just go straight to get vaccinated.

This is particularly important if you are fifty years or older because your risk is highest.

Do it NOW! Any questions or concerns, call 0800 029 999 or send an email to: info@vaccinesupport.org.za

U.S. delegation says: 'Hands off Nicaragua!'

By Workers World Bureau



Managua, Nicaragua:- Nicaragua's Alliance for Global Justice delegation visited Nicaragua to learn about the advances of the Sandinista government over the last 15 years. The object of the visit was to counter the tsunami of false information daily churned out by the U.S. State Department and its allies in the national and international media.

Excerpts from the briefing:

Monica Moorehead

Moorehead is a managing editor of Workers World newspaper and represented Workers World Party on the delegation.

I was a member of an antiwar delegation that traveled to Nicaragua to honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s commitment to equality, peace and justice in 1984.

Thirty-seven years later, from everything our delegation has witnessed firsthand, I see this revolution continues to thrive as a real democracy by using its limited resources to commit to the well-being of all its people. The U.S.

accusation labeling the Nov. 7 election here as "undemocratic and unfair" is an outrage and totally absurd. How can anyone who thinks rationally take the word of a government that disenfranchises the vote of Black people, migrants, etc., after the 2020 U.S. election? How can anyone take the word of a government that claims to support "political prisoners" in Nicaragua but has held hostage in U.S. prisons for the past 30, 40 and even 50 plus years Mumia Abu-Jamal, Leonard Peltier, Jamil al-Amin, Ruchell Magee and many more?

The U.S. has no right to intervene into the internal affairs of another country, especially their elections, considering the biased nature of the U.S. elections dominated by the big capitalist parties, the Democrats and Republicans.

Joav Elinevsky

Elinevsky represented Massachusetts Peace Action.

Nicaragua is a beautiful country with beautiful weather, blessed with fertile land because of the many volcanoes here, making Nicaragua 80% food independent. I found Nicaragua like a house with open doors with warm and friendly

people, industrious, creative, hardworking and proud. people, industrious, creative, hardworking and proud. During my daily walks here, I could go anywhere I wanted, at any time of the day or night, and feel safe and welcomed. The best way to learn about Nicaragua is to come here. But there is an easier way for the smart people that read the New York Times or The Guardian or from our [U.S.] government. Just reverse what you hear. The truth is the opposite of what they publish. After 17 years of right-wing governments, the Nicaraguans overwhelmingly elected the Sandinistas. Why? Poverty decreased from 48% to 29% in 2014. Hundreds of thousands of women received loans under the program, Zero Usury and Zero Hunger. Education at all levels is free. All the socioeconomic indicators show great success with the commitment to the poor, to a mixed economy and democracy.

Stan Smith

Smith represents the Chicago ALBA Solidarity Network.

Nicaragua had just over 50 hospitals when Daniel Ortega was elected president in 2007. Now there are 77 hospitals, one-third built in the last 14 years

Today all health care is free. Today education, including university, is free. Even child day care centers are free and available to all.

Today women make up 50% of elected positions in the national, regional and local governments. These are rights and benefits we do not have in the United States.

Nicaragua is the safest country in Central America. Its murder rate is half of what it was in 2006. Its murder rate is eight to ten times lower than in El Salvador.

Extreme poverty has been reduced by half.

Infant mortality and maternal mortality have been reduced by more than half since 2006. Only 50% of the people had access to electricity; under the Daniel Ortega government, this is now 99%.

In 1989 after 10 years of the Sandinista government, illiteracy had been reduced to 10%. After 16 years of neoliberal, pro-U.S. government rule, it had jumped to 30%. It had tripled. After the 14 years of the present government, it is now down to 4%.

Our delegation feels it is urgent for all of us to increase our efforts to work against U.S. interference in Nicaragua's November election. It is urgent we focus on opposing a new U.S. regime-change operation.

Sara Flounders

Flounders represented the International Action Center and the Sanctions Kill campaign. Sanctions Kill focuses on building coordination among many organizations opposing U.S. sanctions on 39 countries, one-third of the world's population. This is a crime against humanity. The U.S. has declared Nicaragua, a developing country of 6 million people, to be "an extraordinary threat to the national security of the United States." How preposterous!

But U.S. corporate power is threatened by the example of what Nicaragua is building for the people. We came to see for ourselves.

We heard vivid descriptions of the crimes of the U.S.-backed failed coup in 2018, with social media saturation, mercenary terror squads, roadblocks and demands for the popular Sandinista government to resign.

The Sandinista revolution of 1979 was a profound upheaval, a change in consciousness, a combative determination to build a new society. Through the 1980s Nicaragua was not allowed a moment of peace. There were nonstop U.S. contra wars, combated by a mobilized population. From 1990 to 2007 right-wing governments reversed and privatized everything — education, health care, social services. The harshest neoliberal economy meant nothing for the people.

President Daniel Ortega claimed overwhelming victory in the Presidential elections held in Nicaragua early this month. He won in the backdrop of negative propaganda by among others US. This is his fourth consecutive victory as the President of the central American country. The Elections results showed that the majority of people still have confidence in the Sandinista National Liberation Front

COMMENT



The municipal elections have come gone. The Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) have declared them generally free and fair.

The people of our metro, our readers included, have spoken. While we as the African National Congress (ANC) and its allies, the South African Communist Party, COSATU and SANCO broadly have been given a thumbs up to continue to run the metro, we recognise many did not bother to vote as a protest against various wrong doings. We single out corruption, poor services especially waste management, road and other infrastructure maintenance and of course dealing with the rising unemployment.

In addition, poor and weak relationship and support for the informal, self-reliant sector. We talk here about small business and social services. Supporting people's own initiatives, self-reliant efforts, is crucial to building the city and its community.

We once more approach the December holidays and the use of drugs and alcohol is going to continue to shatter many families and neighbourhoods. We have TO UNITE TO PREVENT what is frequently a huge source of violence and murder, unfortunately of women and children. Men and boys are frequently ALSO victims in this senseless criminal conduct. Municipal public representatives, councillors and appointed officials have a critical role to help stop this terror. As they begin their mandated work, it's important their first consideration be the people and their general health and well-being.

Our thank you to the community for expressing their belief in democracy, we must treat them and their condition as our priority. We must intensify our work with people to identify concerns they have, and generate, with them, sustainable solutions thereto. Five years to next elections, it is people who must, then, feel proud of their achievements with active support from their metropolitan government, working together with the provincial and national government. The work begins now.

Thank you once for voting AND for voting for us the ANC. We promise to improve all the time to serve you better, our communities.



NEWS FROM PARLIAMENT



Struggle to liberate women not to be left in the hands of the female gender only



The Chairperson of Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians (Africa Region), Dr Zainab Gimba addressed Parliamentarians at the opening of their conference in Abuja in Nigeria recently. - below is an edited version of her address:

I bring you greetings from Commonwealth Women Parliamentarian's across Africa. I commend you all for the courage of physically attending this Conference despite the challenges associated with travelling during this era of COVID-19 pandemic.

Ladies and Gentlemen, there is a statement attributed to the former Chairman of the Communist Party in China, Comrade Mao Zedong to the effect that "**Women hold half the sky**". This statement has gained popularity over time. It conjures the image of a very important segment of society who must not be taken for granted because, should women abandon their responsibilities, the sky itself will fall. If this statement is true, I find it hard to understand why it is so difficult for women to even touch the proverbial glass ceiling.

According to the United Nations data, women occupy the role of Heads of State or Government in 22 countries. As at 1st January, 2021, only 5.9% of elected Heads of State (9 out of 152) and 6.7% of Heads of Government (13 out of 193) were women. Women are constrained from achieving the highest leadership positions: Only 5% of Fortune 500 CEOs are Women. Violence and harassment in the world of work affects women regardless of age, location, income or social status. The economic costs to the global economy of discriminatory social institutions and violence against women is estimated to be approximately \$12 trillion annually.

If women really hold half the sky, how come there are gender differences in laws affecting both developing and developed economies, and women in all regions. Globally, over 2.7 billion women are legally restricted from having the same choice of jobs as men. Of 189 economies assessed in 2018, 104 economies still have laws preventing women from working in specific jobs, 59 economies have no laws on sexual harassment in the workplace, and in some countries husbands can legally prevent their wives from working.

If women really hold half the sky, how is it that women remain less likely to participate in the labour market than men around the world? According to data obtained from International Labour Organization in 2018, labour force participation rate for women aged 25-54 is 63% compared to 94% for men. When including younger (aged 15 years and up) and older women (aged 55 and up). In 2018, women's global labour force participation rate is even lower at 48.5%, 26.5 percentage points below that of men.

Women may constitute about 50% of world population, but I do not believe that in real terms they hold half the sky. This is because, women are more likely to be unemployed than men. In 2017, global unemployment rates for men and women stood at 5.5% and 6.2% respectively. This was projected by ILO to remain relatively unchanged going into 2018 and through 2021. In addition, women are over-represented in informal and vulnerable employment. From the latest available data, the share of women in informal employment in developing countries was 4.6 percentage points higher than that of men, when including agricultural workers, and 7.8 percentage points higher when excluding them.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen. Are you still convinced that women really hold the sky? Globally, women are paid less than men. According to Damian Grimshaw and Jill Rubery, the gender wage gap is estimated to be 23%. This means that women earn 77% of what men earn, though these figures understate the real extent of gender pay gaps, particularly in developing countries where informal self-employment is prevalent. Women also face the motherhood wage penalty, which increases as the number of children a woman has increases. In addition, women bear disproportionate responsibility for unpaid care and domestic work. Women tend to spend around 2.5 times more time on unpaid care and domestic work than men.

Who really believes that women hold half the sky? Women are less likely than men to have access to financial institutions or have a bank account. While 65% of men report having an account at a formal

financial institution, only 58% of women do worldwide. Women are less likely to be entrepreneurs and face more disadvantages while starting businesses. In 40% of economies, women's early stage entrepreneurial activity is half or less than half of that of men's. The digital divide remains a gendered one: most of the 3.9 billion people who are offline are in rural areas, poorer, less educated and tend to be women and girls.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, as you are probably aware, CWP was founded in 1989 with a commitment to build the capacity of women elected to parliament to be more effective in their roles; improve the awareness and ability of Parliamentarians, male and female, to include a gender perspective in all aspects of their role, including legislation, oversight and representation; as well as help Parliaments to become gender-sensitive institutions.

During this Conference, Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians will be holding a Sensitization Workshop under the theme, "**Women's Participation in Political Process in Africa: needs, challenges and opportunities**". We intend to interrogate the issue of lopsided gender representation in African Politics and Governance Structures. In addition, we shall examine the nexus between patriarchal political systems, defective electoral laws, and women's subordination. The sensitization workshop will hold later today in this same hall by 3.00 pm. We invite all female delegates to participate in this allimportant workshop.

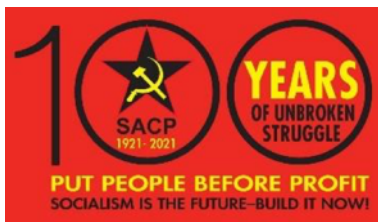
In conclusion, the struggle to liberate women from the tentacles of domination, exploitation and suppression should not be left in the hands of the female gender only. I therefore call upon men of goodwill to join Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians in championing for the rights of women and girls. That way, the burdens and opportunities of political and economic development will be equally shared. Only then can we say with confidence that "**WOMEN HOLD HALF OF THE SKY**".

WHAT IS COMMONWEALTH WOMEN'S PARLIAMENT?

Commonwealth Women's Parliament, CWP is the network of women members of CPA (Commonwealth Parliamentary Association) parliaments. It aims to:

Build the capacity of women elected to parliament to be more effective in their roles, Improve the awareness and ability of parliamentarians, male and female, CWP is governed by a Steering Committee made up of representatives from each CPA region.

The International Steering Committee is chaired by Hon. Shandana Gulzar Khan MNA, Member of Parliament from Pakistan. CWP works on a regional basis, with each of the nine regions of the CPA coordinating programmes, conferences and meetings among its legislatures to include a gender perspective in all aspects of their role, including legislation, oversight and representation Help parliaments to become gender-sensitive institutions



LIFE AND TIMES OF JB MARKS

By Dr Lehlohonolo
Kennedy Mahlatsi

This year the revolutionary life in revolutionary times of Cde JB Marks is commemorated in the context of the following milestones:

*150 years since the Paris Commune
*100 years since the formation of the SACP

*100 years since the formation of the Communist Party of China.

*75th Anniversary of the Great African Mineworkers' Strike.

*60 years since the formation of the People's army, Umkhonto We Sizwe

JB Marks was born in Ventersdorp on 21 March 1903. He had been born John Joseph Marks and it was at school where he was nicknamed 'Beaver' by his schoolmates. The 'B' became incorporated in his name and ever since he was known to everybody as 'J.B.' and to his comrades in the ANC and SACP, as 'Uncle JB.' - a measure of the esteem and affection in which he was held. He was influenced by his father who was a staunch supporter of the ANC, and he revolted against conditions at the training College. The 1919 students strike led to his expulsion from school. Despite all these obstacles, JB Marks completed his training and embarked on his career as a teacher. He was sacked from his post at Vredefort

on account of his political activities. Appearing at this time on the platforms of the ICU, the CPSA, the League of African Rights and the ANC. He joined the CPSA and ANC in 1928 and in 1932 he was elected to the Central Committee of the Communist Party.

The October Revolution vastly contributed to the rise of the African revolution and accelerated the advance of our peoples. The Soviet Union - "land of the proletariat" or "the Mecca of revolutionaries" "the Land of Lenin-the Liberator" as J.B. was fond of calling this country - was very dear to his heart and it was but fitting that the last year of his life was spent here, and that this great land has become his resting place until his mortal remains were repatriated to South Africa.

But while Marks did not know Lenin personally, the latter exerted a direct and strong influence on the formation of his world outlook. He has learnt a great deal from W Andrews, an outstanding organiser and revolutionary who became the Party's first General Secretary. After listening to the late SP Bunting addressing a meeting of workers at the mine where he was employed,

JB Marks joined the Communist Party and devoted himself thenceforward to the fight for national and social emancipation, undeterred by the fierce hostility of the white racists towards the revolutionaries of our country. When he heard that JB was a teacher and had a keen interest in progressive ideas, Bunting invited him to come to Communist Party headquarters in Johannesburg.

In 1928 the Congress of the Communist International (Comintern) declared that Africans "who constitute the majority of the population, are being expropriated from the land by the white colonialists and by the state, are deprived of political rights and freedom of movement, are subjected to the most brutal forms of racial and class oppression, and suffer simultaneously from pre-capitalist and capitalist methods of exploitation and oppression."

Inspired by the Native Republic thesis of the Comintern, the Communist Party embarked on mass struggles articulating the aspirations of the African masses. At an anti-pass demonstration in Potchefstroom on December 16, 1929, Communist leaders Marks, Josie Mpama and Thabo Mofutsanyana were the main speakers when the meeting was invaded by a crowd of about 100 white hooligans.

The Communist Party challenge to White racism was presented most vividly in 1932, when Marks was proposed as a demonstrative candidate for a parliamentary by-election in Germiston. Being an African, he was not eligible to seek election to that legislative body, because of racist draconian laws but the Party nominated him to stress the utter injustice of a constitution that only served the interests of the whites. The Communist Party argued that the majority of the inhabitants of Germiston were Africans, and if they were enfranchised would vote for a Communist candidate. In his election speeches, JB Marks said the white candidates represented imperialist slavery, whereas he brought a message of struggle for full franchise rights, unemployment insurance and an end to racial discrimination.

Marks did not have a chance to study the writings of Marx, Engels and Lenin thoroughly until he went illegally to the Soviet Union, where he studied in the Communist University of Working People of the East for a while. The works of the classics of Marxism-Leninism have become his companions for all his life. He advised young comrades that that it is not advisable to read works by Marx, Engels and Lenin only once,

or to assimilate them at a sloop. They must be studied constantly. He said that being a Communist made him a better fighter for the liberation of his people; that the existence of a Communist Party was a source of added strength and unity. The theoretical training of the Marxist-Leninists gave an added dimension of perception to the liberation struggle, strengthening its strategy and tactics, and broadening its outlook from the limits of nationalism to the glorious perspectives of socialism and the militant unity of the workers and oppressed peoples of the entire world.



One of the defining moments in the life of Cde JB was his leading role in the Great African Mineworkers strike of 1946 as discussed in the September issue of Re Betla Tsela. After this event moderate blacks among the middle classes became

less docile and withdrew from the dummy institution-Native Representatives Council. The strike also made a powerful impact on the emerging leaders of the Youth League such as Mandela, Tambo, Sisulu, Lembede. Together with veteran communists like Mofutsanyane, Kotane, Dadoo and JB, they helped to transform the ANC from its early posture of cap-in-hand nationalism to an organisation of militant organ or revolutionary nationalism.

Marks and his comrades were charged under the Suppression of Communism Act with attempting, as leaders of the Defiance Campaign, to bring about the aims of Communism. They were found technically in breach of the law, but the judge gave the accused a suspended sentence of nine months imprisonment. For a short while after the first ban was imposed on him in 1952, he managed to spread his voice to audiences at meetings by means of gramophone records, but eventually the Government closed this 'loophole' too. As one leader was struck down another came forward to take his place. At the heart of the resistance movement, Marks and his comrades were hard at work. Marks himself held the positions of chairman of the South African Communist Party and executive member of the African National Congress.

In 1963 the Central Committee of the SACP and the National Executive Committee of the ANCE ordered JB Marks and Joe Slovo to leave the country and join Oliver Tambo in the External Mission of the movement in Tanzania. This was after JB Marks presided at the historic Fifth underground conference of the Communist Party in Johannesburg in 1962. The ANC had chartered a Dakota to take 28 MK cadres (including Marks and Joe Slovo) from Francistown to Dar es Salaam.

When Cde Samora Machel and Cde Peter Nanyembi, Commander in Chief of the People's Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN) asked if it was possible to get a seat on the plane as they wanted to join the FRELIMO and PLAN forces. JB immediately took a decision that two of MK cadres should be taken off the plane to make room for the two comrades.

This demonstrated the importance of the international solidarity with the struggling masses of Mozambique and Namibia.

In 1969, JB also presided over one of the watershed Morogoro Conference of the ANC. It was the astuteness of JB Marks and the greatness of Oliver Tambo which saved the movement at the Conference. Uncle JB endeared himself to the hearts and minds of the MK Cadres because of his down to earth approach. His modesty and honesty was a shining example of a passionate, fatherly, friendly and revolutionary leader. JB Marks and his generation taught us the basic principles of politics. According to them, politics are not only a science but art. This means that political leadership requires not only a correct, scientifically trustworthy analysis of the situation, correct line. But also great ability, skills and real artistry in putting this line into effect. He was a member of South African delegations at many international peace conferences, and headed the South African delegation at the international conference of Communist and Workers' Parties held in Moscow in June 1969. In his speech he reiterated that there is no way to emancipation except that of revolutionary armed struggle. South African revolutionaries are deeply conscious of the international significance of our struggle. South Africa is a hot-bed for the breeding of the disgusting theories of racism and neo-Nazism. SA became the refuge of Nazi war-criminals and a haven for their capital.

Paying tribute to Marks, Moses Kotane said "The Communist, working class and national liberation movements have lost a man whose qualities it would be difficult to replace. For me, I have lost not only a leader but also a comrade with whom I have planned and worked for over forty years. I will never forget him." In honour of his memory, we must pledge solidarity with the struggling masses of the world (eg Cuba, Palestine). We must strive for the preservation of the working class/mining heritage, eg Coalbrook, Kinross. This is in consonance with the clarion call made by Joe Slovo in 1986 about the heroes of 1946 Mine Strike:

"No monument has yet been built to these fallen heroes of labour. The fruits of their sacrifice can still only be seen in the massive wealth accumulated by a tiny minority who came from foreign parts and enslaved the whole nation. In the hundred years since gold was discovered in our land, class battles have raged continually between those who own nothing but their power to labour and those who exploit their labour because they own everything - our mines, our factories and our land."

DR Lehlohonolo Kennedy Mahlatsi
SACP Free State PEC Member
Writes in a personal capacity

Did you know that South Africa is biggest trade partner of China in the Continent, and that China is the second largest economy in the world today.



The Great Hall of the People
en.wikipedia.org

Other quick facts about China

China is the third-largest country in the world by land area after Russia and Canada, approximately 9,600,000 km² in East Asia. It is officially known as the People's Republic of China. It is the world's most populous country, with a population of more than 1.4 billion people. China has five geographical time zones and borders 14 different countries, the second most of any country in the world after Russia.

President: Xi Jinping

Capital: Beijing

Population: 1,402 billion (2020) with **Gross domestic product** of 14,72 trillion USD (2020 according to the World Bank

Currency: Renminbi

Official language: Mandarin

The PRC is one of the world's few socialist countries in the world.

The People's Republic of China and the Republic of South Africa established diplomatic relations on 1 January 1998. Since the establishment of diplomatic ties, bilateral trade has grown rapidly. **South Africa** is now China's biggest trade partner in Africa, with China-South Africa trade volume accounting for about 20% of the total volume of China-Africa trade. Two-way investment also has been on increase in recent years.



the two deaths of Che

by Michael James



Michael James, regular and prolific communist writer lays bare not only the outrageous and inhuman treatment of Che Guevara at the hands of capitalists, but exposes the exploitation of Che to the grave.

Continued

Born in Rosario, Argentina, Che had been one of 82 rebels to join the Cuban revolution in 1956, unique among revolutionaries in joining uprisings "away from their mother countries" (Sharma and Sharma, 4). His radicalization had taken root when, as a young man, he traveled throughout South America on a Norton 500 motorcycle and saw widespread exploitation such as "a beleaguered Chilean worker who had been jailed for being a communist" (2).

He also took note of the CIA-backed coup in Guatemala in response to the land reform policies of Jacobo Arbenz, concluding that, "in the face of . . . American imperialism and its cronies, only revolutionary violence could bring liberation" (3). The idea of "socialism in one country" was anathema to Che (Sharma and Sharma, 5),

and he was fiercely determined to expand his revolutionary success in Cuba to guerrilla movements around the world; as he said, "Other nations are calling for the aid of my modest efforts" (quoted in Seddon, 3). In April 1965 Che presented a formal letter to Fidel Castro renouncing his position of Party leadership, his ministry post, his rank of commandante, and his Cuban citizenship. It was a declaration of statelessness and homelessness: "Che belonged nowhere . . . Che belonged everywhere" (Casey, 59).

Cuba was providing aid to national liberation struggles in Africa. Che, in an impassioned [speech](#) at the United Nations, denounced Western imperialism and addressed the "tragic case of the Congo" (Seddon, 2).

In April 1965, he helped establish an anti-imperialist insurgency in Kigoma, Congo. He reflected on its failure: "I have emerged believing more than ever in guerrilla warfare; but we failed. . . . I will not forget this defeat or its valuable lessons" (Casey, 325). Before leaving the Congo he wrote his parents and critiqued himself as soldier and doctor: "The second doesn't interest me any longer. As a soldier I am not so bad."

He added, "My Marxism has taken root and become pure," and signed off as their "prodigal son, Ernesto" (Harris, 49).

In 1966 he met with the Mozambique Liberation Front (FRELIMO) in Dar es Salaam and offered to enlist in their revolutionary project. FRELIMO declined his participation. Then, in November 1966, he entered Bolivia to create "a continent-wide communist revolution, with Bolivia at its center" (Rodriguez, 1). Critics though, regarded his action as "an elaborate suicide in the hope of being martyred" (6). Che and his *compañeros* were in Bolivia only a short time, plagued by dense jungles, raging rivers, vegetation poor in nutrients, terrain not suited for sustaining mobile combatants, and tormented by



Bolivian security police and CIA agents with dead Che Guevara.

biting insects so that "Guevara appeared sick and exhausted" (Castaneda, 397).

But there were successes: at Nanchahuazu and Iripiti they ambushed and killed 18 government soldiers while suffering no casualties. And on April 10, 1967, they killed nine, wounded a dozen, took thirteen prisoners, and seized needed supplies: "This was the most inspiring episode of the war for the guerrillas; it demoralized the government and encouraged rebel supporters" (366). The humanitarian Dr. Guevara even took time for dentistry in several villages they passed through, performing extractions for suffering villagers. But tragically for the rebels, they were not an organic insurgency: not a single peasant joined their ranks.

Even worse, local peasants, pacified by government reforms, served as informants for the government.

A potato farmer observed by moonlight "a band of bearded, emaciated ghosts carrying guns and rucksacks and doubled over under their weight" (Castaneda, 398). He notified the Bolivian army, and in October 1967 Che was captured at Yuro Ravine, force-marched two kilometers to the village of La Higuera, and held

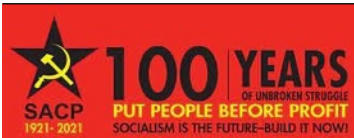
prisoner in a schoolhouse until his execution: "Soldiers drew lots and it fell to Lieutenant Mario Teran to finish off the disheveled, limp, depressed, but still defiant man lying on the floor of the school at La Higuera" (401). The presence of CIA agent Felix Rodriguez, hero to the *gusanos* (Cuban exiles) of Miami, means that Che truly died fighting yanqui imperialism. And U.S. Rangers were at Yuro Ravine, "responsible for capturing Che and almost completely eliminating his small force" (Harris, 220). Even U.S. President Johnson had been monitoring Che's efforts in Bolivia. Rodriguez later wrote of Che, "His moment of truth had come, and he was conducting himself like a man . . . facing death with courage and grace" (Casey, 238).

Then, "unwittingly, the Bolivian military delivered the world . . . a crucified Che" (Casey, 186). Bolivian photographer Freddy Alborta had snapped a photo of Che in death, aged 39, half-naked, his body laid across a wash trough in a grungy laundry room. It is the supine Che with "a Christlike serenity," who "looked strikingly alive, lying in a state of tranquility and repose" (48, 179). Che found "the destiny he sought" (183), since, from early youth, "he had yearned for a Christlike destiny, an exemplary sacrifice" (Castaneda, 352). It is even said that "he had to go beyond matter" (Casey, 297), a comment seemingly rooted in Karl Marx's observation of "spirit" being "burdened with matter" (*Germany Ideology*).

This photo is Che "exuding the wisdom of the dead" (Casey, 181). As with the Korda Che, Che's eyes are compelling: "Those easily recognizable eyes were wide open and, it seemed, at peace. There was no fear in those eyes. He looks at us with neither condemnation nor pity . . . looking at his tormentors and pardoning them because they know not what they are doing, and looking at the world, assuring it that one does not suffer when one dies for one's ideas" (181). Art historians and scholars say the image is derivative of a great painting, Andrea Mantegna's *Lamentation over the Dead Christ*. Ironically, Che had written, "I am the very opposite of Christ. . . . I will fight with all the arms within reach, instead of letting myself be nailed to a cross" (61).

In his 1967 article in *Tricontinental* magazine in which he called for "the creation of two, three, several Vietnams," Che also urged "hatred as an element of struggle; unbending hatred for the enemy, which pushes a human being beyond his natural limitations, making him into an effective, violent, selective, and cold-blooded killing machine . . . a people without hatred cannot triumph over a brutal enemy" (in Casey, 370).

Continues



Statement of the South African Communist Party Central Committee Johannesburg, 1 August 2021. Delivered by Dr Blade Nzimande, the SACP General Secretary

Caught out by the backlash against the mass looting, some in the conspiracy camp sought to back-track. There were desperate contortions, epitomised by one of the off-spring calling on looters to "please do so carefully and please do so responsibly". A ridiculous plea which sought simultaneously to distance itself and to support a twin sister's earlier inflammatory "Mooi River. We Still See You. Amandla!".

One disgraced character, ostensibly acting on behalf of MK veterans, who had previously boasted they would never allow Zuma to go to jail, now vaingloriously delivered a 14-day ultimatum to President Ramaphosa to release Zuma or face some unspecified consequence. It was an indirect admission that this network of degenerates was behind the chaos in the first place. They were hoping to present a freed Zuma as the only person capable of restoring peace. But with the mass looting in KZN halted by the combined efforts of the security forces and community self-defence, this card, too, was not viable.

If the release of Zuma became the immediate demand, the medium-term objectives were (and remain) the displacement of the Ramaphosa-led ANC and therefore of a Ramaphosa state presidency, reversing progress being made within the ANC to clean up, and to halt the slowly gathering momentum of the criminal justice system in dealing with state capture crime and corruption. Although this conspiracy has lost serious ground in the course of July (but at huge cost to our country, and particularly to the working, class and poor), we must remain extremely vigilant and united in the defence of democracy, the

constitution and the rule of law. But we must go beyond vigilance. We must ask how any of this was possible in the first place. How, 27 years after the democratic breakthrough, could this have happened? There are three inter-related factors: the degeneration of our liberation movement; a weakened state; and the failure to use the 1994 democratic breakthrough as a platform to drive a serious national democratic revolution with the resulting persisting crisis of extreme levels of poverty, inequality, unemployment and chronic violence.

The degeneration of the ANC liberation movement

The dangerous, insurrectionary conspiracy emerged from its nesting place within the ANC itself. However, in saying this we must be extremely clear about one thing. Much of the media present the conspirators as one ANC faction (the "JZ faction"), up against another (the "CR" faction). This plays directly into the hands of the conspirators, because that is how they seek to present their struggle.

We reject this utterly simplistic characterisation. The so-called "JZ" or self-styled "RET" grouping is really and largely networks of corrupt and opportunist elements, themselves facing the prospect of jail time, and relying on war-chests accumulated through the looting of public resources. There is no serious political programme uniting them, beyond the threadbare, ritualised incantation of unprocessed, empty and demagogic slogans. They are what one left-leaning British politician described as "resolutionaries", those who wage factional battles over decorative slogans rammed demagogically through conferences, in preference to having a serious debate on policy options, strategy and tactics.

These forces have, unfortunately, so vulgarised the words "radical economic transformation" that, although we do need economic transformation that is radical, it would be best to find different terminology.

As for the SACP we are certainly not part of an "RET faction", but nor are we in some alleged CR faction. We support the Ramaphosa-led leadership of the ANC in its defence of the rule of law, of our constitution, and in the effort to rebuild the ANC on a principled basis. We support it and work with it in the struggle to reconfigure the Alliance as an effective force on the ground. But we reserve the right to be critical, and indeed we are critical, especially of the persisting timidity in breaking the shackles of a self-imposed, neo-liberal austerity, which, in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic and the mass destruction of lives and security effected by the failed insurrection of early July, deepens poverty, inequality, unemployment, and community safety. The present problems within the ANC go back beyond the so-called "nine wasted years" of the Zuma presidency. Since at least the early 2000's successive ANC conferences have repeatedly noted with concern growing levels of internal corruption, money-based factionalism, gate-keeping, and general moral decline. But why has this degeneration occurred in the first place? To answer that it is useful to understand the trajectory of events since the early 1990s.

Sustained waves of democratic semi-insurrectionary struggle Our 1994 democratic breakthrough was powered by the sustained, rolling waves of semi-insurrectionary struggle dating back to the re-emergence of radical trade unionism in the early 1970s, to the youth and student uprisings of 1976, and to the ongoing momentum of working class and popular struggle. Through the entire 1980s and, importantly, into the very midst of the negotiations process of the early 1990s, these struggles were sustained. Our 1994 democratic breakthrough and our 1996 Constitution were the outcome of mass struggles, not elite deals.

Continues



Re kgaba ka Diratswana

Professor Kena, (Plant Pathology),

O re fa dikeletso mabapi le tjalo e athlehileng ya meroho le dijalo tse ding diratswananeng tsa hae.

*Di fetolwetse le ho ngolwa ka tsela ya ho ntshetsa pele le ho kgothaletsa ho bala puo ya Sesotho



Tjalo ya dijalo tse fapaneng mmoho ka nako e le nngwe

Dijalo tse mefuta ya dinawa jwalo ka *cowpeas* Di ntsha moya (kgase) wa *nitrogen*. Di na le bokgoni ba ho sebedisa moya wa nitrogen o fumanehang sepakapakeng molemong wa tsona esita le molemong wa dijalo tse ding tse haufi le tsona.

Molemo wa bokgoni bona ba dinawa tsona wa tshebediso ya nitrogen o bonahala moo dinawa di jalwang le poone. Tjalo ya dijalo tsona nqa e le nngwe e eketsa nitrogen mobung, mme sena se nontsh mobu. Moya(nitrogen) ona o bohlokwa bakeng sa kgolo e ntle ya lekgaba le tletseng phepo merohong, jwaloka mefuta e itseng ya *cabbage* (*Chinese cabbage*).

Tshebediso ya tjalo ya dijalo nqa e lenngwe tshireletsong ya dijalo tse ding maemong a thata:

Dijalo tse holang haholo ho ya hodimo, ke hore tse telele, tse ratang letsatsi, di ka jalwa mmoho le tse sa holeng ho ya hodimo, tse mamellang moriti. Sena se ka tlisa tlhahiso kapa tjhai e ntle bakeng sa dijalo tsa mefuta ena e fapaneng seratswaneng se le seng ka nako e le nngwe.

Dijalo tsona tse jalwang ka mokgwa ona di ka boela tsa tlisa taolo e ntle ya dinthwana le dikokonyana tse tshwenyang. Mohlala o mong ke wa mofuta wa poone (sweetcorn) e jalwa mmoho le meroho e kang mokopu le dinawa(*butternut*).

Sena se ferekanya dikokonyana tse phunyang le ho senya dijalo tsa ditholwana. Mokgwa ona wa tjalo o thusa ho sireletsa dijalo tsona tse palamang ho tse ding jwaloka ona mokopu le dinawa. Hape, e ka boteng ba mehlabuhlabu (ho hlabu) dijalong tse palamanang ho tswafisa diphoofotswana ho ka ja dijalo tse jetsweng mmoho le tsona tse hlabang.

Tjalo mmoho ya dijalo nqa e lenngwe jwaloka lehae kapa tshireletso ho dikokonyana tse molemo dimeleng:

Molemo wa sena ke ha dijalo tse jetsweng mmoho di fana ka tshireletso dikokwaneng tse jang tse ding tse seng molemo kapa tse kotsi dijalong.

Dikokonyana tse jang tsona tse tshwenyang le ho senya dijalo ke tse kang: maleshwane (Ladybird) le mefuta e meng ya bo yona, mefuta e meng ya ditshintshi tse jang dikokonyana tse ding, dirwalankgwana (mantids) le mefuta e meng ya dikgo. Tjalo nqa e le nngwe jwaloka lehae la dikokonyana tse jang tse ding e thusa ho thibela tshenyo ka dikokonyana le dintho tse ding tse tshwenyang esita le phokotseho ho sebedisa meriana kapa di-chemicale tse kotsi taolong ya tsona.

Tiisetso ya tlhahiso ya dijo ka tjalo ya dijalo tse fapaneng nqa e le nngwe:

Ka kakaretso ho jala dijalo (meroho) e fapaneng sebakeng se le seng ka nako e le nngwe e fana ka tiisetso ho mojadi hobane le ha ho ka ba le tshenyo ya dikokonyana le tse ding tse tshwenyang, kapa maemo a seng matle, tse ding tsa dijalo di tla tswella ho tlisa tihai e ntle.

GROWING NUTRITIOUS LEAFY VEGETABLES

IN AN OLD MAIZE- MEAL BAG

Background

Availability of good soil and land/space for household vegetable produce on is becoming a major concern.

However, there is an alternative way of growing vegetables and to optimise yield per unit area for household produce on. Plants grown in bag system are growing vertically upwards which results in efficient use of space/land. Bag system can be used in places that have not been previously thought of as appropriate for food gardens, such as paved land and balconies.

The bag is able to hold water for longer time, without water and nutrients draining into soil. Plant leaves are not in contact with the soil resulting in less effort to **clean** the leaves before consumption or marketing. Can be produced organically. This small bag system when fully planted with swiss chard/spinach, it can feed a family of four with a bunch of spinach every week.

Inputs required to plant vegetables in a bag system

- * Empty maize-meal bag (80, 50 or 25, 12.5kg bag)
- * Water-soluble fertiliser (multifeed & calcium nitrate)
- * Growing medium (compost, sawdust or soil with very good drainage)
- *Watering-can
- *Seedlings

Steps to follow when preparing the bag system

- * Moisten the growing medium (like sawdust, compost, top soil mixed kraal or chicken manure) with water to allow good distribution of water during irrigation
- *Fill the maize-meal bag with the moistened growing medium like sawdust or compost
- *80kg of maize meal bag can plant on average up to 56 plants

* Use a sharp blade to cut openings in the bag at a distance 20cm x 10cm for planting holes. Leafy vegetables such as kale, rape, mustard spinach, Swiss chard, spinach, beetroot and lettuce can be planted successfully in the bag system

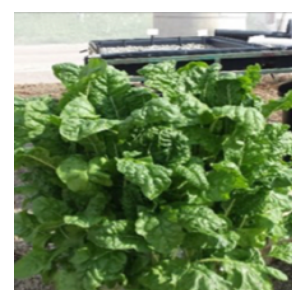
Push the seedling root plug into the planting hole in the maize-meal bag

*Make sure that the bag is upright to allow uniform distribution of water
* Make sure that the growing medium doesn't dry-out and water the plants from the top of the bag and the water will drain downwards to benefit the lower plants

* Complete nutrient solution can be applied on a weekly basis to supply plants with nutrition. Fertilizer formula on: Dissolve 1g/litre of water of each of the following fertilizers: Multifeed and Calcium Nitrate. Organic fertilizers like kraal or chicken manure can also be used in the system

* Plants can be watered every second day (e.g. 80kg bag require about 60-90L water/week)

* Plants should be exposed to the sunlight for the process of photosynthesis to take place.



Swiss chard 'spinach' growing in a bag system .

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Tse latelang ke tse ding tsa dijalo (meroho) e ka jalwang mmoho ka nako e le nngwe:

Sejalo se ka sehlohong (Main crop)	Sejalo se ka jalwang le se ka sehlohong (Companion crops)	Dijalo tse ke keng tsa jalwa mmoho (Non-companions)
Beans (including green beans)	Green mealies, radish, cucumber, Irish potatoes, eggplant, cabbage.	Onions, beetroots, garlic, fennel
Peas	Carrots, radish, cucumber, radish, corn, different herbs	Irish potatoes, onions, garlic,
Beetroot	Beans, lettuce, cabbage, onions, garlic,	Cereals e.g maize
Carrots	Lettuce, onions, tomato, peas	Strawberry, cabbage, fennel.
Butternut	Maize, marigold	Potatoes
Eggplant (Brinjal)	Beans, marigold, mint, peas	
C a b b a g e , K a l e , cauliflower	Beetroot, potatoes, garlic, celery, onions, spinach (swiss chard)	Tomatoes, peppers, runner beans, strawberries.
Spinach (Swiss chard)	Broad beans, peas, strawberries,	
Tomatoes	Onions, carrots, asparagus, cucumber, marigold, parsley	Potatoes, cabbage, kale,
Irish potato	Maize, beans, cabbage, eggplant, radish, marigold	Pumpkin, butternut, tomatoes, cucumber, melons, sunflowers.