



ANC TODAY

VOICE OF THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

17–23 April 2020

Conversations with the
President



THE WAR AGAINST COVID-19

RESPECT THE RIGHTS AND DIGNITY OF OTHERS

By Cyril Ramaphosa

SINCE WE DECLARED the nation-wide lockdown, we have found that the majority of South Africans have responded with patience and understanding despite the considerable hardship. There is a common appreciation that the measures that have been enforced since Friday 27 March are in the best interests of all.

While the majority of South Africans

continue to respect the rules of the lockdown and the rights of others, there are some among us seeking to exploit this crisis for their own sinister ends. It is a great indictment of our society that dozens of schools have been burgled, trashed or burnt to the ground. When the lockdown is lifted and learning resumes, thousands of our children will have no school to return to, depriving them of the right to education.

Eskom has also reported an increase in cable theft and vandalism of its infrastructure since the lockdown began, resulting in power supply interruptions and damage that will cost a considerable amount to repair.

That public property is being vandalised while the entire country is experiencing hardship because of the lockdown, is a demonstration of utter disrespect and disregard for

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CONVERSATIONS WITH THE PRESIDENT



the majority of South Africans who are law-abiding. It is despicable that criminals are using this period of the lockdown as a cover to break the law at a time when our law-enforcement authorities are occupied with supporting the national effort to contain the pandemic.

Unfortunately, criminals are also preying on the weak and vulnerable.

Our hearts go out to the family of Mama Ngenzeni Zuma who was raped and killed in KwaZulu-Natal last month by men who allegedly pretended to be soldiers to gain entry into her home.

We feel the pain of the family of 14-year-old Simphiwe Sibeko who went missing from her Soweto home, and whose body was found dumped in bushes last week. As a nation, we are saddened at the death of Constable Percy Ramalepe who was shot and killed while attending to a domestic violence call in Johannesburg last week.

It is disturbing that during a time of such immense difficulty for our country, women and girls are being terrorised inside their own homes, forcing them to make desperate calls for help. The number of calls to the GBV National Command Centre has increased since the lockdown began on 27 March.

Vandalism of public property and key economic infrastructure will not be tolerated.

We call upon communities to play their part in reporting such acts, because they seldom take place in the absence of witnesses.

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Since the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic, violence against women has become a global problem.

Last week the United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres said in a video message that since restrictions were imposed by countries around the world to contain the coronavirus, women and girls were increasingly facing violence “*where they should be safest: in their own homes*”.

While reaffirming that lockdowns and quarantines were essential, Secretary-General Guterres said they were trapping women with abusive partners, resulting in “*a horrifying global surge in domestic violence*”.

“*In some countries, the number of women calling support services has doubled,*” the UN Secretary-General said. As South Africa we have heeded the call for governments to prioritise gender-based violence in their national responses to the COVID-19 pandemic.

We continue to implement the Emergency Response Plan to end gender-based violence that was announced last year. **Support services to vulnerable women and children remain operational throughout the lockdown**, including psycho-social services like counseling for women and children, sheltering and places of safety, and medico-legal services in cases of sexual violence.

The Gender-Based Violence National Command Centre remains operational. I have directed the Minister of Police to ensure that Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences Units are reinforced at police stations during the lockdown and beyond.

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We recognise that since people may not leave their homes, women and children in abusive situations are vulnerable. Survivors of violence may not have access to phones or airtime, or public transport to take them to a police station, shelter or a doctor.

To this effect the Interim Steering Committee on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide, in consultation with civil society organisations is developing guidelines and protocols for GBV management in the context of COVID-19.

Our law-enforcement officials are to be commended for swiftly arresting suspects in the recent murders of the two women. They should also be commended for arresting and charging 148 suspects for crimes of gender-based violence since the start of the lockdown.

We are aware that the restrictions that have been placed on people's movement and the confinement to their homes is a frustration for many.

But there is no excuse, nor will there ever be any excuse, for violence – against women, children, the elderly, members of the LGBTQI+ community, foreign nationals, not against anyone.

Vandalism of public property and key economic infrastructure will not be tolerated. We call upon communities to play their part in reporting such acts, because they seldom take place in the absence of witnesses.

When communities allow themselves to be passive bystanders when they witness crime, they become party to the sabotage that ultimately disadvantages ourselves, our children and our communities.

I have a message for those callous criminals who think they can take advantage. The criminal justice system is not on leave. Our law enforcement authorities will deal with those who transgress the law. You will be arrested, you will be tried and you will be put behind bars.

As the UN Secretary-General said in his message, women's rights and

freedoms are essential to strong, resilient societies. Violence against women erodes the moral fibre of our society. It sinks its insidious roots in families and communities, causing the cycle to be repeated across generations.

Our resolve and commitment to rid our country of this scourge remains firm. We will continue to bring all the state's resources to bear to support vulnerable women and children, and ensure that perpetrators face the full might of the law.

I call on the men of South Africa and all citizens to play their part to combat gender-based violence and to provide survivors with the necessary support and assistance. This time of difficulty does not diminish the responsibility of every citizen to respect the rights and dignity of others.

Some have called for a gender-based violence 'ceasefire' during the time of pandemic. **THIS IS NOT ENOUGH. WE WANT TO SEE IT END, ONCE AND FOR ALL. ■**

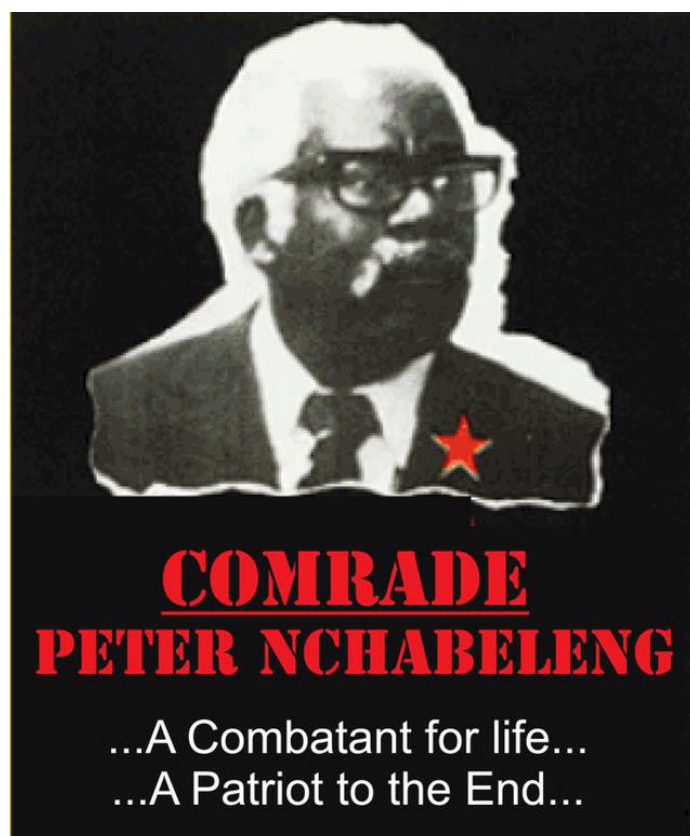
STAY

HOME

SAVE SOUTH AFRICA

The coronavirus is real. It is spreading and it must be contained. From the 27th of March to the 16th of April 2020 we are on nationwide lockdown. This means everyone must stay at home. Unless you provide essential services you can not go to work. If you need to leave home to get food, collect a social grant or visit a doctor, make sure you play it safe. Keep your distance from others, cough or sneeze into your elbow, and always wash your hands. This is to save your life, and the lives of others. The coronavirus kills. Stay at home and save South Africa.

**Together We
Can Beat The
Coronavirus**

TRIBUTE


A TOWERING GIANT OF OUR REVOLUTIONARY ALLIANCE

*A tribute to one of the greatest warriors
and outstanding revolutionaries of our
national liberation movement,
Peter Mampogoane Nchabeleng*

By ANC Secretary General Elias Ace Magashule

THE AFRICAN National Congress (ANC), and the people of our country, pay tribute to one of the gallant sons and greatest volunteers of our struggle for national liberation, comrade Peter Mampogoane Nchabeleng. We pay tribute to an indomitable warrior of our people, whose contribution to the struggle for the freedom of our people, decorated the length and breadth of the galaxy of all revolutionaries.

In the words of the leader of the Communist Party of China and the President of the People's Republic of China, Comrade Xi Jinping:

"History is a mirror. Only by drawing lessons from history can the world avoid repeating past calamities. We should view history with awe and through the prism of human conscience. The past cannot be changed, but the future can be shaped. Bearing history in mind is not perpetuating hatred. Rather its purpose is to ensure that we do not forget the lessons. Remembering

history is not to be obsessed with the past. Rather, in doing so, we aim to create a better future and pass a torch of freedom and peace from generation to generation".

In remembering this outstanding son of the struggle of our people, we learn from these great words of wisdom, that history is a mirror, and only by drawing lessons from history can the world avoid repeating calamity. The brutal assassination of Cde Peter Nchabeleng by the racist Apartheid regime, like all other sons and daughters of our struggle, was indeed a terrible calamity, not only to the people of our country, but to the people of the whole continent of Africa and the world.

Comrade Peter Mampogoane Nchabeleng was born on the 7th of March 1928 at the village of Apel, Ga-Nchabeleng, Sekhukhuneland, in the former Northern Transvaal. He was the sixth child of the late Zebulon and Salome Nchabeleng.

Like any young boy from a rural village, he became a herd boy, being taught how to look after the livestock of his parents, and how to cultivate the fields to produce food. He attended school at Arkona Primary, Mase-mola village, and later furthered his studies at Kilnerton High School in Pretoria.

In the early 1950s, he worked at the Government Printers in Pretoria, where he became an important source of information to the leadership of the ANC in the country about how the racist Apartheid intended bringing new legislations in the Government Gazettes, to further marginalize and oppress the majority of the people of our country.

He played a pivotal role in recruiting people into the ANC around Pretoria where he later served as the secretary of the ANC in the Attridgeville/Pelindaba Branch. Being a trade unionist, he also became the Regional Secretary of the Allied Work-

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ers Union, and later that of SACTU. He also played an important role in building the structures of the Communist Party in the area.

At the same time, he was also a leader of the Sebatakgomo, a migrant workers organisation, which ventilated rural grievances against the implementation of the Bantu Authorities Act, and of cattle culling by the Native Commissioner in the rural Sekhukhuneland. Sebatakgomo became a nucleus of building formidable structures of the Congress movement in the area.

At the height of the resistance struggle of the heroic people of Sekhukhuneland, he was among the leaders who rendered assistance to those arrested by the regime. He worked closely with the late comrade Joe Slovo, who was a lawyer representing those arrested, assisting with interpretation during consultations from time to time.

Immediately after the banning of the ANC in April 1960, he became part of the Seven Member Committee established in Pretoria, to carry out the activities of the liberation struggle, and to raise funds for the arrested comrades. With the formation of Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK), in December 1961, after receiving military training, he became one of the seven MK Section Commanders who operated in the Pretoria region, an underground structure reporting directly to the MK High Command.

On the 16th May 1963, he was arrested under the 90 days' Detention Law, on charges of belonging to an illegal organisation, the ANC, and being in possession of banned material. Together with his co-accused, Peter Magano, Jackson Ntsoane, Mabundla, John Tseke and Samuel Ngwenya, they were sentenced to three years imprisonment, of which two and a half years were suspended, on

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a charge for having contravened the Suppression of Communism Act 44 of 1950.

Again on the 17th August 1964, he was charged with sabotage on account of MK activities with comrades Andrew Mashaba, Peter Magano, Levy Moses Molefe, Nelson Diale, Jackson Ntsoane, Andries Seoma, Johannes Mogatjane, Alpheus Bokaba and Enoch Matibela, for being an MK section Commander, recruiting people into MK underground structures and manufacturing explosives. They were all sentenced to eight years imprisonment, which they served at Robben Island Maximum prison.

During his incarceration on Robben Island, his family, wife and children became victims of police harassment and brutality, to such an extent that the then Atteridgeville municipality evicted them from their own house and banished them to rural Sekhukhuneland. Through several appeals after his release from prison, he tried to reclaim his house in Atteridgeville without success.

Whilst banished in Sekhukhuneland, the security police began a propaganda campaign of isolating him from the Chiefs and Villagers by labeling him an ANC terrorist with explosives. According to his daughter Pinky Nchabeleng, when he was brought to Apel from Robben Island, the security police told him, “here (Apel) nobody will listen to you” –referring to his political views and activities.

He was arrested again in 1974 and charged for contravening his banning order after the security police intercepted his communications with the former President of SACTU comrade Steven Dlamini, who also served a prison sentence on Robben Island. He was found guilty, and given a three year suspended sentence by the Pretoria High Court for having contravened his banning order.

Despite the ongoing vicious harassment by the regime, comrade Peter Nchabeleng continued with determination the course of the liberation struggle with much more vigor. In 1976 he became part of a covert ANC operation, which was linked to our underground structures in Swaziland, Mozambique, Botswana, Alexandra, Soweto, Hammanskraal, Sekhukhuneland, Ga-Mashashane, Ga-Dikgale, and many other areas in South Africa. It was one of the biggest ANC underground operations, which included the recruitment of youth into the ANC, and training of recruits in and outside the country.

The operation was unfortunately uncovered by security police, and all those who were involved were arrested throughout the country. Peter Nchabeleng was discharged from the case, when his son Elleck Nchabeleng, who was eighteen years at the time, refused to implicate his father and other comrades – an offense which led him to be charged

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A new construct heralds our only hope to recovery

Dear Mr President

THERE CAN BE NO doubt that the advent of the deadly coronavirus in South Africa in March has fundamentally changed the way we go about our lives. The Covid-19 pandemic has forced us to re-evaluate how we relate with one another and how we interact with our fellow beings and the environment. In a space of four months since it was first declared in Wuhan, China, the virus has challenged the manner in which we have conducted our social, business and personal affairs.

In a manner of speaking, Mr President, there is a new normal in the air and this is set to continue beyond the lifespan of the coronavirus. A new construct has been born and life as we know it has altered irreversibly.

The handshake, also known as *dexiosis*, which was first practised in ancient Greece around the 5th century BC as a symbol of peace, showing that neither person was carrying a weapon, will be the first habit we urgently need to wean ourselves from. Indeed, the virus has forced communities, society and individuals to confront a new world order and life they never imagined. Old habits will have to be buried.

In the words of eminent epidemiologist and infectious disease specialist and one of our troops in the forefront of fighting this disease, Professor Salim Abdool Karim: *"There will be*



By Pule Mabe

no return to the normal."

This coronavirus has radically altered the way we go about our daily business and this will continue to be the norm beyond the lifespan of the pestilence.

Professor Karim continues: *"We are going to have to learn to live in a way where we will lose the soft touch that comes from being too close to those we love, those we care about, because in order to protect them, we are going to have to keep some distance."*

Indeed, Mr President, we will have to rethink the brotherly and sisterly embrace as well as the hug that have been a part of our lives for centuries to ensure that we protect ourselves and fellow human beings. Now more than ever, people have become conscientised about the preventative measures they need to take to safe-

guard their wellbeing. Social distancing, unheard of in our country before the coronavirus struck, will have to continue in the aftermath of this pandemic for the survival of humanity.

The coronavirus has forced our long walk to the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) to be a sprint. Working from home, which some corporate had already embarked on as a way to increase productivity and shield the workers from unnecessary commuting, will increase in the wake of the coronavirus.

Online shopping, which had a slow uptake in our country at 2% as a result of the digital divide and costly connectivity, will increase rapidly as people realise that there is the alternative to the brick and mortar shopping experience.

However, Mr President, in the midst of this global threat, we have seen an unprecedented outpouring of goodwill and solidarity among members of the human race. Ubuntu has made a remarkable comeback and we're seeing people leave their comfort zones and go the extra mile to be their brothers' keepers.

This great country of ours, which has seen its fair share of destruction and agony wrought under apartheid, has emerged as one of the best respondents in the battle to defeat the coronavirus.

Lessons learnt from China and Europe, the two epicentres of Covid-19

COMMENT & ANALYSIS

have stood us in good stead in crafting our response. The lockdown and the restriction of human movement has been a cross to bear, over and above the crucial alternatives to contain this virus, which include washing our hands constantly with soap and maintaining physical distance. China overcame the devastation of Covid-19 by quarantining her people until the coronavirus had tapered. We cannot afford to deviate from that action plan at this stage.

The people of South Africa have in the main been magnanimous and shown the resolve to overcome this threat to humanity. Political parties have shed their animosity to confront a common enemy. Business has come to the party and softened the blows to the man on the street. Labour has demonstrated that together we are stronger than the silos that divide us. The religious community is doing its part under trying circumstances to hold the bonds that tie us together. Civil society, despite the small pockets of disobedience, has shown that the survival of mankind relies on every one of us.

Mr President, this new construct will be crucial in the weeks and months ahead as we pick up the pieces and rebuild our lives after the lockdown. The ANC government has previously defied the odds and chosen peace and negotiations when the rest of the world believed that bloodbath was the only way to usher in democracy to the southern-most part of the African continent.

The supremacists, who had branded us terrorists, were gradually forced to realise that ours was a struggle for human rights for the oppressed as well as the oppressor. Indeed, after the bloodshed was avoided and a negotiated settlement was entered into, the oppressor was also unshackled from his chains and also liberated. This was done so that the



In the era of COVID-19 the traditional handshake has been replaced by the elbow greeting, as demonstrated above.

oppressor would realise that the future of this country relied on all racial groups, and that the attainment of the prosperity of South Africa required all of us to pull together in the same direction.

Mr President, while it is still too early to re-imagine life beyond Covid-19, there are indicators that have sprouted even as we fight this battle that, the change in behaviour which is vital in defeating this monster, will survive long after Covid-19 has been consigned on the scrapheap of history.

The toll on human lives and health has undeniably been too hard to bear but we have no option but to confront this enemy head-on. The virus has stretched our fragile economy beyond the limit and the aftermath will be daunting. This new construct is evidently our only compass that will ensure that we navigate the rough seas towards our common destiny.

Yours sincerely,

Pule Mabe

National Spokesperson and Head of the Department of Information and Publicity

THE WAR AGAINST COVID-19

Mobilise against the invisible enemy, the novel coronavirus, Covid-19

By Ronnie Kasrils

AT TIMES OF grave crisis, communists internationally have selflessly responded to the battle cry: “Communists to the fore!” This watchword has resounded at times of war and invasion; against counter-revolutionary onslaught; against different forms of attack on the working class and people; against tyranny and any existential threat.



What then is the role of communists as we face an invisible enemy with the coronavirus spreading across the globe? The readiness to respond as a disciplined volunteer is illustrated by a Cuban doctor who on his team’s departure to assist stricken Italy stated: “*We are all afraid but we have a revolutionary duty to fulfill...we take out fear and put it to one side...we are revolutionary doctors.*”

Whilst our government has announced steps to counter the pandemic – with health professionals in the front line – we will need the organised support of our most dedicated activists ready to serve our people.

One of our strengths is the culture of volunteerism developed during the liberation struggle as exemplified by the volunteers in the 1952 Defiance Campaign, and the mass mobilisation of the 1980’s, reinforcing armed and underground struggle, which brought apartheid to an end. Creating brigades of volunteers in auxiliary service to help

defeat the coronavirus should become the line of march.

We have witnessed an army of cadres in China turn the tide. A state that puts the people’s safety and well-being first will overcome any challenge. China and Cuba have shown the way. In Britain, Boris Johnson’s government – as with Trump’s in the USA – had to be called to account by the scientific and medical specialists for dithering because their concern was to protect finance capital and the stock market in the first instance – not their citizens. As the situation deteriorated in Britain, an emergency call for 250 000 volunteers to reinforce the health system saw 500 000 registering in no time. In the USA, Trump’s view that the virus was just another flu outbreak has forced him to eat his words. Britain’s volunteers will help deliver medicines and food to the elderly and vulnerable, deliver supplies to the frontline, ferry people to hospital, work in hospitals in supportive non-clinical roles.

Back home no such call for volunteers has as yet been made by government – yet it is in our DNA. Witness the range of social forces who have rushed to the fore to assist those in most need. Inspirational organising is happening spontaneously, largely independent of the state.

The call for volunteers is growing in civil society with beginnings of a volunteer reg-

ister underway. The SACP and Alliance should add their weight and experience to this initiative. The effort needs to be effectively co-ordinated and planned, otherwise everybody tries to do everything. Even with the best of intentions such actions may become counter-productive.

What can be done?

In the first place, every volunteer, like a good soldier, should understand the nature of the enemy, how to combat the threat, recognise friendly forces and strive for unity of effort in isolating the enemy. We should prioritise care for the most vulnerable; and adapt measures suitable to crowded conditions which those who are poor and marginalised cannot escape from.

The government and scientific community need to work on this, learning from the people directly. They need to understand that staying at home is a measure of class privilege.

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Among the challenges and tasks facing us:

- Be knowledgeable in order to calmly provide the people with credible information and an analysis of the crisis and unfolding events. To be effective: understand, explain, publicise the rules, regulations, prevention and health issues.
- Explain the need to wash hands and self-isolate. Explain the slogan: 'Break the Chain' which captures the attempt by government and society to enforce forms of physical isolation, quarantine, and treatment to prevent the spread of the virus from one to another.
- Collect and help distribute soap, sanitizers, protective masks, household cleaning products, food, water (In Cape Town, civil society is organising the pairing of better-off and underprivileged neighbourhoods for mutual benefit).
- Assist the homeless and elderly, including single headed families often looked after by a youngster;
- Help the orderly formation of queue lines at grant and pension pay-outs, food stores, water points, taxi ranks.
- Inculcate a sense of solidarity – let your neighbours know you support your health and social workers; encourage hanging out national flag and posters from buildings, sing to one another from house to house as reported in Italy; applaud the health workers, develop mutual aid

responses, inculcate a sense of community.

- Report burst water pipes, blocked sewers, fallen trees and electric malfunction to the local council; see that they get on with the job.
- Organise refuse removal and clean-ups.
- Raise demands that health workers be provided with masks and safety clothing.
- Support trade union demand for worker safety, the necessity of neighbourhood level organising, income and social security, the rights of those on zero-hour contracts or in precarious employment, and the need to protect those living in poverty.
- Government made a promise that there would be no evictions during the shutdown. Cruel shack demolitions continue. Stand by the shack dwellers and lodge protests with the authorities. The eThekweni Municipality is the worst offender.
- A key problem with physical isolation and quarantine is mental distress. Assist social workers identify those suffering this way. Give them empathy. "Physical distance, social unity" is the slogan of the Kerala Left and Communist-led Government which was swift to act and get on top of the pandemic. We should adapt the slogan and learn their lessons.
- Public action – involving trade unions, and the broad Left, youth groups, women's organisations, with

cooperative endeavours from civil society, cultural and religious groups – of collecting, cleaning and preparing supplies, and assisting in distribution will raise the spirit of the people, encouraging them to trust in social unity and not to fragment in fear.

- Counter xenophobia and protect foreigners; bring all the people who suffer equally from the pandemic threat together in a spirit of solidarity.
- Act as whistle-blowers. Report the abuse of power by security personnel, stand by those victimised; counter a military-police state mentality which can come-back to undermine our democratic gains when the threat is over.

Rediscovering our culture of voluntary service will defend and deepen democracy as we return to more normal times, although things as we have known them cannot ever be the same again. Volunteerism has been at the core of overthrowing apartheid. We need to inculcate that fighting spirit if we are to overcome this new monster that has reared its ugly head. Our people's very survival is at stake. We must win this battle. The battle for a new world order will resume. Amandla! ■

Comrade Ronnie Kasrils previously served on the SACP Central Committee and its Political Bureau on a long-standing basis and is a veteran of the Party, the African National Congress and the joint SACP and ANC military wing, uMkhonto weSizwe.



Let us show love and respect to Health Care Workers. They care about us

STAY AT HOME

#Khawuleza
#BeTheRenewal
#BuildingtheSouthAfricaWeWant

Protect Yourself.
Defend Each Other.
Let's Do it Together.



THE WAR AGAINST COVID-19



IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON FOOD SECURITY

By Siggibo Mfuywa

THE YEAR 2020 has not been easy for the country and the world, and South Africa is amongst the hardest hit. In fact we are in crisis mode; we are limping from disaster to disaster. We started a year with a lot of excitement, some even dubbing it “20plenty”. We also found ourselves unpacking the meaning of the decade, and guess what! It’s also a leap year. Little did we know that this year would bring plenty of challenges and sorrow throughout the world.

The world is bleeding, economies are not growing, and poverty and inequalities have reached unprecedented levels. In South Africa, economic development has become a dominant discourse in all quarters. The economy is still in the hands of a few, creating massive room for continued monopolies, reducing space for democratised economic participation.

Our economic growth outlook has been dwindling in the past decade. Currently, our economic growth outlook has been revised downwards by the South African Reserve Bank, forecasting a contraction of about 2% or more. Other pundits are even predicting a more negative outlook. Our budget deficit has been on an upward spiral and debt-servicing costs have not been kind. Our key economic drivers, i.e. mining, manufacturing and agriculture have not been doing well in the recent past. We have witnessed con-

sistent contraction, hence we are now in recession.

The finance minister, in his 2020 budget speech attempted to advance some balancing act, leaning towards financial prudence, but our debt-to-GDP ratio continues to widen. However he has made some solid proposals that will reduce government spending in some areas, but social spending remains high.

The SOEs have become an unbearable burden to the fiscus and bailouts are no longer possible. Whilst we’re still looking at reforming our economy and finding ways to stimulate growth... boom, a dreadful pandemic named Covid-19 surfaces and bears potential to collapse the economy. President Cyril Ramaphosa then declared a national state of disaster and subsequently announced a lockdown i.e. limited movement and only access to essential goods and services.

Whilst we were still preoccupied with Covid-19 pandemic, Moody’s finally downgraded us to junk status, with Fitch throwing another blow of even more junk status to its previous downgrade. We are full on junk.

This is a complex situation. How do you grow the economy whilst you have declared national disaster and you are in a lockdown? This is a serious paradox. What opportunities does this situation present? What does this mean for food security, especially to indigent house-

holds? In the midst of disaster and confusion lies an opportunity.

Well, in my previous writings I’ve always advocated for import substitutes, industrialization and localization. The current situation compels us to do exactly that, which is, produce locally what we consume. As of June 2018 the commercial agriculture was employing 757 000 people, down from 769 000 in 2007. The total income in 2018 was R332 billion which was higher than R85 billion which was recorded in 2007. If you take a closer look at this statement, jobs decreased by -1.6%, and income increased by almost R300 billion. Is this a paradox?

It points to the sector developing technological capabilities, which adversely affects the sector’s ability to be labour absorbing. It is also possible that number of producers has reduced. Agriculture remains a significant provider of employment, especially in the rural areas, and a major earner in foreign exchange. According to Agribiz bulletin, agricultural economy contracted by 6.7% in 2019 and this was driven by decline in horticulture production and foot-and-mouth disease on livestock.

Clearly from the above analogy 2020 was to be dubbed a year of recovery after having received good rains late in 2019 and early 2020. It is a well-known fact that Covid-19 is a major blow to the sector; the import and exports will suffer a lot due to lockdown. Agriculture exports

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see significant produce going to Europe and the US. Now, with borders closed, a major contraction is unavoidable. This directly translates to massive job losses. Equally it introduces an opportunity to increase production in agriculture.

The sector has a responsibility to make sure that the country doesn't run out of food during these trying times. The acres of land that lie fallow in the former Transkei and elsewhere in the country must be put back into production. This also presents an opportunity for import substitutes; in the recent past the poultry industry has been hard-hit by imports. It is time for South African producers to reclaim their space in the agriculture space; especially after the President's announcement of a Master Plan for Poultry that will be utilized to catalyze the industry back to life.

We have also been importing a lot of wheat, production inputs and animal feed. It is time to produce those locally. According to Stats SA, in 2017 6.8 million people in South Africa experienced hunger, and this affected 1.7 million households. Whilst South Africa is food secure at national level, it remains food insecure at a household level. Almost 20% of households did not have adequate access to food. Oxfam SA argues that food security happens when all households have access to safe, nutritious food to meet their dietary healthy lifestyle.

Unfortunately, many people in rural areas are no longer involved in household food gardens and this presents a serious risk leading more people towards food insecurity. Some say dependency in social grants has led to this decline in household food gardens. The issue may be more complex. The Covid-19 attacks the immune system and a malnourished hungry person stands no chance in fighting this pandemic. Majority of South Africans leave in squalor, are unemployed and have no access to basic needs both in urban and rural areas. If this pandemic spreads to rural areas and informal settlements, God help South Africa. ■

Sigqibo Biggz Mfuywa is a PhD fellow at Unisa and writes in his personal capacity

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Tribute To Comrade Peter Nchabeleng

separately, and sentenced to six years imprisonment on Robben Island.

During his lifetime, there were several assassination attempts by the racist regime against him, through attempts to poison him and booby trapped letter bombs. It was at the height of the liberation struggle when one of his closest comrades and dear friend, Cde Joe Gqabi, was assassinated in a cross border attack by the racist regime in Zimbabwe.

After the launch of the United Democratic Front (UDF), in 1983, two years later, he was elected as its President in the Northern Transvaal region. He led this structure with fellow comrades such as comrades Rejoice (Joyce) Mabhudafhasi, Joyce Mashamba, Peter Mokaba, Louis Mnguni, Mothupi Pharephare, together with the younger generation of leaders such as Blessing Mphela, Frans Mohlala, Shakes Makhado, Prince Mafotsane, Joyce Boshomane, and many others.

Whilst operating in the area, he became instrumental in launching the Sekhukhuneland Youth Organisation (SEYO), and Parents Crisis Committee. He continued playing an advisory role to ensure that these two formations remained focused on the course of the struggle for the liberation of the people of our country.

As a result of these activities in the service of our liberation, comrade Peter Nchabeleng was arrested and taken to Sekhukhuneland police station in Schoenoord, where he was brutally tortured by the Lebowa police. He died in the hands of the police on the 11th of April 1986.

Indeed his revolutionary spirit will continue to imbue his final resting place as one of the most important theaters of our revolutionary struggle.

We shall forever cherish his huge, and magnanimous, contribution to the struggle for the liberation of our people. ■



CALL 2 ACTION

Let us work with the Army and Police. They are keeping us safe from the deadly Coronavirus

STAY HOME

Protect Yourself. Defend Each Other. Let's Do it Together.

#Khawuleza
#BeTheRenewal
#BuildingtheSouthAfricaWeWant

ANC

THE WAR AGAINST COVID-19

A PLEA FROM A FRIGHTENED COMRADE ABOUT COVID-19

By *Thenjiwe Mthintso*

Dear Comrades,

I write this at 2.30 am on 14th April, 2020 in Madrid, Spain where I am deployed as an Ambassador for our great country. I want to add my voice to that of our President, Cde Cyril Ramaphosa, the leadership of the ANC and all others, at home and abroad, who have told you and all other South Africans that the coronavirus is real, it is a killer and is invisible. As the ANC we fought apartheid and we won. We were disciplined and we led by example. Many listened to and followed the ANC. We have to lead now.

I have been on lockdown for the past 31 days, from March 14 when the first State of Alarm was declared for 15 days, to end on 29th March then extended to end on 11 April then extended to end on 25 April. These extensions were necessitated by the unfortunate and frightening spread of the coronavirus pandemic. At that time of the first declaration of the State of Alarm, there were 5,753 reported cases of infection and 136 deaths. Today, April 14, there are 174,060 reported cases of infection and 18,255 deaths with 7,371 in intensive care.

These are not just statistics but human beings. It is scary. One of the deceased was a security guard in our building. A Consular Clerk in our SA Embassy staff passed away just



A Spanish police officer begs a member of the public to return home.

10 days after the lockdown. She was never diagnosed before death but her post mortem revealed her cause of death. She never even reached hospital because she never showed any serious signs till the night before her death. By the time the ambulance arrived she had already passed on. Her daughter who stays in another city could not come to bury her because of the lockdown. Her husband could not attend her cremation because he was also quarantined. We could not attend as no one was allowed. A very sad and painful way of your loved ones not bidding you farewell.

Madrid had to convert its huge exposition centre IFEMA, that successfully hosted 25,000 participants at COP 25 in November 2019 into a field hospital. Madrid had to convert its

beautiful ice rink to a morgue. Even these are not enough for the demand for hospitals and mortuaries.

I went out only for a walk around my block on 2 April and I was stopped by the police and told to go back home. Thankfully I was not arrested. I have never been out of the yard since then. It is very difficult to be locked down but it is absolutely necessary.

It is reported that according to its population, Spain has the second highest death rate after the US at an average of 600 per day and an average of 390 per million people. Spain's population is 46.9 million. It was also reported that, had Spain not enforced the lockdown at the time it did, the average deaths per day would be higher. During the first days the average was at around 800

THE WAR AGAINST COVID-19

per day and thanks to the quarantine, the numbers have gone down. Every night in Spain we stand on our porches, verandas, balconies and clap our hands in gratitude to and solidarity with the health workers who risk their lives for our safety. People play the National Anthem, a sign of unity against and commitment to fight this Virus. That is the best we can do besides following the rules. People here are much disciplined. We can learn from them.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) provides us with all the worldwide statistics not to scare us but to make us understand the horror of this Virus, learn from others and to follow the safety rules... the most important of which is to stay at home.

When we fought apartheid we knew the enemy, its machinery and its installations. We could attack all these. This virus is invisible, it is silent and it goes around with stealth. **This is not a crisis but a war against a faceless enemy.** No one knows his or her status until tested. One person could be going around, defying and ridiculing the lockdown and infecting many others who in turn infect yet other innocent citizens. I am afraid and very afraid not for myself, family and friends but for our country.

Spain is much advanced in social infrastructure and facilities than we are but they have found it very difficult to cope. Imagine if this hits our townships, our Mkhukhus, our villages and all our places that do not have the infrastructure. I know, as others have said that for those living in these areas it is difficult to stay at home for many reasons including just sheer survival. However, one may find food today for family, but infect not only the family but the innocent neighbours tomorrow. Our Government is doing everything possible to meet the basic needs of all those that are in need. Some of the people defying are not

doing so for their survival needs but for non-basic needs like looking for alcohol etc. I am not anti-alcohol but I am pro-life.

Fortunately, the Spanish government reports that the curve is flattening but the death rate is still around 500 per day. **How many people do we want to die before we comply?** As cadres of the ANC, we are in these communities, we are amongst the people and perhaps we are even the people who do not have enough discipline

to comply. **I implore you to stay at home, follow the safety rules and save our country.** For the sake of our future please comply with the testing. Together, with discipline we can defeat this enemy. ■

HE Thenjiwe Mthintso is South African Ambassador in Spain, she is also a former Deputy Secretary General of the ANC (1997-2002) and of the Central Committee of the SACP. **This article/appeal is in her personal capacity.**

Tshwaragano ka Bana

Working together for children

Let's play, learn and grow together

Supporting parents and caregivers with children birth to five years with early learning and development at home

Focus for the Week 1: Staying healthy while we play and learn

Have fun! Learn about healthy habits

PLAN YOUR DAY

WHY WASHING HANDS IS IMPORTANT

As part of the morning routine let your child wash his or her hands with soap and clean water for 20 seconds. It takes 20 seconds to sing 'Happy birthday' twice or to sing the first verse of our national anthem, *Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika*. Let your child make hand washing an important part of the day.

For PARENTS

The correct way to prevent the spread of germs that are carried in droplets is by coughing or sneezing into your inner elbow, or by using a tissue to cover your mouth and nose. Put all tissues in the rubbish bin straight away, and wash your hands with either soap and clean water or an alcohol-based hand sanitiser. Teach your child to do the same.

CREATE A BOOK CORNER

In the play space put a few books, magazines or even old brochures that can be 'reading material' as well as a cushion or small blanket to make the book corner. Show the child/ren the book corner and talk about the books that are there. Invite her to sit on the cushion and read a 'book' whenever she would like to.

Today's colour is **BLUE**
Look around in the house with your child for all things that are blue.

Learning together is FUN

Here are some playful activities to do with your young child today (and other days too)

BOOK OF THE DAY

The Little Hare is a book that helps parents and young children to describe issues related to illness and family support in a simple manner. Download this book (its for free) on your smart phone. https://www.unicef.org/southafrica/SAF_publications_littlehare.pdf

Getting active in the morning

Play the game 'Follow the leader'. Have your family take turns being the leader. The leader gets in front of the line with everyone else behind them copying the leader's actions. Wiggle your arms while walking, march, bunny hop, or any other similar action. This game helps children to listen and follow instructions which is a very important communication skill which develops language.

Younger than 18 months	18 months to 36 months	3 to 5 years
<p>Baby watches and listens to simple songs about healthy activities, for example <i>'This is the way we brush our teeth, wash our hands, stamp our feet'</i>. Children understand words and language that they hear long before they start speaking. By singing songs and doing the actions about healthy living, children will learn about how to care well for themselves.</p>	<p>Let's play House: Let your child take care of 'sick' dolls by keeping them warm and wiping their noses. Encourage her to use clean paper (small pieces) for each doll and to throw the used ones in the bin explaining why it is hygienic to do that. Let her wash her hands after she has wiped their noses.</p>	<p>Let's play House: Older child washes and dries dolls and other play objects and squeezes out the cloth. She also washes the doll's clothes from time to time. Not only does this help your child to develop her fine motor control (control and use of small muscle in the hands), but it also stresses the importance of cleanliness. While they are doing this, you can either wash or iron clothes for the family and sing / talk about what you are doing.</p>

BATH TIME

Put some items in the bath that she can use to pour water from one item to another. Pouring water from one container to the next helps her with her first understanding of Mathematics and Science as well as developing the skill of linking what her hand is doing and what she is seeing. While doing that, talk to her about the day.

Make bath time, FUN time! For you and your child.

HEALTHY HABITS

Wash your hands often to stay healthy!

By playing 'House', children are learning how to think critically, solve problems and form concepts that help them to understand cause and effect, for example, if they wash the clothes then they will be clean and healthy.

Remember to keep it PLAYFUL and FUN. That is how young children learn.

Department: Social Development
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Department: Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

for every child

In partnership with the National Early Childhood Development Alliance (NECDA), the South African Congress for Early Childhood Development and the LEGO Foundation

Content based on the National Curriculum Framework for Children birth to four years

Q & A

By Amanda Tshemese

IN THE SPOTLIGHT: **Mxolisi Kaunda**

Tapping into Operation Sukuma Sakhe



Comrade Mxolisi Kaunda, the Mayor of eThekweni and former MEC of Transport in KZN, has a rich socio-political activism background. Over the years Cde Kaunda has displayed unwavering commitment to the African National Congress as a disciplined cadre. He has served in various leadership roles in both the ANC Youth League and Provincial structures of the movement. Born in Inanda, north of Durban, he gained political consciousness early and became active from the tender age of 15.

1. Please tell us about your political background.

I have distinguished myself as a selfless and credible leader, with a firm sense of commitment to serve the people of South Africa throughout his political career. I have served as a Ward Councillor in Inanda, a Proportional Representation Councillor in eThekweni Municipality and served in various council portfolios such as the Economic Development and Planning Sub-Committee and Market Adhoc Committee. I had been the ANCYL Provincial Secretary and Chairperson before becoming a Member of the Provincial Legislature in 2009. During this time, I served as the Transport Portfolio Committee Chairperson.

Fast forward, after the 2019 General Elections, I was redeployed to eThekweni Metro as the Mayor. Apart from being the Mayor of eThekweni Municipality, I am the ANC Provincial Executive Committee Member and the Chairperson of the ANC Sub-Committee on Economic Transformation.

2. You're a Mayor and a member of the ANC. When did you join this glorious movement and was there any particular motive behind?

I grew up in a family of activists and my elder sister played a crucial role in building my political consciousness at a very

young age. Again, just like any child who grew up in an informal settlement, I was concerned about the deplorable conditions under which our people lived. The majority of the people of Inanda lived in squalor and grinding poverty with no human rights and dignity. These conditions propelled me to be actively involved in the struggle, particularly in student politics (COSAS) at the age of 15, to change the lives of our people for the better. I subsequently joined the ANC in 1992 at the age of 18. When the ANC was unbanned in 1990, I was elected to the ANCYL provisional structure to rebuild the ANCYL in Inanda.

3. We are celebrating 26 years of freedom this year on 27 April. What do you remember about this day?

27 April 1994 was a defining moment for the people of South Africa as we observed our people patiently waiting their turn in snaking queues to elect, for the first time, a government that is based on the will of the people. Indeed, we were in high spirits as we were witnessing the achievement of our long-held aspiration of political freedom in our lifetime.

To us as residents of Inanda, this was an emotional occasion as you will recall that our first democratic President and international icon, Dr Nelson Mandela cast his vote at Ohlange High School which

Q & A

was built by the founding President of the ANC Dr Langalibalele Dube. On the Election Day, I was deployed as one of the electoral officers who walked Madiba through the polling station and assisted him to cast his vote.

4. What will your municipality be doing to change lives of the poor to mark and celebrate this historic day?

It is rather unfortunate that we are celebrating this historic day at a time when the world is facing an invisible enemy of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. However, as a caring government, we will continue to create awareness to the public about the dangers of this pandemic and encourage people to stay at home so that we can flatten the curve. We are also going to accelerate our interventions and provide assistance to needy communities in townships, informal settlements, hostels and rural areas. As the leadership of the municipality, we are also going to tap into our Operation Sukuma Sakhe programme that we normally use to monitor service delivery on the ground and make necessary interventions on the spot where there are challenges.

5. The ANC led government is doing its best to improve lives of our people in rural areas, cities and townships, how has the ANC improved lives where you stay?

There is no doubt that over the past 25 years, the ANC government has improved the lives of the people of eThe-

kweni Municipality for the better. We have built houses for thousands of people and restored their dignity. 82% of our households have access to clean drinking water. We have electrified more than 740 000 households in urban, peri-urban and rural areas. 18.6% of the households in the Municipality benefited from indigent support systems for electricity in 2019. About 1 069 477 households have access to refuse removal and collection.

6. What's your favorite right from the Freedom Charter and why?

My favourite right in the Freedom Charter is "The People Shall Share in the Country's Wealth." Government must use all its levers to transform the economy so that the majority of the people who were previously marginalised, Blacks in general and Africans in particular, participate in the mainstream economy. The Radical Socio-Economic Transformation policy of the ANC is the only vehicle through which we can address the skewed economic patterns and the triple challenge of poverty, unemployment and inequality.

We do not only have a political obligation to make meaningful change in the lives of our people, but have a moral duty to end the cycle of poverty destroying our communities. I strongly believe that now is the opportune time for the ANC to implement its resolutions on the nationalisation of the Reserve Bank and consider imposing a wealth tax. We must also fast track the process of expropriation of land without compensation and the establishment

of a state bank. As a leader of society, the ANC should also consider venturing into solidarity economy where cooperatives and social enterprises are allowed to play a meaningful role in building an inclusive economy.

7. President Ramaphosa has extended the lockdown by 2 weeks, yet the cases of coronavirus are increasing daily, what must be done to those who are not taking these regulations seriously?

We commend the leadership that has been provided by the President to flatten the curve of the coronavirus. We must continue to create awareness about the dangers of this pandemic and urge communities to abide by the regulations of the national lockdown because they are going to save our lives. Our law enforcement agencies must continue to enforce the regulations on those who refuse to take them seriously. However, this must be done within the prescripts of the law and the rights of the citizens must not be violated.

All of us, leaders and community members, must remain vigilant and firm because if we don't – given our economic inequality as a country, we will lose the battle against the coronavirus pandemic.

8. What's your motto?

Individuals make meaningful change when they work as a collective. ■

THE WAR AGAINST COVID-19

Everyone should wear **CLOTH face masks** when in public.



Members of the public should not use N-95 and surgical masks; **medical masks remain reserved only for healthcare workers.**

Handwashing and social distancing still remain the most important prevention strategies for COVID-19



THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

18–24 April 2020

Source: SA History Online (www.sahistory.org.za)

18 April 1905

Enoch Sontonga, Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrica composer dies



Enoch Mankayi Sontonga, writer and composer of the National Anthem Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrica (God Bless Africa) died at the age of thirty-two. He wrote Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrica eight years before his death, at the age of twenty four. Seven years after his death, the African National Congress launched his hymn into prominence as an anthem of Black struggle against oppression. Sontonga was born in 1873 in Uitenhage, E Cape, studied as a teacher at Lovedale College in Alice and went on to teach at a Methodist mission school in Nancefield, Soweto. On 24 September 1996, Sontonga's grave in Braamfontein Johannesburg was declared a national monument and a memorial on the site was unveiled by President Nelson Mandela. At the same ceremony, the South African Order of Meritorious Service (Gold) was bestowed on Enoch Sontonga posthumously.

18 April 1994

The Star Photographer Ken Oosternbroek killed

Ken Oosternbroek (1962-1994), the Chief Photographer of The Star, was killed in bloody pre-election fighting in Thokoza township on the East Rand, just two weeks before South Africans went to the polls in the first historic democratic elections. Ken was a larger than life presence, an intricate personality with a wonderful talent. His untimely death in the crossfire between hostel dwellers and a South African peace-keeping force was a great tragedy.

18 April 1982

Zimbabwe Capital City Renamed

After independence from Britain in 1980, Zimbabwe started renaming its cities, towns and streets, to eradicate symbols associated with British colonialism and White minority rule. On the second anniversary of independence, 18 April 1982, Zimbabwe renamed its capital city Harare, after the Shona chief Neharawa. The initial name of the capital was Salisbury, named after the British Prime Minister the Third Marquess of Salisbury.

18 April 1964

Dr Neville Alexander and others found guilty of sabotage

Dr. Neville Alexander and four others were found guilty of sabotage and sentenced to ten years imprisonment on Robben Island. The judge found that the accused participated in the activities of the National Liberation Front (NLF), an offshoot of the Yu Chi Chan Club (YCCC), whose aim was to advance the revolution through violence. Along with Namibian activists Kenneth and Tilly Abraham from the South West Africa People's Organisation (Swapo), he created the YCCC to promote guerrilla warfare, and subsequently founded the (NLF) to bring together people who were committed to the 'overthrow of the state, irrespective of their political ideology'. In 1974, Alexander was released from prison, but banned and placed under house arrest for five years.

19 April 1906

Bambata Rebellion



The Bambatha Rebellion took place near Greytown in KwaZulu-Natal. The first signs of discontent started at the

end of 1905, when government introduced a new £1 poll tax on top of existing hut and dog taxes. After the Anglo-Boer War and before the 1910 Union of South Africa, mining companies suffered from a shortage of unskilled labour. Most African people lived off the land as farmers. The Poll tax was instituted to force Blacks from rural areas to the cities to fulfil the labour needs of mines. In 1906 a group of Zulus under the leadership of Chief Bambatha refused to pay the tax. After an altercation with police over this defiance, two policemen were killed, martial law was declared and soldiers sent in. Huts of suspected rebels were burned, their possessions taken and a violent rebellion started. Over 7,000 British troops were called out to suppress the Zulu aggression and 4 000 rebels died. The Bambatha Rebellion marked the end of African resistance to colonial rule for nearly fifty years. The number of Zulu males working on the Witwatersrand mines increased to 60% and by 1909, 80% of all males in Zululand were migrant labourers working away from home.

19 April 1960

SWAPO formed to oppose South African occupation

The South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO) was founded in Windhoek, Namibia on 19 April 1960 by Herman Toivo Ya Toivo, Sam



Nujoma and others. SWAPO, one of the Southern African liberation movements fighting for independence, also formed an alliance with the ANC of South Africa. In 1966 SWAPO was recognised by the United Nations as the liberation movement of Namibia. SWAPO won the first independent election in 1989 and Sam Nujoma became the first president of Namibia in 1990.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

19 April 2001

Global Big Pharma drop lawsuit against South Africa

In 1998 the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America and thirty nine international pharmaceutical companies brought a lawsuit against the South African government for patent infringement regarding the manufacture of generic versions of life saving anti-Aids drugs. These companies were demanding millions of dollars for the right to manufacture their drugs. This, as South Africa has one of the world's highest rates of HIV and AIDS among its population. On 19 April 2001, these companies dropped their legal challenges to South Africa and other developing countries, after national and global campaigns.

20 April 1968

SAA plane crashes in Namibia

A Boeing 707 of South African Airways (SAA), en route to London and only in use for seventeen days, crashed and exploded shortly after take-off from Windhoek airport. Of the 129 people on board, 122 were killed.

20 April 1999

Judge Edwin Cameron goes public with HIV status

Justice of the Constitutional Court, Edwin Cameron made headlines in 1999 when he announced that he had been living with HIV for twelve years.



Cameron was a judge at the time and is one of the first few high profile people to publicly disclose their status. Cameron has stated that his disclosure was inspired by the case of Gugu Dlamini, a woman who was stoned and stabbed to death after disclosing on a local radio show that she had HIV. Cameron has been active in the fight against HIV/AIDS. While serving as a human rights lawyer at the Witwatersrand University's Centre for Applied Legal Studies, he co-drafted the Charter of Rights on AIDS and HIV, co-founded the AIDS Consortium and founded the AIDS Law Project.

20 April 2006

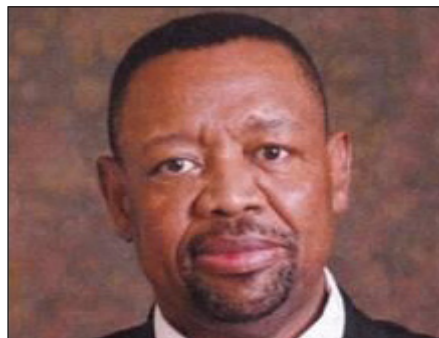
Mme Epainette Mbeki received Boabab National Order



The 90 year old Epainette Mbeki, businesswoman and community worker in Idutywa, Eastern Cape, received the Order of the Baobab in Gold for her "exceptional contribution to the economic upliftment of the underprivileged communities in the Eastern Cape, and her commitment to the fight against apartheid" from her son, President Thabo Mbeki. Ma-Mbeki could not attend the function due to ill health. During the same ceremony at the Union Buildings, twenty-six people received National Orders. The recipients included Ms Ruth First (posthumously) and Constitutional Court Justice Albie Sachs who both received the Order of Luthuli for exceptional service to the country.

21 April 2005

Former ANC Gauteng Secretary Bavumile Vilakazi passed on



The former African National Congress (ANC) Gauteng provincial secretary and South African High Commissioner to Uganda, Bavumile Vilakazi, died of a heart attack in Kampala. He was on his way back from the airport to fetch Deputy President Jacob Zuma. Vilakazi was the first mayor of the Ekurhuleni Metro on the East Rand before he was posted to Uganda. He was tried in the United Democratic Front (UDF) 1985 Delmas treason trial.

24 April 1901

The Great Comet

On 24 April 1901 a comet that became known as 'The Great Comet of 1901' or 'Viscara' was visible to the naked eye over most of South Africa. The comet was yellowish in colour and remained visible for the next month (until 25 May). The comet was first spotted by astronomers at the Royal Observatory in Cape of Good Hope. An active comet can only become great by making a particularly close approach to the sun so that it produces enormous quantities of gas and dust or by making a close approach to the Earth so that its tail can be easily viewed. In either case, great comets must be seen in a dark sky.

24 April 1984

Second Carnegie report on Poverty in South Africa



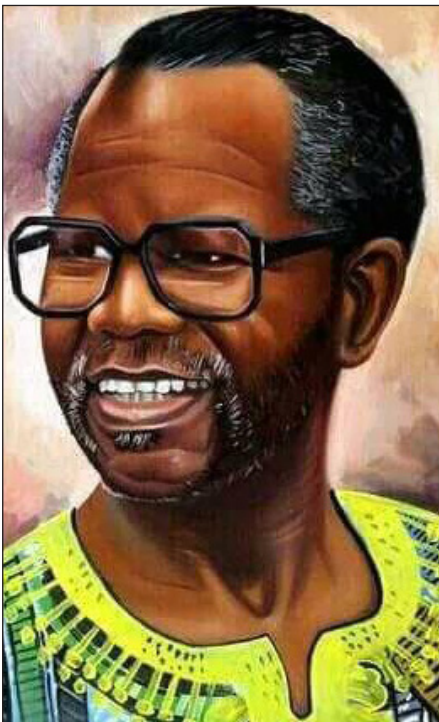
The Second Carnegie Report on poverty in South Africa, Uprooting poverty in South Africa: Report, authored by Francis Wilson and Mamphela Ramphele, was released. The report highlighted the appalling conditions in the rural areas and townships of South Africa. The first Carnegie inquiry into poverty in SA was published in 1932 and focused solely on the 'poor White' problem. This report gave rise to policy changes which over time, effectively eradicated poverty amongst Whites. Fifty years later, most Black South Africans endured a level of poverty even more acute than that suffered by the Afrikaners. Commissioned in 1982, and published in 1984, this study was much broader and less conventional in its scope than its 1932 predecessor. The level of poverty revealed by the report was devastating and extensive. In Ciskei, a Black 'homeland', the study found elderly people living in darkened hovels, sitting on ragged, filthy beds and with no food on their shelves. Malnutrition was common. In the Orange Free State prov-

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

ince 800 residents of a Black township were forced to share 12 open-pit toilets, which led to an outbreak of infectious diseases. Rich in personal testimony, the final report addressed the history of conquest, slavery and political repression that bound Black people throughout the region, as well as the countless day-to-day indignities and struggles faced by men, women and children for whom poverty was a generational inheritance. Despite a hostile reception by the ruling National Party, the findings of the report were disseminated widely throughout the South African press and internationally.

24 April 1993

ANC President OR Tambo passes on after long illness



Oliver Reginald Tambo, founder of the ANC Youth League, mathematics teacher, leader of the African National Congress in exile for thirty years, died on 23 April 1993. Yet his legacy lives on. Comrade O.R. left a significant and enduring heritage, leading the establishment of the ANC in exile, the global anti-apartheid campaign, the armed struggle, the road towards negotiations and our new constitution, the transformative policies of our democratically elected government, and affirmed the abiding vision of the ANC itself. At the time of his death, he held the position of National Chairperson of the ANC.

INTERNATIONAL DAYS

Source: <https://www.un.org>

21 April World Creativity and Innovation Day

There is no single definition of either creativity or innovation, but there is general agreement that it plays a critical role in all aspects of human development. The products of the creative economy, in these days of lockdown, music, books, movies, comedy, and a range of other genres, point to the important role of art and culture in human society, and new technologies make them more accessible to all. Innovation that helps all humanity, not just to profit a few, is equally important.

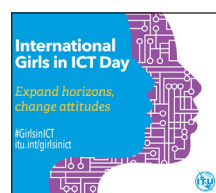
21 April International Mother Earth Day

The day is annually celebrated to focus attention on the health of our planet. The record of humanity's relationship with other species and the planet is terrible: pollution, the loss of biodiversity, overgrazing, deforestation and the large scale extinction of many species of birds, animals, insects, the list goes on. The Coronavirus pandemic engulfing our planet is yet another wake-up call, that if we don't take better care of Mother Earth and all her inhabitants, humanity will suffer.



23 April World Book and Copyright Day

Now more than ever, at a time when globally educational institutions and schools are closed, and people are having to limit time spent out of their homes, the power of books can combat isolation, reinforce ties between people, expand our horizons, while stimulating our minds and creativity. During the month of April and all year round, it is critical to take the time to read on your own or with your children. It is a time to celebrate the importance of reading, foster children's growth as readers, and promote a lifelong love of literature and integration into the world of work. On this day, share quotes from books, your favourite books and authors, and grow the community of readers.



23 April International Girls in ICT Day

The day seeks to create a global environment that empowers and encourages girls and young women to consider studies and careers in the growing field of information and communication technologies.

24 April International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace

Multilateralism recognises that our world is connected and interconnected, and that cooperation is important. If it was not for a global agency like the World Health Organisation and regional organisations like the African Union, it would be difficult to share information, best practice and practice solidarity.



#Lockdown **READING LIST 3**

Books for Teenagers and Young Adults

Reviewed by Fébé Potgieter-Gqubule



OUR THIRD #Lockdown Reading list focuses on books aimed at teenagers and young adults. The African continent has a young population, who across the board is more educated than previous generations. Across the continent, a number of African publishers are publishing more books aimed at this segment of the population.

Here is therefore number 3 of our Lockdown Reading List, focusing on teenage and young adult fiction published mainly in parts of English-speaking Africa: South Africa, Zimbabwe, Ghana, Tanzania, and a few other countries.

- ❑ **The Two Missing Boys**, by L Molefe (Pelio Books, South Africa)
- ❑ **Nelson Mandela**, by Jane Chisholm (Usborne Young Readings, South Africa)
- ❑ **Arabella, the Moon and the Magick Mongongo Nut** by Hamilton Wende (South Africa)
- ❑ **Akimbo series: The Crocodile, The Lions, and The Elephants**

by Alexander McCall Smith (Egmont Publishers, UK)

- ❑ **Akissi: Tales of Mischief**, by Abouet and Sapin (Flying Eye Books, Cote d'Ivoire)
- ❑ **Nyami Nyami. The Zambezi River God**, by Ronald Thackwell (Self-published, South Africa)
- ❑ **Freedom Fighters series: Lillian Ngyi, Helen Josephs, Ruth First and Cissie Gool**, by Chris van Wyk (Awareness Publishing Group, South Africa)
- ❑ **Akata Witch and Zahrah the Wind-seeker**, by Nnedi Okorafor (Nigeria)
- ❑ **Soccer Season Series and the Harmony High Series** (C2Cover Publishers, South Africa)
- ❑ **Albertina Sisulu. Abridged Memoir**, by Elinor Sisulu and Sindiwe Magona (New Africa Books, South Africa)
- ❑ **Tale of Tamari**, by Shimmer Chindya (Weaver Press, Zimbabwe)
- ❑ **Treeland**, by Mleana Mwijaubi (Mkiki na Nyota, Tanzania)
- ❑ **Was Nyakeeru My Father?** by Eliz-

abeth Kabui (Longhorn Publishers, Kenya)

- ❑ **Never Say Never**, by Anthony Mugo (Longhorn Publishers, Kenya)
- ❑ **Fates Promise**, by Rita Akoto Coker (African Publishers, Ghana)
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X-WORD | CHRIS HANI (1942-1993)



Across

1. Head prefect who recruited Hani to ANCYL.
4. In 1957 joined Students of Young Azania (SOYA) at Lovedale college, leaving it to join ...
5. Part of MK Committee of Seven in which region (1962).
9. MK publication that Hani starts writing for at Kongwa, Tanzania (1965).
12. Kabwe in 1985 elected to NEC and this structure.
13. General Secretary of ... when he died.
14. Chris Hani's father Gilbert Hani was also an ANC member and went to exile in ...
15. Part of this Luthuli detachment campaign in 1967.
19. Position in Umkhonto we Sizwe.
21. His BA majors were in English and ...

Down

2. Mentor who got Hani involved in trade union activities.
3. University where Chris Hani completed his BA degree.
6. Coopted onto the ANC NEC in 1974 with this contemporary.
7. Also served as Political Commissar in which Southern African liberation army?
8. Hani's assassin.
10. ANC Consultative conference in exile attended in 1962.
11. Got highest number of votes in 1985 for which SACP structure.
16. Hani family church.
17. Village in Cofimvaba where Hani was born.
18. Served as Assistant Secretary to SACP General Secretary Moses ... (1972)
20. Hani became leader of SACP after ...
14. Name of sister that also sang in choir.

WORD BANK

Sabalele	SACP	Chief of Staff	Rhodes	Latin
ZIPRA	Lesotho	Walus	Catholic	ANCYL
Simon Kekana	Govan Mbeki	Lobatse	W Cape	Dawn
Wankie	Kotane	Thabo Mbeki	Politburo	PMC
Slovo				

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