



**Keynote Address by the Sedibeng District Municipality Executive Mayor, Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng on the occasion of the Nangalembe Massacre Commemoration held at the Leama Mokotuli Primary in Zone 7 on the 12 January 2010, in Sedibeng**

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Programme Director; Cllr. Khulu Malindi, Chief Whip of Sedibeng District Municipality

Sedibeng District Municipality Speaker: Cllr. Kedibone Mogotsi;

MMC's and Councilors here present;

Ward Councillor, Cllr. Morolong;

Reverend Molefi Mokoena;

Members of the Nangalembe Task Team;

Chairman of the Khulumani Support Group;

Mr Mandla Mazibuko;

Distinguished Guests;

Ladies and Gentlemen

**Programme Director**, allow me to pledge the support of the Sedibeng District Municipality, for the court case by the Khulumani Support Group which started yesterday in New York in the USA. This case is as a result of big multinational companies having supported the apartheid military during the years of the struggle, leading to the injury, death and maiming of members of our communities.

These companies provided the apartheid government with vehicle parts for their armored vehicles, which were used in attacks on our communities at the time. President Jacob Zuma, pledged his support for Khulumani Support Group, that is why the case is only continuing today. We hope that you win this case and receive closure.

Our commitment to the victims and survivors in our District is well documented. Comrades and compatriots, ke tshwanelo le tlotla e kgolo hore kajeno re be re le mona. Haholoholo jwang haele mathwasong a selemo se setjha. Re tlile ho kopa mahlohonolo le morolo wa ho phethisa merero ya setjhaba, tshireletso le yona tataiso ho bahale ba itetseng tokolohong ya Setjhaba sa Rantsho.

Mahlatsipa a neetseng ka maphelo a oona ka la di 12<sup>th</sup> January 1992, ha a kake a lebalwa lekgale. He rekeng renke sebaka se sekgutshwanyane ho ikgopotsa bohlokwa ba boitelo ba bona.

It was during that year, when the negotiations were happening in earnest, between the nationalist government and the ANC, with Inkatha Freedom Party not decided whether to come to the talks under the leadership of the ANC or the National Party. Our communities here in the Vaal had led the final charge in making the country ungovernable.

Modulasetulo, maburu a ile a fepela bophepeltsane hlobesenkotong ka dibetsa hore ba hlasele baahi ba labatowa la Sedibeng. Kamorao ha polao ya mohale Chris Nangalembe, eo eneng ele moetapele wa League ya Batjha, reile ra bona tlhaselo ya masisapelo tebellong ya hae, moo teng ho ileng ha bolawa mahlasipa a 45.

**Comrades and compatriots,** hona ebile ho qala ha dihlasele tse nyarosang tse ileng tsa etshala kwano mona lapeng. Selemong sona seo, makwala ana a mmuso wa khethollo, a ile a hlasela mane Boipatong ka bosiu ba la 17<sup>th</sup> June. Ke kamorao ha dihlasele tsena moo mokgatlo wa rona eleng ANC o ileng wa tswa dipuisanong le National party hobane

maburu ane a batla constitution e dumellang hore ho ebe le mahae batho ka dipuo tseo ba di buang.

Molao-theo o jwalo, one o tla dumella hore KwaZulu Natal ebe le boipuso bakeng sa morabe o buang Sezulu, Eastern Cape e buswe ke morabe o buang Sexhosa, haele Eastern Cape yona e buswe ke Manyesemane.

Ebile feela kamorao ha madi ana qhalehileng mona Lebatoweng la Rona, Sedibeng sa Kgomo le Motho, moo ho ileng ha totobala hore molaotheo o labalabelwang ke setjhaba sohle ke ofeng. Re ikotla difuba ka tsohle tse entsweng ke boitseko ba bahale bana barona ba Zone 7 le Evaton. Rona re le boetapele ba Masepala wa Lebatowa Sedibeng, re ikgantsha ka boitelo bona bo boholo hakana balona.

**Programme Director**, it is not without reason, that the Sedibeng District is regarded and has been named the “Cradle of Human Rights Struggle” by the former State President, Nelson Mandela. We have, at various times of our struggle against apartheid, unlocked and provided long-term solutions towards the liberation of this country.

When the ANC could not find answers to petitions sent to Britain and the Nationalist government, it was the Anti-Pass Campaign in Sharpeville on the

21<sup>st</sup> March 1960, that led to the banning of the ANC, which led to the armed struggle and the need to form Umkhonto we Sizwe.

It was the protracted Rent Boycott of 1984 that spread like wild fire through the country that forced the white minority government to the negotiating table, it was the shedding of the blood in Zone 7 today in 1992 and the Boipatong Massacre on the 17<sup>th</sup> June 1992, that gave this country the best constitution in the whole world.

It is with all humility that I came here today. In honor of all of our fallen heroes and heroines lying here, it is also fitting and proper that at the beginning of the New Year, we come and pay our respects to all those who made South Africa in general and Sedibeng in particular what it is today.

We meet today, after the 98<sup>th</sup> Birthday of the ANC in Kimberley, which was held on Saturday the 9<sup>th</sup> January, at which the State President, Jacob Zuma said of this year," The year 2010 is a seminal year for the country. Our country will be hosting the 2010 FIFA Football World Cup.

Let us unite the country and ensure that this opportunity leaves a lasting legacy that will endure for generations to come, both for our country and our

continent. Besides the physical infrastructure attached to this global spectacle, we must emerge from the World Cup more united as a nation and as a continent, and having changed the opinions of the world about our capacity and our humanity”.

Ntate Morolong le moifo o teng, rona rele lebatowa, le haele mona resaka ra eba “ A Host City for the FIFA World Cup” re tllilo fana ka base camp ho dinaha tse pedi tse tlabeng dibapala mohopeng wa lefatshe. Hona ho bolela hore, ho lokisweng ha mabala ho tshwana le George Thabe le yona Isak Steyl, menyetla ya mesebetsi bakeng sa borakgwebo e tla eba teng. Kahoo re kgothaletsa borakgwebo barona ho tshwara ba tiise hore ba se fetwe ke menyetla ena.

Setjhaba sohle se kopaneng mona, nna le moifo waka, re le Masepala wa Lebatowa wa Sedibeng, re tiisa re hlapanya hore, “Ha hona mohlang re etlong ho lebala bahale barona kateng, mekete ena ya sehopotso, etla dula ele bohlokwa haholo ho rona, esere nalane ya boitseko ba rona Lebatoweng lena la Sedibeng ya eba lefeela” Ke mawatla feela a lebalang Bahale ba Bona.

**In conclusion**, it is fitting and proper, as true Africans, that we seek guidance and protection from our ancestors here in Evaton as we lead the

charge for greater things to happen in our District. We draw strength and commitment from the heroes and heroines who paid the ultimate price for our freedom. May the blood of Jesus Christ strengthen us also as we go forward to “The Year of Working Together to Speed Up Effective Service to the People”

I thank you