

AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS



DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY

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ANC MOURNS THE PASSING OF STRUGGLE VETERAN, ISITHWALANDWE/SEAPARANKOE, JOHN NKADIMENG

Sebata kgomo! Afrika Borwa we, Sebata kgomo!

Lehu sera se segolo sa motho

Le re hlasetse gape,

Phiri e bo ile e tsene motseng,

Mokgapa o mogolo o wele, dithaga tša lla bošogošogo

Ngwato 'a Ngwato - Monna Lerutla - Mmina Tau Orobetse

Today the African National Congress, and indeed the nation is in mourning – upon receiving the news of the passing of the stalwart of our revolutionary movement, Isithwalandwe/Seaparankwe Ntate John Nkadimeng who celebrated his 93rd birthday in June.

That he lived a full and rich life and reached a ripe age does not make the news of his passing easier – for we have lost a man who was not just amongst the greatest revolutionaries of his time: but who also played an active role in public and political life in South Africa until the very end.

At a time when the ANC seeks to reassert its revolutionary values and morality, and chart the course for a new dawn of leadership of South African society, we needed his voice now more than ever. He was a loyal and dedicated member of the African National Congress, a patriot and a man of principle. Ntate Nkadimeng was awarded the Order of Luthuli in Gold for dedicating his entire adult life to the struggle for liberation, workers' rights and for the formation of a united federation of trade unions.

Ntate Nkadimeng was a shop steward with the African Tobacco Workers' Union in 1949. He became General Secretary of the underground South African Congress of Trade Unions (SACTU) in 1983 and remained committed to the trade union movement until his last breath. As the leader of SACTU, Nkadimeng worked tirelessly for the ideal of worker unity in a single national federation and instrumental and was instrumental in the formation of Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu)

Ntate Nkadimeng was detained during the Defiance Campaign in 1952 and was one of the 156 Congress activists charged with treason in the 1956 Treason Trial. The people of our country will treasure his memory as one of our most distinguished sons who consciously chose to fight a cruel and inhumane system at a time when it was extremely dangerous to do so.

PRESIDENT CM Ramaphosa	DEPUTY PRESIDENT DD Mabuza	NATIONAL CHAIRPERSON G Mantashe	SECRETARY GENERAL ES Magashule	DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL JY Duarte	TREASURER GENERAL P Mashatile
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As a true servant of the people of South Africa, his contribution was aimed not at seeking personal glory, fame or material rewards. It was also not motivated by the pursuit of personal ambition, self-interest and an undying lust for power and self-privilege. It was about serving the interest of the people as a whole and working to attain the goal of building a non-racial, non-sexist and prosperous South Africa.

In memory of Ntate Nkadimeng and in carrying forward the legacy he leaves behind, we must recommit ourselves to a united and sustained action in response to the challenges that confront our nation. His selfless and courageous life personified by the exceptional conduct of his generation of freedom fighters is worth emulating.

The ANC conveys its heartfelt condolences to his family, the entire democratic movement and all freedom-loving people of the world. We wish them strength and fortitude in this moment of grief.

Robala ka Khutšo Ngwana Legoko Mamafishe. Monna Lerutla - wena Mmina Tau - Ngwato 'a Ngwato

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