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**KING CALLS  
FOR UN TO  
INTERVENE  
IN QATAR'S  
BLOCKADE**

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**PHAKAMA'S  
WILL  
GIVES FOUR  
WIVES EQUAL  
SHARES**

SEE PAGE 6



GOVERNMENT RESOURCES REPORTEDLY USED AS...

## MZUTHINI 'HIRES' INMATES FOR HIS MANSION

● Inmates were 'transported' daily in government vehicles to the remote area **STORY ON PAGE 3**

**THREE DIE IN NASTY  
MALINDZA CRASH**

STORY  
ON  
PAGE 16

**SUPER SPECIALS!!**

 2:3:2(22) Fertilizer 50kg <b>E275.00</b>	 LAN (Makhaheni) 50kg <b>E245.00</b>	 Barbed wire 50kg 2.5 (540m) <b>E899.00</b>
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## Our investment companies did well – Tibiyo MD

By Bodwa Mbingo

Despite economic upheavals in the country as a result of the recent El-Nino imposed drought, investment companies under Tibiyo TakaNgwane have done relatively well in the past year.

This observation was made by Tibiyo Managing Director (MD) Dr Absalom Themba Dlamini who said this happened against all odds and that is why they are all able to keep their jobs in the organisation. This was during the company's end of year staff party held at the spacious Sharma House in Ezulwini yesterday.

Dlamini, making his remarks, thanked all the company's staff for working tirelessly throughout the year while observing that the past year was one of the most challenging ones, not only for the organization, but for the economy and the country. He recalled that the country has been dealing with the deep and far-reaching consequences of a devastating drought, among others, which threatened the economy.

"Your commitment, resilience, dedication and professionalism have helped the organisation to navigate successfully through this trying period. Our organisation performed relatively well in the past year and as management we want to recognise your collective and individual effort.

"I want to appeal that once the income has been received from the companies, it must be put into good use so that the organisation stays afloat as we face another challenging period ahead," he stated.

Dlamini further requested all employees to think more creatively and double their efforts to strengthen and diversify the organisation's portfolio, particularly agriculture and sugar. He said they need more innovative ideas and strategies to ensure that they protect their stake in the sectors in which they participate and identify other opportunities elsewhere.

### Completed

"This year we completed our block of flats in Manzini, which are now fully occupied. We will soon embark on another property project in Manzini and another agro-based project in Malkerns. We anticipate completing all these next year," he said.

The MD then thanked the Tibiyo Main Committee for providing sound guidance through the year, particularly as they tried to recover from a challenging period. He noted that their support, energy and words of wisdom have encouraged them to do even better.

Main Committee Chairman Prince Fipha, speaking through Chief Ndululhaza Ndwandwe, congratulated Their Majesties for their wise and passionate leadership through the year as they continued to demonstrate that their hearts are fully with Tibiyo. He said through their wise and visionary leadership, they were able to keep the organisation alive and competitive. He also singled out the organisation's management for keeping the organisation in shape, especially as the country struggled from the devastating drought last year.

"We all know how severe the consequences of the drought were on our economy in particular. Through team spirit and commitment, management was able to come up with strategies that kept the organisation and its investments alive. This year has been testing to the organisation, as the country's economy and development suffered serious setbacks as a result of the drought and other global economic challenges," he said.

The chief noted that despite all these challenges, the company continued to pursue its economic, social and cultural mandate including sustaining the bursary and scholarship support programmes and supporting the country's traditional ceremonies including Umhlanga, Baganu and Incwala.

# KING CALLS ON UN TO INTERVENE IN QATAR BLOCKADE

Stories by Bodwa Mbingo

His Majesty King Mswati III has made a plea to the United Nations (UN) for a peaceful solution to the continuing blockade imposed on the state of Qatar since early June by the Qatari neighbouring countries.

Speaking through his representative, Prince Lonkhokhela, during Qatar's National Day celebrations at the Royal Swazi Convention Centre on Thursday evening, the King noted that the ongoing blockade has the potential to affect the gains the State of Qatar has achieved in the recent past.

He hoped that an amicable solution will be found soon, in order to make sure that the country can refocus on its national objective of building a strong and vibrant economic state as he has no doubt that Qatar can make a significant contribution to the welfare of mankind.

"Peace is one of the cornerstones that promote economic development and is an agent of tolerance and coexistence.

This philosophy is in line with the objectives of our global body, the United Nations. The UN, therefore, has to continue advocating for peace where there is conflict. It has to make sure that mankind lives in harmony with each other.

"All citizens of this world deserve to enjoy peace and security at all times. As leaders of this world have set time frames to attain the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) by 2030, all nations of the world have a huge responsibility to make sure we support each other towards this global objective.

However, we can only achieve this global programme when there is peace in the world, no conflicts, we are free from diseases and other human challenges," remarked His Majesty.

The King further highlighted that through the two countries' healthy relations, Swaziland has benefitted immensely from that country's support in education and other training programmes aimed at capacitating Swazis in various



BAYETHE: His Majesty King Mswati III.

sectors. The King said the independence celebration presents an opportunity for both countries to renew and strengthen the warm and cordial relationship that happily exists between the two countries. He said the day presents a significant milestone in the history of Qatar and is a day of reflection of the country's achievements.

"We wish to congratulate His Highness Sheikh Tamin Bin Hamad Al-Thani,

Emir of Qatar, for the unity in common purpose.

### Ensured

This has ensured that the State of Qatar continues to develop economically, socially and politically in order to achieve the develop that it has attained.

The landscape of Qatar has developed to be at par with the rest of the developed world because of the unity of the people of Qatar," the King said.

## Qatar screams terrorism over unjust blockade

The State of Qatar consider as terrorism to act by the countries who have imposed an unjust blockade on the country having intervened in its internal affairs as the nation is currently subjected to a continuing blockade imposed since June 5th by neighbouring countries.

Qatar Ambassador to Swaziland, Yousuf Al-Mahmoud, speaking during the celebration of that country's National Day at Royal Swazi Convention Centre on Thursday evening noted that the sovereignty of the state is being undermined by putting pressure on its citizens through foodstuffs, medicine and ripping off relations to force them to change their political affiliation to destabilise a sovereign country hence they consider this to be terrorism in and of itself.

He said this illegal blockade was not confined to the economic aspect and the breach of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) Agreement but it exceeded that to violate the human rights conventions by the arbitrary measures that have caused social, economic and religious harm to thousands of citizens and residents of the GCC countries, due to the violation of the basic human rights to work, education, freedom of movement and the right to dispose of private property.

He said, however, things did not stop at this point, but the blockading countries went beyond that to chase their own citizens and residents of their territory by imposing penalties of imprisonment and fines on them for the mere expression of their sympathy with Qatar even if that was on social media, in a precedent never seen before in the world, in violation of the human rights conventions and agreements that guarantee the right of everyone to freedom of opinion and expression of ideas.

"The promotion and protection of human rights is an integral part of the vision of the wise leadership of the State of Qatar and one of the rock-hard pillars of building the state of institutions and law on which the state is proceeding at a steady and confident pace, thanks to the support and guidance of His High-

ness the Amir it is a great honor to find the State of Qatar to be one of the most active and advanced countries in the field of human rights at the Arab, regional and international levels. It is no secret to anyone the efforts of the State in the areas of health, education, housing and labor, social security, the independence of the judiciary, the promotion of the rights of women and children and the guarantee of all the rights of persons with disabilities, the elderly and other human rights fields. The blockade involves all aspects of life, including the intervention by these countries to rip off family ties," he remarked.

The ambassador said Qatar is currently managing its economy, development plans and its outreach to the outside world, with the availability of sea and air routes which these countries have no control over, with the credit going to the wise leadership of the country. He pointed out that the blockade was imposed abruptly and without warning,

prompting the Qataris to consider it as a kind of treachery. He said it seems that those who planned and implemented it had envisaged that their move would cause a shocking and direct impact that will bring the State of Qatar to its knees and to capitulate to a total tutelage to be imposed on it.

"And what is worse, the blockade planners found it is necessary to rely on fabricated quotes attributed to the Amir of Qatar 'May Allah Protect him' and posted on the website of Qatar News Agency after hacking it. The mobilised and guided media of these countries was ready to launch an all-out campaign of incitement prepared in advance in

which all values, morals and norms were breached, and the truth was infringed by a torrent of lies. Funds are still being spent unsparingly on the machine of faking and disseminating fabrications in the hope of fooling people by distorting the truth with lies.

"Despite the disclosure of the hacking and falsification of quotes of the Emir of a sovereign State, the blockading countries did not back down or apologize for lying, but rather intensified their campaign, in the hope that the blockade would cause a cumulative effect on the economy and the society of my country,

after it failed to bring about any direct impact," he stated.

Ambassador Al-Mahmoud noted that they were not alone to be taken by surprise by the imposition of the blockade, as many countries whose leaders have questioned its motives and reasons were also taken by surprise. He said the blockading countries have promised all those who asked them about the reasons of the

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*"The promotion and protection of human rights is an integral part of the vision of the wise leadership of the State of Qatar and one of the rock-hard pillars of building the state of institutions and law on which the State is proceeding at a steady and confident pace".*

blockade to provide them with evidence of their anti-Qatar absurd allegations and fabrications, which kept changing according to the identity of the addressee.

"Everyone is still waiting for evidence that did not and will not arrive, because it does not exist. In contrast, these allegations contradict a lot of evidence about Qatar's contribution to the fight against terrorism, which is recognised by the entire international community. I reiterate my thanks to the sisterly and friendly countries which recognize the significance of respecting the sovereignty of states and the rules of international law, for their appreciated stances which were, and still are, supportive of the

Qatari people during this crisis, in particular the Kingdom of Swaziland. The relations between the State of Qatar and the Kingdom of Swaziland are progressing and the cooperation between the two countries is witnessing growth and expansion in all fields, for our part we reaffirm the support of the State of Qatar to the efforts of His Majesty King Mswati III and the Government of the Kingdom of Swaziland in their endeavour to achieve first world status. We also wish the Kingdom of Swaziland success in preparing for the African Union summit to be hosted by the Kingdom of Swaziland in 2020," he said.

The ambassador also emphasised the keenness of the governments of the two countries to develop all aspects of cooperation between them in a way that strengthens the existing strong relations between the two friendly countries in light of the common desire of both countries to achieve their common goals and interests.

Speaking on the National Day celebrations, Ambassador Al-Mahmoud said the occasion represents a bright shiny spot in the history of the State of Qatar and the people of Qatar, a starting point for the establishment of the modern state, and also it is a day for them to be proud of the past, of their glorious country and its flourishing present, and an occasion of optimism for its promising future.

"When celebrating this occasion, it is an opportunity for us to assess the achievements made by the country in all fields and at all levels; therefore, it is the right of everyone to feel proud of the unprecedented progress achieved by the country which has made the State of Qatar become an example to follow. I would like to convey my deepest congratulations and blessings to His Highness Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani, Emir of Qatar, 'may Allah protect him', and to His Highness the Father Amir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, 'may Allah preserve him,' the Qatari people and each and every one resident in the generous State of Qatar," he concluded.



# INMATES BUILD MZUTHINI A DOUBLE-STOREY MANSION

## COVER STORY

By Sicelo Maziya

In what looks like a conflict of interests matter, inmates are alleged to have completed building a double storey house for His Majesty's Correctional Services Commissioner General Mzuthini Ntshangase at his rural home at Mkhwakweni in the Shiselweni region.

His Majesty's Correctional Services does have a programme where inmates are hired to do manual work for private citizens, a programme aimed at equipping them with skills.

HMCS' Assistant Public Relations Officer Mandla Sibiya insisted that the commissioner general just like everyone pays for the services of the inmates.

The inmates were reported to have been transported daily using government vehicles together with a contingent of officers to the remote area to construct their boss' mansion.

The exquisite house built on an eye catching landscape illuminates the rural community of Mkhwakweni, giving one the impression of 'Nkandlagate' both in terms of the state resources employed and the flashiness.

### Houses

Residents speak highly of the house and the entire Ntshangase family as they have built outstanding houses in the area.

In defending the Commissioner General, Sibiya said fees for the use of inmates were paid through an Endowment Fund held by the Central Bank of Swaziland.

Money recovered from the contracted work contributes to the Endowment Fund and helps in purchasing working tools for the inmates at the end of their rehabilitation.

It is not clear whether the Endowment Fund with Central Bank is active or not, who has contributed to it including the commissioner general.

None of the rehabilitated inmates



NKANDLA: Aerial view of the Ntshangase home in Mkhwakweni. (Pics: Sicelo Maziya)



MANSION: Front view of Ntshangase new house.



OLD HOME: The old house of ComGen.

have been fortunate to get tools from the fund, as the department alleges.

Sibiya said at the moment the department is looking towards the recently passed Correctional Services Bill to effectively distribute the tools to the rehabilitated offenders.

He further said it was not correct that the house was built from scratch but said it was being extended. Sibiya said officers had privileges to use offenders to help them in sharpening their skills through practical work in the different trade skills as part of their rehabilitation.

Sibiya declining to reveal the amount

paid by the commissioner general, however maintained that everyone was free to seek services of inmates.

"Anyone can write a letter to the commissioner general seeking services of inmates. One needs to provide transport and feed them. The instructors accompany the inmates in all projects for purpose of quality work as well as provision of the standard security," he said.

Sources within the department alleged that the house was built through contributions by all officers who were promoted under the leadership of the current commissioner general an alle-

gation refuted by the Sibiya.

Sibiya said the matter may be private but his boss used his own resources to build the house.

Sibiya further said there was no way the commissioner general could force the promoted officers to be him as he does not unilaterally handle the department's promotions, as there is a committee responsible. Sources alleged that a drove of promoted officers either under duress or voluntarily parted with their sizeable amount of their hard earned salaries to contribute towards building the huge state of the art house for their boss.

The house is already dubbed 'Nkandla' after the much publicised South African President Jacob Zuma's villa at his parental home of Nkandla in rural KwaZulu-Natal. It is believed to have come at a huge cost to the taxpayer in transportation and provision of security.

Sources also revealed that in many of his residences the commissioner general has been using the services of inmates.

Whilst junior officers have taken their boss to court over the implementation of an order that was issued by His Majesty King Mswati III regarding restructuring of ranks within the service, in the papers they are seeking an order of court compelling the commissioner general and Public Service Principal Secretary Evart Madlopha to implement Phase 2 of the Establishment Circular Number 2 of 2014, Phase 1 Restructuring of HMCS between the ranks of super-intendent and warden.

### Seeking

Furthermore, they are also seeking an order of court for the implementation of the said phase with effect from July 7, 2014 following the implementation of the first phase and further appointing an official referee for arbitration in this matter in terms of Section 2 and 5 of the arbitration Act of 1904.

The officers are represented by lawyer Leo Ndvuna Dlamini.

"It is common cause that this circular was Phase 1 of HMCS restructuring exercise which affected salary increases for the ranks of senior super-intendent to commissioner general at the exclusion of all officers between the ranks of Warden to Superintendent," the officers submitted in their court papers. The excluded officers according to papers were legally entitled to benefit subsequently after the implementation of the first phase and it is common knowledge as at the time of this application the second phase has not yet been implemented.

It is further submitted that this gross unreasonable delay in the implementation of the second phase is an unfair labour practice and a dispute of right as the announcement by the King and further the issue of the circular forms part of the terms and conditions of service within HMCS.

Sources within the department further revealed that a number of chief executive officers (CEO) have benefited immensely by using the inmates instead of hiring construction companies or individuals in construction.

By Sandile Nkambule

The ministry of agriculture has issued a strong warning to members of the public against foraging and consumption of wild mushrooms which pose a great danger.

As the season for the wild mushrooms emerges, the ministry stated that while it appreciates that mushrooms are a rare delicacy for most Swazis who cannot afford to buy them from retail shops, people should be warned that consumption of wild mushrooms poses a great danger due to them poisonous nature.

In a statement issued by the Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture,

## Beware of deadly sprouting wild mushrooms - Ministry warns

- Agriculture Ministry warns members of the public of the danger such mushrooms poses as season for its widespread emerges
- Members of the public advised to contact Malkerns Research Centre for mushroom development

Bongani Masuku yesterday, he stated that the recent fate of 15 family members that harvested and consumed wild mushrooms and fell sick was indication enough that more people, especially children will fall in the same risk of consuming poisonous mushrooms.

"If the recent wet and warm weath-

er accompanied with thunderstorms continue, they will provide a conducive environment for the sprouting of wild mushrooms and in this regard the ministry warns members of the public," Masuku said.

### Warned

He warned that firstly, it is not always easy to differentiate between toxic

and non-toxic species of mushrooms even for people a familiar with mushrooms.

Secondly, Masuku stated that it is not advisable to harvest and consume mushrooms unless one is definitely sure they are edible kind if in doubt they should not consume it at all.

The ministry according to Masuku

has among its technical units a section responsible for mushroom development based at the Malkerns research centre and anybody who wishes to grow mushrooms can contact the unit through which the ministry disseminates all information relating to mushroom development, production and utilisation.



# FULL RECOVERY FROM DROUGHT

Stories by Majaha Nkonyane



**ADDRESS:**  
Tibiyo Taka  
Ngwane  
Managing  
Director Dr  
Absalom  
Themba  
Dlamini  
addressing  
staff members  
during their end  
of year party at  
Sharma House  
yesterday.  
(Pics: Simon  
Shabangu)

Having survived the worst drought to hit the Southern African region in 2016, Tibiyo TakaNgwane Chairman Prince Fipha has noted the importance of full recovery from the drought. This is contained on the organisation's annual report for 2016.

"Full recovery from the drought is critical for Tibiyo TakaNgwane and the entire Swazi Nation. Achieving food security and food self-sufficiency remain key to the growth and sustainability of the nation," he said.

The 2016 drought period has been described by the chairman to have been a difficult year for the country as the drought affected both the business community and families.

The agriculture sector being the most affected as it suffered extensively owing to low rainfall and restricted irrigation, resulting in a substantial reduction in sugar production and other

crops.

Dlamini also noted that other parts of the country had to resort to water rationing, which was caused by rivers running dry. Farmers are said to have been forced to sell their stock at low prices in order to save the few that had remained, and this caused lots of inconvenience and health hazards. "Inflation reached a record high of 7.8 per cent in March 2016 driven by a steep increase in food prices as the drought intensified in the entire Southern Africa region.

Average inflation, however, for the year is expected to average at seven per cent compared to five per cent the previous year. Forecasts for 2017 show that inflation will remain above six per cent," he said.

Not only did the drought affect the agricultural sector, the manufacturing sector's output declined as well, largely due to poor demand in key export markets, mainly in South Africa and the Euro zone.

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT NATIONAL MAIZE CORPORATION



National Maize Corporation (NMC) is a fully state-owned enterprise established in 1985 and involved in the commodity trading of white maize, premium rice and sugar beans. NMC aims to be the number one choice for farmers by providing them with the most competitive and sustainable market for maize and other grains and cereals. The main objective of NMC's strategic plan is to support increased maize production so as to ensure a food secure country by 2022. NMC thus, seeks top calibre candidates to help fulfil this mission...



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### STOCK CONTROLLER/GRAIN STORAGE SPECIALIST (REF: AMRS-SCGS)

You will manage stock levels and replenishment of grain and products sold, maintain stock levels within the budget set by NMC as well as work with purchasing, warehouse and depots to ensure stock/inventory functions are carried out correctly. You will report to the CFO.

#### Key Performance Areas

- Ensuring that stock is kept safe and in compliance with all required standards
- Properly identifying stored product insects and ensuring proper and effective control through treatment scheduling
- Provide technical and professional back up to grain silos program
- Managing and maintaining grain and stocked product inventory including stock profiles and stock location
- Maintaining harmonious relationships with suppliers and vendors
- Ensuring integrity and accuracy of inventory management system
- Producing daily reports to ensure stock control

#### Minimum Qualifications and Experience

- Degree in Supply Chain Management/Stores Management/Grain Handling and Storage
- 3 years experience in grain handling, storage and management

### SALES REPRESENTATIVE (REF: AMRS - SREP)

You will promote/sell/secure orders from existing and prospective customers through a relationship-based approach in order to achieve maximum sales profit and growth. You will plan and forecast products acquisition, quality, supply chain and logistics. You will report to the Marketing and Communications Manager.

#### Key Performance Areas

- Selling products and services to current and potential customers
- Preparing action plan and schedules to identify specific targets and number of contracts to be made
- Formulating and implementing an annual merchandising plan
- Negotiating with suppliers and retail outlets for distribution
- Manage account services through quality checks and follow-ups
- Communicating new product and service opportunities, special development, information to Sales and Marketing
- Preparing presentations, proposal and sales contracts
- Organising, scheduling and staging retail sampling events
- Preparing monthly reports on activities and results

#### Minimum Qualifications and Experience

- Diploma or higher in Sales/Marketing
- 5 years experience in sales and marketing

### PROCUREMENT AND LOGISTICS OFFICER (REF: AMRS - PALO)

You will manage purchasing of goods and services as well as all fleet logistics. Receiving and dispatch of goods, managing stock levels and recording stock movement as well as monitoring abuse of vehicles to ensure distribution and overall objectives are met-cost effectively. You will report to the CFO.

#### Key Performance Areas

- Ensure full compliance and application of procurement policy
- Provide guidance and support on all tender issues and evaluations
- Develop and maintain effective supplier relationships
- Source price quotations and prepare purchase requisitions/orders
- Prepare monthly division reports to the CFO
- Ensure compliance to the Transport/Fleet management policy
- Direct daily activities of Fleet Management operations

#### Minimum Qualifications and Experience

- Degree in Business Management / Administration or related
- Degree in Procurement and Supply Chain Management a plus
- 5 years experience in related field
- Experience with fleet management systems

### HANDY MAN (REF: AMRS - HMAN)

You will perform repairs services to NMC buildings, plant and equipment. You will report to the Maintenance Technician.

#### Key Performance Areas

- Performing routine and scheduled maintenance of properties, plant and equipment including but not limited to:
- Painting, yard maintenance, hauling & dump runs
- Responding to emergency calls
- Performing routine inspections of property to check for maintenance problems.
- Completing daily work record forms and job assignment sheets

#### Minimum Qualifications and Experience

- Diploma in Electrical/Mechanical Engineering
- 3 years experience in highly industrialised environment

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Interested applicants should send their applications and CVs with three contactable references quoting the job title on the subject line, accompanied by certified academic qualifications to [carol.amrecruitment@gmail.com](mailto:carol.amrecruitment@gmail.com) on or before 22 December 2017. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. (Should you not receive feedback within 14 days after the closing date, you may consider your application unsuccessful.)



**REMARKS:** Chief Nduluhlaza Ndwa-ndwe speaking on behalf of the main committee chairman at the event.



**WELL EARNED:** Musa Ndlela was one of the employees who were awarded for long service.

## Tibiyo awards long serving employees

A total of five of Tibiyo TakaNgwane employees have received long service awards.

Dr Themba Dlamini congratulated these staff members for their contribution to the growth of the organisation over the years.

He said three have completed 30 years and two 20 years of services.

"Tibiyo congratulates these employees and wishes them many more productive years in the service of Tibiyo TakaNgwane."

### The long term service awards went to:

Joseph Msibi	30 years
Badelisile Vilane	30 years
Thoko Dlamini	30 years
Simanga Simelane	20 years
Lobuhle Dlamini	20 years



# CRITICAL - TIBIYO



**LISTENING:** Members of the Tibiyo Main Committee listening to speeches with newly appointed Tibiyo Main Committee members Neal Rijkenberg (2nd r) and Professor Cisco Magagula (r).

Tibiyo TakaNgwane Managing Director Dr Themba Dlamini noted on the negative impact the drought had on the country.

"The agricultural sector was the hardest hit,

the drought weighed heavily on growth and inflation. The country suffered from a severe drought which affected almost all sectors of the economy."



**ATTENTIVE:** Staff members listening to the speech by their chairman who was represented by the chief.



**ATTENDED:** Some of the staff members who attended the event.



**AWARDEES:** Tibiyo MD Dr Absalom Themba Dlamini and Chairman's representative Ndlaluhlaza Ndwandwe posing with the staff members who were awarded with long service awards during the ceremony.

## DESPITE DROUGHT EFFECTS... 20 per cent revenue increases

Despite having gone through a rough patch from the drought season in the previous year, Tibiyo was able to increase their revenue from E199 million in 2015 to E239 million in 2016.

Dr Dlamini added: "In spite of the adverse conditions, Tibiyo saw an increase in revenue from E199 million to E239 million. The main contributing factor to this positive growth was dividends received from investee companies," he said.

The investee companies in the sugar industry are said to have been able to counter the drought effects by adopting strategies that minimise the impact of the drought on budgeted profits. Dlamini said total assets grew from E1.7 billion to E1.8 billion which signified growth of seven per cent.

The company still relies heavily on sugar production which they have to monitor the performance of the industry and its development.

"According to the Swaziland Sugar Association (SSA), in the reporting period, sugar production increased by 1.3 per cent from 686 778 tonnes to 696 410 tonnes, whilst sales revenue grew by 12 per cent from E1.4 billion to E4.6 billion.

### Improvement

The increase in revenues was mainly due to an improvement in the average selling prices and increased sales volumes," he said.

The sugar industry embarked on strategies that focused on adequacy of water storage and harvesting infrastructure which is complemented with optimum irrigation systems.

Dr Dlamini said this was a strategy that they are focusing on going forward.

Challenges that were noted included increases in production costs which impact negatively on the competitiveness of the industry. They are also projected to slow down profitability and dampen sustainability.



**TOAST:** Tibiyo Main Committee members toasting.

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IN THE WAKE OF THE SUPREME COURT'S RULING ON LATE PHAKAMA CASE:

# PHAKAMA'S WILL GIVES 4 WIVES EQUAL SHARES

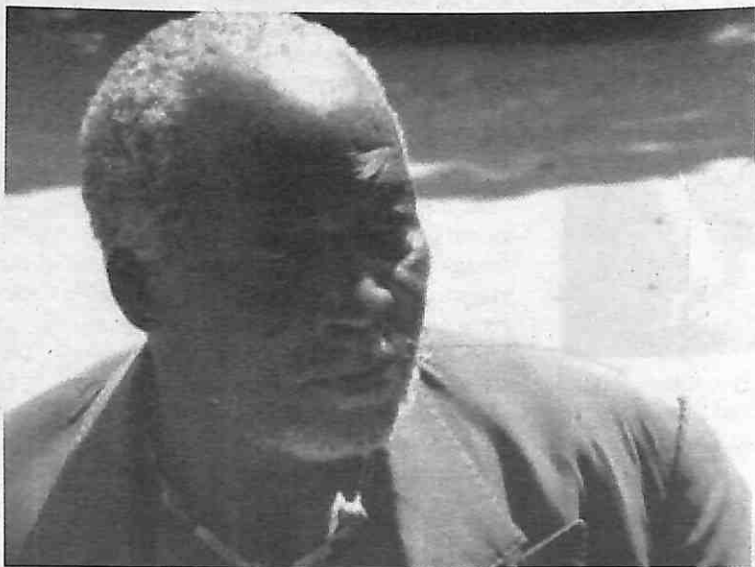
By Bodwa Mbingo

Following the Supreme Court's ruling setting aside Judge Mumcy Dlamini's judgment that Sarah Dlamini was married to businessman Richard 'Phakama' Dlamini in terms of civil rites and nullifying the latter's other three marriages, the deceased's Will is now expected to take primacy.

In an initial ruling, Judge Mumcy Dlamini found that Sarah Dlamini was married to the businessman in terms of civil rites and that the Swazi Law and Custom marriages of the late businessman to Martha Makhanya of Mcaphozini, Jenneth Sihlongonyane of Makhanya and Cecelia Makhanya of Ezulwini were bigamous. The judge also ordered the entry records of the subsequent marriages to be expunged from the registry of Births, Marriages and Deaths. The three women filed an appeal to Judge Dlamini's ruling.

A fortnight ago, the Supreme Court allowed the appeal and set aside Judge Dlamini's decision. The CJ, who sat with Judges Majahenkhaba Dlamini and Jacobus Annandale, dismissed the application filed by Sarah, who died before the appeal was heard, and ordered that costs be borne by the Estate.

The CJ said the matter was abstract, hypothetical and academic and that not all interested parties were heard and joined in the proceedings. Maphalala



WILL WARS: The late Richard 'Phakama' Dlamini.

stated that the businessman was denied the opportunity to be heard and that Sarah died before the appeal was heard.

He said it should be noted that the application was lodged with a view to bolster the applicant's resolve to be appointed the executor of Richard's estate which was why the appointment of the executor stayed pending finalisation of the matter. Makhanya, Sihlongonyane and Cecelia were represented by Ben Simelane while Thandeka Hlabangana appeared on behalf of Sarah.

The Observer on Saturday can reveal that the last wishes of the late public transport operator and Senator Richard Themba Dlamini of Phakama Bus

Service were that his four wives equally held a 20 per cent shares at Phakama Investment, each holding five per cent.

## Trust

He said whilst 50 per cent was held in his name, the remaining 30 per cent were to be transferred to a Trustee to hold the said shares in trust on behalf of all his children. Dlamini then appointed one of his sons, Muzi, as the Trustee who should make sure that his wives earn E2 500 per month for the sustenance of their respective households.

The late Phakama, who owned about 60 cattle before he died, also wished that each of his three wives, LaMakhanya, LaSihlongonyane and LaMakhanya get five each while the

remainder is given to his first wife LaKunene.

He put his wishes on paper in the form of a Will and Testament before he passed away in December 2013. The Will proves very much against the move his first wife; Sarah Dlamini (nee Kunene) who approached the High Court and successfully got the ruling by Judge Mumcy Dlamini who nullified Dlamini's three other marriages.

LaKunene, whom it is said he married through civil rites, ran to court seeking an order to declare those marriages null and void.

The Will signed by Dlamini in Manzini on 28 August 2009 clearly states that he was of a sound mind, memory, understanding and judgment and was capable of making the Will.

"I own and hold 50 per cent shares in the company Phakama Investments (PTY) LTD. I bequeath shares to my wives as follows: LaKunene five per cent shares; LaMakhanya five per cent shares, LaSihlongonyane five per cent shares and LaMakhanya five per cent shares.

"The remaining 30 percent shares shall be transferred to a trustee who

shall hold the said shares in trust on behalf of all my children.

"I appoint my son, Muzi Dlamini, as trustee for the purposes of the above. Upon his demise the next trustee shall be appointed by consensus among my surviving children at the time. Failing such consensus, it shall be the eldest child," reads part of the Will.

The Will further points out that the proceeds from the shares shall be for the benefit of all of his children according to their needs from time to time.

It mandates the trustee to exercise his discretion in dealing with the needs, giving preference to sustenance, health and education of minor children.

On the cattle, Dlamini specified that they should remain in his farm if the new owners so wish.

"It is my wish that the farm and the plot of land at Malkerns should not be sold, but must be kept for the benefit of my future generations," he added in the Will.

Dlamini further nominated his cousin Isaac Jiva Dlamini, who resides at Lavundlamanti near Siphofaneni, as the Executor of his estate upon his death. He provided that Jiva should not be required to furnish security for the purposes of Executorship.



## BUNYE BETFU COOPERATIVE BOARD MEMBER SUSPENDED

- Joachim Shongwe has filed urgent application at the High Court where he is challenging his suspension
- Argues he is lawfully in office after being elected by members during amass meeting this year

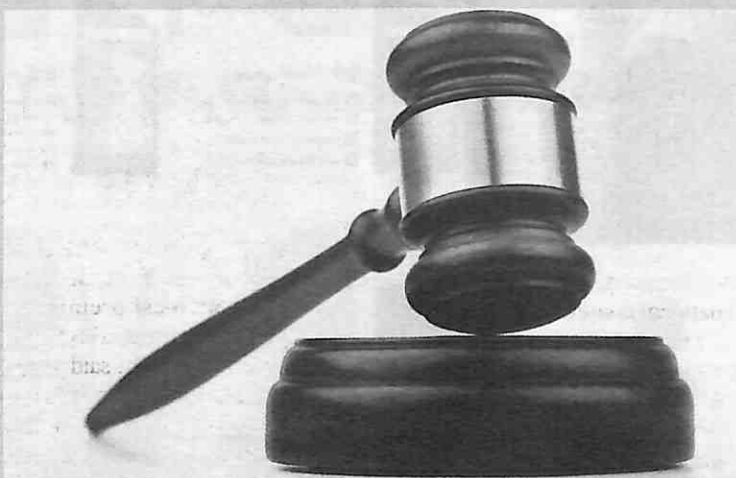
By Sandile Nkambule

Board member of government employees' savings scheme, Bunye Betfu Buhle Betfu Savings and Credit Cooperative has taken the cooperative and the Financial Services Regulatory Authority (FSRA) to court after being removed from office.

Joachim Shongwe, who is attached to the Fire and Emergency Services Department, has filed an urgent application at the High Court where he is seeking an order compelling and directing the cooperative and FSRA to allow him to occupy his position as a member of the board of directors as lawfully elected by members into office.

Represented by lawyer Leo Ndvuna Dlamini, Shongwe in his papers submitted that he has been with the cooperative as a member since 1990 and was elected treasurer from 2002 to 2009 and during that period there were misunderstandings between the board and members.

A commission of enquiry was



launched as a result according to Shongwe to look into the matters that caused the misunderstandings and a report that was compiled thereafter pointed some queries regarding his name.

The report, according to Shongwe was taken to the members during a mass meeting and its contents were dismissed and recommendations were that the committee, including himself, should resume work in office.

He submitted that the task team suspended him following the report and he did not take part in office activities for a year.

## Exercise

However in 2006 Shongwe stated that a *vusela* exercise was conducted in which a candidate was being solicited to represent the Hhohho region and he was elected in a meeting that was held in Mbabane.

A mass meeting was thereafter

called and all the elected members at regional level were introduced and in 2017 there was due to be another mass meeting where members of the board of directors were to be elected and that meeting was eventually held at the Metropolitan Evangelical Church.

The Swaziland National Association of Teachers (SNAT) was appointed to conduct the elections according to Shongwe in his affidavit and he had already applied for the position as per the regulations of the cooperative and he was listed as those who qualified for the position.

"The elections went smoothly up to the end at the meeting that was held at the Metropolitan Church and I was eventually elected as member of the Credit Committee after amassing 233 votes," Shongwe submitted.

However, SNAT later received a report which had matters for board considerations and part of the report was a complaint about Shongwe and SNAT is also said to have received calls with some raising concerns on why Shongwe stood for the elections.

However, Shongwe submitted that SNAT exonerated itself in disqualifying him from standing for the elections and referred queries to the Bunye Betfu.

It was not until December 4, that he was informed during a meeting at the cooperative's boardroom that a report from FSRA was read to him informing him that he must no longer attend board activities until FSRA finishes its investigations.

When he asked for a copy of the said report from FSRA, Shongwe said none was furnished to him as the chairperson said she needed to get advice from FSRA first before giving him the report.

However on December 5, he was called by the chairperson to come to the office and that is when he was served with the letter suspending him from board activities, hence he brought the present proceedings before court.

He submitted that the matter is urgent because the respondents are refusing to allow him into office despite that he was lawfully elected by members and has been legally in office.



# Monopoly capital on ANC conference agenda

**JOHANNESBURG** - The issue of monopoly capital will again feature on the agenda at the African National Congress (ANC)'s 54th national elective conference. The event, which will see the party elect its new top six leadership, gets underway in Johannesburg today. The ANC's internal discussion on monopoly capital is far from over. The chair of the party's subcommittee on political education says it would be disingenuous not to debate what the concept fully entails. "The phenomenon and the concept itself is an anti-thesis of what

the movement stands for.

Even if tomorrow SA develops, or whatever happens and you have black monopoly capital, that would still not be in sync with what the ANC stands for. It's disingenuous to not describe what we are faced with because if you don't do that, you are confusing people," Nathi Mthetwa said.

He said it is incorrect and misguided to attribute the concept of white monopoly capital to now-defunct public relations agency Bell Pottinger. The Strategy and Tactics document was presented at the pol-



**DISINGENUOUS:** Nathi Mthetwa.

icy conference in June. Now provinces will give their input before it is adopted at the national conference. *eNCA*

# ANC too sick to go to conference - MK Council

**JOHANNESBURG** - With the African National Congress (ANC) leadership having boycotted a consultative conference to deal with continued infighting, the party's 54th national conference faced a risk of disintegration, the uMkhonto We Sizwe (MK) National Council said yesterday.

MK council executive committee member Len Rasegatla said the governing party was "too sick" to go to conference. "We have been on record saying that something had to be done to quell the sickness grappling the ANC."

The issue of conference collapsing is not far fetched, but we also want to appeal to delegates to make sure that does not happen," Rasegatla told reporters in Johannesburg.

He would not say which of the two frontrunners' slates, that of Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa or Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma would pose problems at the conference.

The ANC military wing that consisting of former MK soldiers said



it would not name its preferred leader to take over from President Jacob Zuma. Its secretary Thabang Makwetla said time was of the essence for Africa's oldest liberation movement to unite.

"We have in our hands an athlete [ANC] that is sick and unfit for the race he must compete in. Time is of the essence and we as former members of the uMkhonto We Sizwe through our struggle, will do every-

thing to ensure that we strengthen the historical relationship the ANC must have with our people through this conference and beyond."

The council will field 20 delegates to the Nasrec conference, same number accorded to the rival MK structure, the MK Military Veterans (MKMVA) led by Kebby Maphatsoe.

The two warring organisations claim to represent the interests of the former MK soldiers, but are yet

to form a united front. The MKMVA is backing Dlamini-Zuma to lead the ANC.

The council has criticised Zuma for his support of the MKMVA, and accused him of sowing divisions by choosing which MK conference to attend after he snubbed the council's June conference. Ramaphosa addressed the council members at the conference.

The conference, labelled as the most important in the ANC's history, will see delegates voting for their preferred top six leaders and NEC members.

The conference will also examine and come up with new policies ahead of the 2019 general elections. Seven presidential hopefuls have put up their hands to take over from Zuma, but Ramaphosa and the former African Union (AU) chairwoman Dlamini-Zuma have emerged as front runners for the ANC top job. Voting for the new ANC president takes place tomorrow.

*African News Agency*

## Disruptions as ANC conference delegates register

**JOHANNESBURG** - There have already been reports of disruptions as African National Congress (ANC) delegates start registering for the party's elective congress.

The gathering kicks off at Nasrec in southern Johannesburg today. Registration and credentials are expected to be a contentious issue, with a number of court cases across the country challenging the legitimacy of the delegations by the various provinces.

Speculation is rife that the conference might be called off, but according to *eNCA*'s Thulasizwe Simelane, this is not likely to happen. Yesterday afternoon, the Free State ANC PGC was ruled unlawful, but the province will still be allowed to send certain delegates to the elective congress. *eNCA*



## Free State ANC PGC ruled unlawful

**JOHANNESBURG** - The Free State ANC can still send delegates from certain branches to the national elective conference, starting today, even though it's provincial elective congress has been ruled as having been unlawful.

Disgruntled party members were trying to block the province from sending delegates to the conference.

They want the court to nullify the provincial elective conference. The group failed to block the provincial conference which ended on Monday.

Members are unhappy, saying the province contravened a court order halting the conference.

The High Court ordered that 29 ANC branches rerun branch meetings that elected delegates to the national conference. *eNCA*

## Court rules ANC KZN leadership must vacate office

**DURBAN** - An execution order was granted in the African National Congress (ANC) KwaZulu-Natal "rebels" case yesterday, meaning the party's provincial leadership must vacate office.

The 27 provincial executive committee (PEC) members who were to attend the ruling party's national conference - which starts today - will now be attending as branch delegates, not as PEC members.

The Pietermaritzburg High Court also

granted the party leave to appeal its September ruling in which it found that the 2015 provincial conference was declared null and void.

At that conference, current provincial Chairman Sihle Zikalala ousted incumbent Senzo Mchunu. Mchunu was fired as premier a few months later. While the matter is on appeal, the September ruling stands.

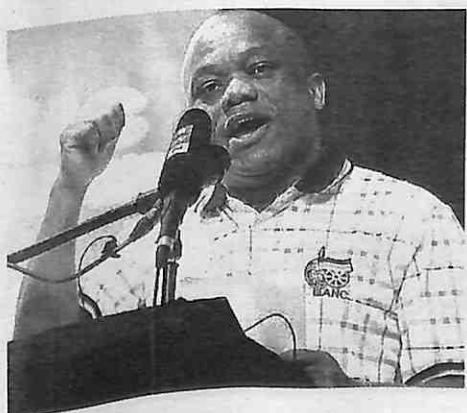
About an hour before the judgment was delivered, ANC Secretary General Gwede Mantashe said that the party was

waiting for "proper communication" on the KZN judgment.

"If it nullifies the PEC, it will only impact on the 27 PEC members, not delegates," he said at a press briefing on the party's state of readiness for the national conference.

The province has thrown its weight behind Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma to take the reins of the ruling party's presidency, while the "rebels" are backing Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa.

*African News Agency*



**STILL WAITING:** ANC Secretary General Gwede Mantashe.

## Further threats to kill North West premier

**RUSTENBURG** - There are threats to kill North West premier Supra Mahumapelo and his family, the premier's office said yesterday. "This shocking information was brought to Mahumapelo's attention by sources that are concerned about attempts to silence him."

The sources, whose identity cannot be disclosed at this stage, have revealed that the plan to take away Mahumapelo's life and that of his family is politically motivated," spokesperson Brian Setswambung said.

He said according to the source, the mastermind behind the plan was a former employee in the office of the premier and was alleged to be working with a syn-

dicate to execute the plan.

"These threats will not deter me from serving the people of Bokone Bophirima, they will instead strengthen my resolve to work harder and deliver services to the people," Mahumapelo said in a statement.

Mahumapelo told the ANC provincial general council in October in Rustenburg that he knew of nine people who wanted him dead.

Former Mahikeng local municipality councillor, Eunice Legatladi, accused of conspiracy to kill Mahumapelo was sentenced to five years imprisonment at the Lehurutshe Regional Court in October.

*African News Agency*



# SUPER SPAR GRAND OPENING

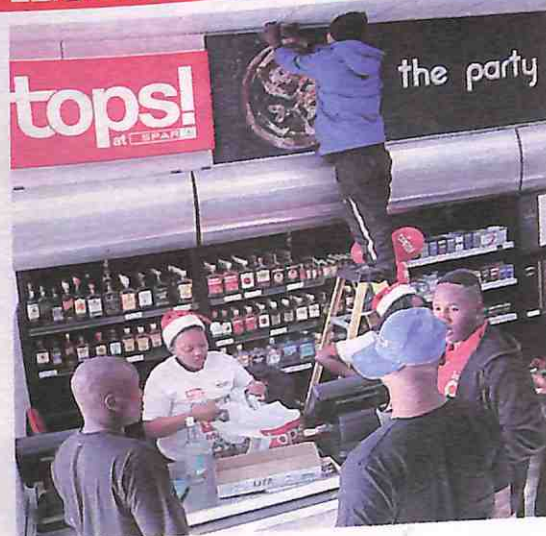


**BREAKING NEW GROUND:** Manzini residents witnessed the opening of yet another massive shopping complex by the Buy 'n Save Group which has a Super Spar, among other outlets. The complex located opposite The George Hotel, opened its doors to the public yesterday with massive specials on many grocery items. People came in their numbers to take advantage of the specials. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)

EZIBANDAYO

tops!

the party



**ADVANTAGE:** Customers took advantage of the opening specials at Tops, which is a liquor store outlet.



**RIGHT HERE:** Store Manager Bongani Dlamini and one of the staffers setting up a display for their customers on the beverages special.



**BUSY:** It was a busy day for the staff as shoppers were bustling to buy groceries and other items which were on special.



**FESTIVE:** Customers flocked to do their shopping at the newly opened Super Spar.



**CUISINE:** A section of the deli department offered at the Spar.



## PRESS STATEMENT ON THE ONGOING SRA STRIKE

The Federation of Swaziland Employers and Chamber of Commerce (FSE&CC) is gravely concerned by the ongoing industrial action between the Swaziland Revenue Authority (SRA) and its internal trade union, the Swaziland Revenue Authority Workers Union (SRAWU).

The FSE&CC acknowledges the rights of employees and their employers to engage in collective bargaining and in particular, to invoke strike and lock-out procedures, as a means of persuasion. However, the parties hereto are urged to seek an amicable resolution of their dispute and to negotiate in good faith, being mindful of the negative effect that their industrial action is having on the business community, tax-paying citizens and the national economy. In the alternative, the parties are urged to consider alternate dispute resolution means such as arbitration.

As per its previous communications even before the inception of the ongoing strike, the FSE&CC urges the national authorities, in particular the Ministry of Labour & Social Security (MoLSS), the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade, to intervene in this matter. Such intervention is consistent with the International Labour Organisation's principles on collective bargaining in the public sector, which allow a measure of flexibility in bargaining processes,

particularly in times of severe economic distress. In light of Government's current cash-flow crisis, it is in the national interest to intervene in this strike;

- As the strike impedes cross-border trade, which in turn informs the already declining SACU receipts;
- As appears in media reports, shortages in foodstuff, medication and other essential items are now being experienced, as a consequence of the strike;
- Failure to collect revenue would affect Government's many other obligations which it is already struggling to discharge, which include paying monthly salaries, its suppliers, old-age grants, purchasing medication and fertilizer and the provision of services i.e. diesel for tractors and vehicles.
- Failure to collect revenue would affect the Lilangeni's pegging to the Rand, which if removed would result in super-inflation;

It is the position of the FSE&CC that the failure by the parties and in particular by Government, to resolve the ongoing industrial action is a great disservice to the Swazi nation and it is akin to holding it at ransom. We have only one Swaziland and we should all work together toward preserving it for posterity.



Swaziland Investment Promotion Authority

## OFFICE CLOSURE

The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of the Swaziland Investment Promotion Authority (SIPA) wishes to advise the nation that its offices will be closed from the 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017 and will resume normal operations on the 08<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

For emergency please call

Mr. Mandla  
78023491

Martin Masilela  
78023486

MANAGEMENT





# CHRISTMAS PROMO

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 <p><b>MZANZI RICE 10KG</b> <b>E86<sup>99</sup></b></p>	 <p><b>PARBOILED RICE (10KG)</b> <b>E68<sup>99</sup></b></p>	 <p><b>FIRST BROWN SUGAR (3KG)</b> <b>E33<sup>99</sup></b></p>	 <p><b>LUKHOTSE MAIZE MEAL 10KG</b> <b>E54<sup>99</sup></b></p>	 <p><b>BUHLALU RICE 10KG</b> <b>E89<sup>99</sup></b></p>	 <p><b>C&amp;B MAYONNAISE (750G)</b> <b>E20<sup>99</sup></b></p>
 <p><b>BAKERS SELF RAISING FLOUR (2.5KG)</b> <b>E25<sup>99</sup></b></p>	 <p><b>LIQUIFRUIT 100% FRUIT JUICE (1L)</b> <b>E14<sup>99</sup></b></p>	 <p><b>OROS (2L)</b> <b>E29<sup>99</sup></b></p>	 <p><b>SUPA KOOL JUICE 1L (BUY 2 GET 1 FREE)</b> <b>E5<sup>99</sup></b></p>	 <p><b>SUNNY MASS 2L</b> <b>E22<sup>95</sup></b></p>	 <p><b>SUN SUN COOKING OIL 2L</b> <b>E36<sup>99</sup></b></p>
 <p><b>SUN SUN POLONY (2KG)</b> <b>E33<sup>99</sup></b></p>	 <p><b>SUNNY MACARONI &amp; SPAGHETTI</b> <b>E7<sup>99</sup></b></p>	 <p><b>KNORR PACKET SOUPS (60G)</b> <b>E3<sup>99</sup></b></p>	 <p><b>GLENRYCK PILCHARDS</b> <b>E16<sup>99</sup></b></p>		
 <p><b>UMCENG MILK (6X1L)</b> <b>E69<sup>99</sup></b></p>	 <p><b>SUN SUN SAUSAGES (1.8KG)</b> <b>E45<sup>99</sup></b></p>	 <p><b>KOO BAKED BEANS (150G)</b> <b>E8<sup>99</sup></b></p>	 <p><b>SUNNY LEMON CREAMS MARIE BISCUITS (150G)</b> <b>E3<sup>99</sup></b></p>		
 <p><b>SUNLIGHT LAUNDRY 500G</b> <b>E10<sup>99</sup></b></p>	 <p><b>SUNNY GREEN BAR 1KG</b> <b>E10<sup>99</sup></b></p>	 <p><b>SUNLIGHT BANDED PACK COMBO</b> <b>E30<sup>99</sup></b></p>	 <p><b>CUTE KIDS BABY NAPPIES (20's)</b> <b>E26<sup>99</sup></b></p>		
 <p><b>SUNLIGHT HANDWASHING POWDER 2KG</b> <b>E34<sup>99</sup></b></p>					

AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING OUTLETS: MAHLANYA, MATHANGENI, NCENCE, LUYENGO



# INDUSTRIAL COURT REGISTRAR'S TRANSFER: JUDGE RECUSES HIMSELF

By Sandile Nkambule

The matter in which Industrial Court Registrar Agrippa Bhembe is challenging the chief justice on his transfer to Nhlanguano as Magistrate, yesterday failed to resume as Industrial Court Judge after Dumsani Mazibuko recused himself.

When the matter first appeared in court on Wednesday, Judge Mazibuko had postponed it for yesterday where both parties were expected to argue on points of law after having filed all their papers.

However, yesterday Judge Mazibuko, who was seated with his Assessors, indicated that he is recusing himself from the matter citing perception from members of the public owing to the fact that he has been working closely with the Registrar.

## Respondents

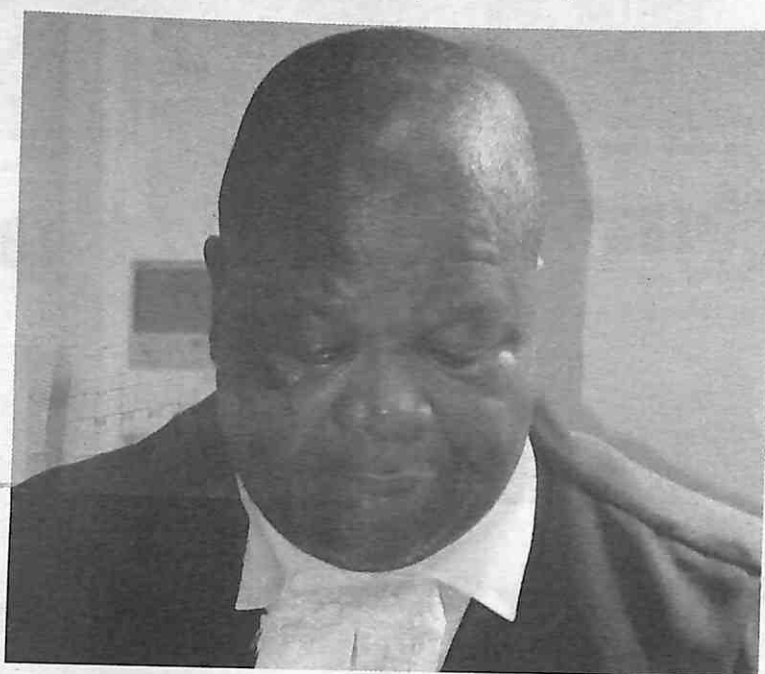
Following his recusal, both counsel senior attorneys Zweli Jele for the respondents, and Mandla Mkhwanazi for the applicant, were advised by Judge Mazibuko to approach Judge President Sifiso Nsibande's personal assistant in order to have an audience with him and see a way forward on who will eventually hear the matter.

Immediately after the matter was removed from Judge Mazibuko's roll, both counsel made arrangement to see the judge president in his chambers.

The recent transfers orchestrated by

• Industrial Court Judge Dumsani Mazibuko yesterday recused himself from the matter on grounds that public may have wrong perception, Registrar has been working closely with him

• Matter that was due for arguments yesterday failed to kick-off, Judge Mazibuko referred both counsel to judge president of the Industrial Court



CHALLENGED: Chief Justice Bheki Maphalala.

the Chief Justice (SC) Bheki Maphalala at the High Court did not sit well with some of the affected parties as Bhembe is not content with his transfer and subsequent appointment as a magistrate based in Nhlanguano.

He has since taken the chief justice to court where he is challenging his

transfer.

The chief justice, in his capacity as the Judicial Service Commission (JSC) chairman, has been cited as the first respondent in the matter which is before the Industrial Court.

Cited as the second respondent is the Attorney General while Princess

Khulekile Malinga, who is replacing Bhembe as Registrar, has been cited as the third respondent.

Bhembe is seeking an order of court reviewing and setting aside the unilateral decision taken by the CJ to appoint and transfer him as Nhlanguano Magistrate and further a declaration that the aforesaid transfer is unlawful, unfair and irregular, void ab initio and with no further effect.

Further, Bhembe is seeking an order of court interdicting and restraining the CJ from effecting the transfer and appointment.

According to Bhembe in his papers filed before court, he was invited by the chief justice without informing him what the purpose of the invitation was and when in his chambers, the CJ informed him that he had been considered for the position of Nhlanguano Magistrate despite that he had never applied for the position.

The position was amongst magistrates vacancies that were advertised in December in the local print media.

Bhembe said he explained to the first respondent that he was aware of the advertisements but had no interest in the position because of the workload that comes along with it and cat-

egorically declined to be considered for that unsolicited appointment.

"To my surprise and dismay on December 4, 2017, the first respondent issued me with a letter purporting to appoint and transfer me to the position of a magistrate serving at Nhlanguano Magistrate's Court. I challenged the respondent's unilateral actions of transferring me from my position as Registrar by writing a grievance letter," Bhembe submitted.

He stated that following the discussion and directive from the CJ that he would be appointed to the position of magistrate, he received a letter from him purporting that the appointment was after due consultations and further directed him to vacate his office and hand over the keys to the Industrial Court President (Sifiso Nsibande).

Bhembe, who is represented by Mkhwanazi Attorneys, stated in his papers that he vehemently declined to take the position of magistrate which was being imposed on him without him having applied for same and interviewed to that regard.

## Submitted

He submitted that his present workstation, is Mbabane where he lives with his family and children all of whom are attending school in Mbabane and that the transfer to Nhlanguano will necessitate that he also relocates his children and dependants to Nhlanguano and find alternative spaces at schools from that town, which is impossible as schools have already closed.

He said whilst constitutionally he has a right to be heard and to be treated justly and fairly, save from being asked by the first respondent why he did not apply for the position of magistrate, he was not invited to consultations to discuss the issue of his intended transfer.

# Dilapidated rondavels to be demolished - Isaac

Stories by Alec Lushaba  
(Editor)

National Commissioner of Police Isaac Magagula says the dilapidated rondavels which were captured by the Observer on Saturday at Zakhele Police Camp will be demolished.

Magagula reacted to the newspaper story on the state of police housing and promotions carried by weekly publications last weekend during his end of year conference for senior officers and senior civilians at the Police Academy on Thursday.

The conference had been graced by the presence of the prime minister.

He said whilst it is true that some police officer live in old houses, it is equally true that government has responded positively to the challenge of housing affecting the entire public servants through the institutional housing programme.

"A number of our camps have one or more new blocks of flats, which is a direct response to the challenge. It suffices to say that Rome was not built in one day and even this problem which has become entrenched cannot be solved instantaneously," he said. The national commissioner said it is equally true that those rondavels which were captured were used by police support staff, but from hindsight it is clear that they have become an eyesore, hence the need to demolish them.



TO BE DEMOLISHED: This is vintage but it is shameful to call it housing for police officers stationed at Zakhele.

With regards to Lundzi Border Post houses which were affected by the storm, he was informed that alternative housing was secured for the officers, whilst efforts to rehabilitate them are ongoing.

Magagula appealed to the media to be also appreciative of the government's efforts to address the problem, not only affecting police officers but the entire public service. With regards to the promotions issue, Magagula said it boggles the mind why the fourth estate appears overly keen to exercise its oversight responsibility when it comes to the police, whereas even other government functionaries do effect promotions as a corporate prac-

tice aimed at improving supervision and organisational efficiency.

He said promotions are not done in a knee-jerk manner or at whim nor without due regard to the prevailing socio-economic factors. "Rather, they are processed with strict observance to government policy and procedures," he said.

Magagula further stated that the filling of vacant posts through promotions is done after critically appraising the desirability thereof, particularly after striking the right balance between the interests of security and other economic factors. He said in a scenario where security is compromised, there can be no viable economic

# PM thanks King for Police College upgrade

Prime Minister Dr. Sibusiso Dlamini has thanked His Majesty King Mswati III for his landmark pronouncement in which the Police College was upgraded to an Academy, equating it with other institutions of higher learning in the country.

The premier was speaking at the official opening ceremony of the 2017 End of Year Conference for senior officers and senior civilian support staff held at Matsapha Police Academy on Thursday.

He also thanked the King for the highly motivating effect of the award of service medals in various categories.

"The upgrading of a number of positions at strategic, tactical and operational levels will also serve to recognise and reward the respective skills and experience demanded by those ranks," he said.

progress." It is on this premise that one astute British politician opined that security can never and should not be compromised. "What would be worthy of being noted is that promotions are financed from the already appropriated budget for the police and there is no additional cost borne by government outside the approved budget. The insinuation that police utilise funds that should have otherwise be channeled for other social

He said the fact that police hold a conference of this nature on an annual basis, as a matter of routine, reflects well on its discipline and efficient organisation.

"On the other hand, the conference should never be allowed to become just a matter of routine, so to speak. It has to be utilised to its full potential. Whilst it is certainly just and fair to voice satisfaction when reflecting on the achievements of the year, it is also an indispensable forum for critical self-examination. And the more vigorous that introspection the healthier the outcome. Regardless of past achievements, the process of continuing to set to set the bar higher each year is the most productive route to excellence, which is precisely what the Swazi Nation wants from its police service," the premier noted.

challenges and programmes that are the responsibility of government is way off the mark and does nothing but set the organisation against the nation. It is also cause for concern that the proclaimed monthly expenditure on promotions was not valued with us but was simply bandied about to create unnecessary antagonism between the police and the cap-tive readership," the national commissioner said.



# Manzini Council got less than E1m from E11.5m invested in a pyramid

By Ackel Zwane

**M**unicipal Council of Manzini was paid a paltry E940 216.52 of the E11.5 million capital projects money invested in a collapsed pyramid scheme dubbed Corporate Money Managers (CMM). According to the CMM 21 month report of 31 January 2016, Swaziland Posts and Telecommunications Corporation received from the curators E168 280 and both state entities got E1 108 496.52.

There is no mention whether the balance of over E10 million would ever be recovered either from those who authorised the investment or from insurers. Money paid out to other investors was E707 997.97 and Dynamic Wealth Stockbrokers got E4382 956.42, according to the curators at JRG Polson, L Strydom and PH Strydom.

The Central Bank of Swaziland, which facilitated the transfer of the funds to CMM South Africa, did not respond to our queries on its efforts in trying to recoup the botched investment under a municipal council when Owen Nxumalo was mayor and Anglican Bishop Ellinah Wamukoya was the chief executive while Lindiwe Dlamini was housing minister.

"We have succeeded in securing and realising a number of valuable assets, some of which have been sold, as described in our previous reports. Other assets which have been retained will be dealt with in this report. We have extensively litigated with a plethora of defendants and respondents since our appointment. The bulk of the litigation was successful and resulted in the recovery of assets, with favourable concomitant costs orders in the curatorship favour. One or two matters were not successful, but ultimately successfully settled without a negative result for the curatorship. Dream World, Kufa Trading and Alizay come to mind, where although it was settled by paying the shareholders and other creditors, a large asset was secured without dispute or the further incurrence of legal expenditure for the curatorship," say the curators in their report.

They add that due to, inter alia, the provisions of the FICA legislation and the court application launched by the liquidators of Dynamic Wealth Stockbrokers (Pty) Ltd (in liquidation), they could not make the second dividend to Dynamic when they paid the other investors. Some investors failed to provide them with their FICA documents, resulting in payment only being made after 31 January 2016.

They say they managed to conclude investigation and the audit, where after they made payment to the liquidators of Dynamic Wealth Stockbrokers. They also made payment to other investors who did not receive their second dividend.

The High Court of Pretoria on application of the executive officer of the Financial Services Board of South Africa granted an order on April 29, 2009, placing the business of the Corporate Money Managers (Pty) Ltd and other associated legal entities under provisional curatorship. The order was confirmed and extended on a number of occasions, inter alia, extending the curators' powers and placing the businesses of a number of other entities under curatorship. "We as curators have filed numerous reports, the latest which reflected the status of the curatorship as at the February 29, 2016, on the March 2, 2016. The report referred to above was noted by the above court on May 19, 2016. This court again extended the curatorship ordering, the curators to report to court by March 31, 2016 on a number of subjects that was included in the order."

The curators were ordered to deal

**BOTCHED INVESTMENT: Former Manzini Mayor, Minister Owen Nxumalo.**



with the following: the status of the curatorship as at February 28, 2017. The costs of the curatorship incurred from February 1, 2016 to January 31, 2017. An overview of assets alienated and how the proceeds or other assets of the curatorship were/are intended to be distributed. Further irregularities found to have been committed by the entities, or their officers or management or by other persons, not reported on before, and the state of any prosecution which may have been instituted. Details of the status of civil actions which may have been instituted by or against the curators over the reporting period. A detailed plan concerning the future of the curatorship which estimated timelines and cost implications for the different projects in which investor funds have been invested, such plan to indicate further: which of the entities have over the reporting period been or are likely to be liquidated; which entities may become the subject of a scheme of arrangement; which entities business are probably expected to remain under curatorship. A motivation as to whether the continued appointment of three curators to undertake and overs the future of the curatorship is still warranted. Any recommendations as to how the curatorship or any related matter should be dealt with as from February 28, 2017.

In a 2012 summons served on big four banks, the fund and the three curators of Corporate Money Managers (CMM), on behalf of investors, aimed to recoup just over E1 billion that was allegedly not properly invested. CMM was placed in curatorship by the Financial Services Regulatory Board in 2009, because it could not meet its repayment commitments, and funds it was meant to manage were not invested in accordance with

the law. ABSA Bank had been appointed to act as a trustee and had certain oversight facilities that the curators allege it did not carry out.

In 2004, the Altron Group Pension Fund, a separate legal entity that handled the JSE-listed company's staff retirement fund, entrusted CMM with one per cent of its pension fund and invested E57 million through CMM and its associated entities.

The curators – Pieter Strydom, Graeme Polson and Louis Strydom – as well as Altron's pension fund are listed as plaintiffs in the summons. In the claim, the parties argue that ABSA failed in its duties and did not protect investors.

ABSA allegedly failed to make sure it detected that Altron's funds were invested the way they should have been and also did not ensure sufficient control over investments carried out by CMM, argues the summons. The bank also did not pick up that CMM was "committing irregularities," alleges the claim.

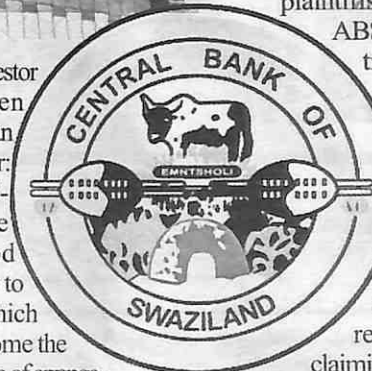
"It failed to detect that CMM falsified its statements and disclosures to investors" and its actions were wrongful, and unlawful, argue the plaintiffs. They also argue that

ABSA misrepresented the true state of the situation and is liable for losses incurred. The bank also allegedly failed to act against CMM when it was investing pension funds in contravention of the law. As a result, the curators were claiming E849 million in losses and interest of E259.6 million for investors that lost out, as well as E48.4 million in losses for Altron and interest of E8.5 million.

In May 2009, Regiments Capital and Corporate Money Managers Swaziland (CCM) partnered to appoint Regiment Fund Managers as their fund manager partners.

The appointment of Regiments Fund Managers was announced by CCM Chairman Bheka Manana at the CCM Swaziland offices.

Regiments Fund Management led by Niven Pillay is a subsidiary of Regiments Capital (PTY) Ltd, and the leading asset-liability manager of redemption funds. It has been involved in the design and implementation of one of South Africa's largest Metropolitan Municipality's redemption strategy.



## SACU receipts drop to E5.8 billion

By Bodwa Mbingo

**I**n what is set to adversely affect the country's fiscal position, Swaziland's share in the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) receipts will decline to E5.8 billion, which is lower than what the country received in the past financial year.

This, therefore, confirms Minister of Finance Martin Dlamini's assertion to Senate that the SACU receipts were expected to be lower than average in the coming financial year. Receipts for the 2017/2018 financial year stood at E7.1 billion and Dlamini during the mid-year term budget review report for this year revealed that the country continues to anticipate a significant decline in total revenues as a result of declining trends in SACU receipts.

Swaziland is a member of the five-nation customs union SACU, which is the oldest functioning customs union in the world. The country relies heavily on revenue from SACU and with a sizeable percentage of its national budget usually expected to come from SACU receipts alone.

According to Namibia's New Era, the SACU Council of Ministers last week determined, according to the revenue sharing formula for member states, that Swaziland would receive E5.8 billion from SACU in the 2018/19 financial year. Other SACU members will receive E19.4 billion (Botswana),

E5.5 billion (Lesotho), E43 billion (South Africa) and E17 billion (Namibia).

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has always frowned at Swaziland's overreliance on SACU receipts to fund its budget.

### Expenditure

"Policies need to address the sources of recent deterioration, including public wage costs, and combine expenditure and revenue measures that can support long-term growth, while safeguarding critical social and development spending. Strengthening revenue administration, improving

budget formulation and expenditure controls, and carefully managing extra-budgetary entities and public enterprises, are critical steps to consolidate the fiscal accounts and secure a more equitable burden sharing," is an assertion by IMF's Geremia Palomba.

"Avoiding risk-taking from off-budget operations is also essential to the credibility of the adjustment. To this end, the mission welcomes the authority's commitment to undertake additional measures to reduce the fiscal deficit, as stated in the recent Mid-Year Policy Statement," added Palomba.

SACU's revenue sharing formula, which was implemented for the first time in 2004 to calcu-

late revenue shares for member states, has three components, namely customs, excise and development.

The customs share is allocated on the basis of each country's share of intra-SACU imports.

### Distributed

The excise component is allocated on the basis of each country's share of gross domestic product (GDP). The development component, which is fixed at 15 per cent of total excise revenue, is distributed according to the inverse of each country's GDP per capita.

The percentage share of revenue shares distributed for SACU member countries in 2016/17 was 20 per cent for Botswana, six per cent for Lesotho, 18 per cent for Namibia, 50 per cent for South Africa and seven per cent for Swaziland.





# STATE OF QATAR CELEBRATES INDEPENDENCE DAY

**CUTTING THE CAKE:** Qatar Ambassador to Swaziland, Yousuf Al-Mahmoud and King's representative Prince Lonkikhela joined by Prince Hlangusempi, USA Ambassador Lisa Peterson, Taiwan Ambassador Thomas Chang and DPM Paul Dlamini as they cut the cake during the Qatar day at Royal Swazi Convention Centre on Thursday night. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



**TIES THAT BIND:** The ambassador and the prince in a conversation.



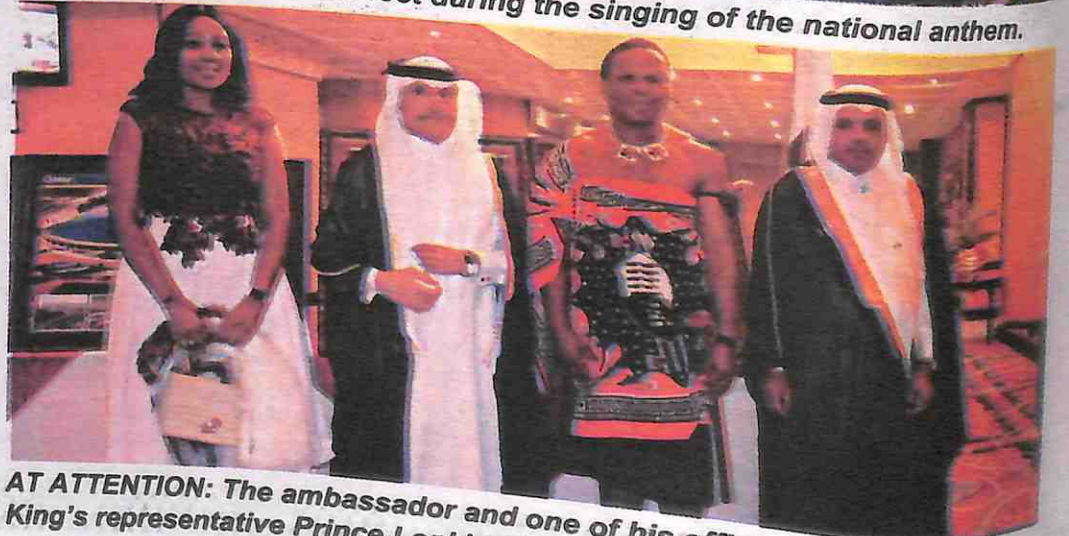
**ALL SMILES:** The Qatar ambassador with guests Korean Dr Min and his wife.



**SPEAKERS:** Former speaker Prince Guduza with current Speaker Themba Msibi.



**ANTHEM:** Guests on their feet during the singing of the national anthem.



**AT ATTENTION:** The ambassador and one of his officials posing with the King's representative Prince Lonkikhela and his daughter Simile.

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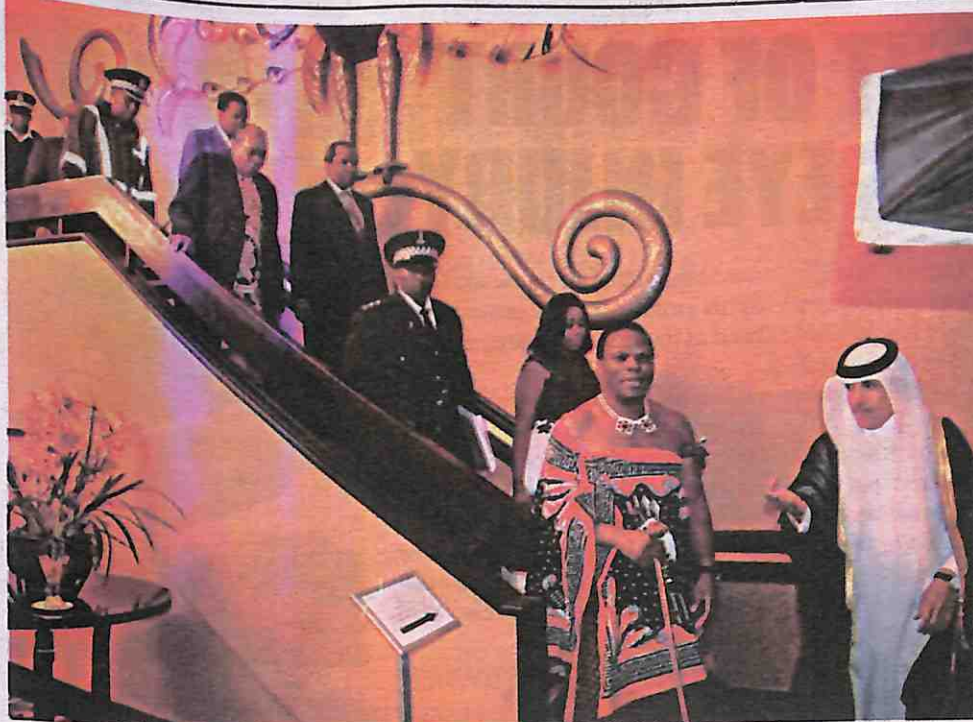
Visit the nearest  
health facility **2 weeks**  
before travelling to a  
malarious area



World Health  
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**THIS WAY:** Qatar Ambassador to Swaziland, Yousuf Al-Mahmoud leading King's representative Prince Lonkikhela.



**MY LORD:** High Court judges were also guests at the event.



**SPLENDID:** A pictorial display of the state of Qatar.



**TALKING BUSINESS:** Prince Lonkikhela sharing some thoughts with the USA ambassador.

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**INVITATION TO TENDER**  
RENTAL OF AN ELECTION MANAGEMENT SOLUTION  
Tender Reference 173 OF 2017/2018

The Elections and Boundaries Commission (EBC) invites sealed Tenders for the rental of an Election Management Solution.

Tenders must be accompanied by a receipt of a non refundable E 300 (Three Hundred Emalangen) which should be paid at Mbabane Revenue Office, Treasury Building in account number 442-1201-04401

**PAYMENTS NOT MADE INTO THIS ACCOUNT WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.**

Tenders must be enclosed in a sealed envelope

The Outer envelope must be marked as follows:  
"The Secretary to the Tender Board  
Treasury Building  
P.O. Box 38  
MBABANE"

The Envelope must be clearly marked with the following words; "The Elections and Boundaries Commission – EBC Tender No.173 of 2017/2018 – Rental of an Election Management Solution "Do not open before 9.00 Hours Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2018".

Tenders must be delivered to the offices of Tender Board, Treasury Building, P. O. Box 38, Mbabane, Swaziland, by 9.00 Hours (CAT) Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2018 and deposited into the Treasury Tender Box.

A Pre-Tender briefing will be held on Wednesday the 20<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at the Elections and Boundaries Commission Conference Room (Lobamba) at 10:00hrs.

Tenders received in time by the latest date and time for submission will be opened at the Treasury Building at 9.00 Hours (CAT) Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2018. Late, telegraphic, electronic and faxed tenders will not be considered. Tenderers may attend the opening procedure.

The documents specified in the Instructions to Tenderers including the, General receipt of SZL300, copy of current Tax Clearance Certificate, Trading Licence, Form J, Form C, Labour Compliance Certificate, SNPF Compliance Certificate and a Tender Security of SZL 20, 000.00 must be enclosed in the tender envelope.  
The Government does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

For further information, contact the following: Mr. Eric Kunene  
Tel: +268 7618 3779; +268 2416 2504/6  
Email: [info@elections.org.sz](mailto:info@elections.org.sz)

The Tender document will be available at the Elections and Boundary Commission Offices, at Nkhanini, Lobamba

**ELECTIONS AND BOUNDARIES COMMISSION**

**INVITATION TO TENDER**

Young Heroes invites bids from eligible and qualifying bidders for the supply and delivery of School Shoes, Class Act for both girls and boys.  
Reference No. YH/PROCUREMENT/1201/2017

Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding documents from; THE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT MANAGER  
SIBONISILE LUKHELE - DLAMINI  
Cell Number: +268 7802 9451  
Telephone: +268 2406 5109  
Fax: +268 2406 5004

A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested eligible bidders from the 18<sup>th</sup> of December 2017 until the 20<sup>th</sup> of December 2017 at the address below, and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of E500.00. The method of payment will be Cash or Bank certified Cheque.

Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 10.00 am on Friday the 12<sup>th</sup> of January 2018. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the bidders' designated representatives and anyone who choose to attend at the address below on the date and time above, in the NERCHA Training Room.

All bids must be accompanied by all stipulated documents and information as indicated in the Tender document.

The address referred to above is;  
**The Tender Board**  
YOUNG HEROES  
PLOT 738 OF FARM 2  
EMAJIKA ROAD  
MBABANE  
Telephone: (268) 2406 5109  
FAX: (268) 2406 5004

DOC:15000



# GOVT MOVES TO SETTLE OUT OF COURT E2.5M LAWSUIT FOR PUPIL'S EYE INJURY

Stories by Bodwa Mbingo

Three years down the line, there is still no compensation for a young man whose eye was damaged by his teacher while administering corporal punishment in class at Mavula Piscach Primary School back in 2014.

The young man's father instituted a lawsuit towards government claiming a sum of E2.5 million for damages suffered by his son, Mandla Matsebula, who had his eye totally damaged by his teacher while administering corporal punishment in class that year. In summons directed to gov-

ernment and the Attorney General, Simon Matsebula of Pigg's Peak in the Hhohho region, wanted government to pay the above amount as damages suffered by his son following the incident that took place at the school on March 20, 2014.

## Demanding

Matsebula was demanding E1 million to cover his son's pain and suffering that he had to endure following the incident and the same amount to cover the child's permanent disability. He also demanded E450 000 for contumelia and E50 000 for medical expenses incurred by the child.

In the case, Matsebula is represent-

ed by top Mbabane attorney Mandla Mkhwanazi. However, three years down the line, the case has still not been concluded although government has made a move to settle the matter out of court.

This was confirmed by Mandla's mother, Nonhlanhla Matsebula who disclosed that her husband has been cornered by government to try and settle the matter out of court.

In the papers Matsebula stated that on the day in question, his son was unlawfully assaulted by his class teacher, a Mr Kunene, with a stick on his left eye, extensively injuring it in the process. He argues that the teacher

was acting within the course and scope of his employment by government, cited as the first defendant.

"The assault took place in public and/or in class within sight of members of the public and/or other pupils. As a result of the assault, the Plaintiff's son had to undergo medical treatment to repair the left eye, which has now lost sight; has picked a permanent disability; and suffered contumelia," read the claims in part.

Matsebula also wants government to pay the costs of the suit.

Nonhlanhla, in an interview this week, confirmed that government has

## THE CLAIM:

Pain and suffering	E1 million
Permanent disability	E1 million
Contumelia	E450 000
Medical expenses	E50 000



made the move to settle the matter out of court although she could not divulge the offer on the table.

## ...Boy obtains First Class pass in STD V

The injury to his eye could not deter Mandla Matsebula for putting up a good performance in last year's Standard Five external examination as he obtained a First Class pass at the same school where his eye was injured. Mandla is now doing Form One at the nearby Mayiwane High School. His proud mother confirmed the good news and hoped that he will continue to do well in his academic work as he thrives to be a better person that will lift his family from the clutches of poverty.

The 14-year-old was injured back in 2014 by his teacher who was admin-

istering corporal punishment in class. The teacher involved in the incident, Mr Kunene, it was uncovered, tried to conceal the incident from the other teachers in the school, including the principal due to panicking.

It was disclosed that the teacher did all he could to hide the incident by secretly taking the affected pupil to his house to administer to him first aid and after school sent him home. Before sending him home, the teacher also gave a E100 note to the pupil to give to his parents so that they could take him to hospital and the following day he gave them E200 to travel to Mbabane

where the pupil's eye was examined.

This was confirmed by the affected pupil Mandla and his mother Nonhlanhla when this publication visited their home-stead three years back.

## Incident

"After the incident, Mandla came home with a E100 note and he explained that it had been given to him by his teacher. I wasn't home when he arrived and I only returned at around 7pm.

That is when I could assess the situation and realised that he needed medical attention, which is when I took him to Pigg's Peak Government Hospital the following day. At Pigg's Peak,

could not get the adequate attention and we were advised to take him to Mbabane and that is when I called his teacher for assistance. He agreed to meet us the following morning and gave us E200 to travel to Mbabane. What puzzled me was the fact that he met us in a secluded area away from where the other teachers could see us. That is when I realised that he was hiding the incident as even the principal did not know about the matter," she disclosed then. Mavula Piscach Primary Principal Thulani Nsingwane also suspected that the teacher who damaged his pupil's eye panicked after the inci-

dent, but stated that the school was taking full responsibility for what happened to the pupil. Nsingwane stated that to prove that they take full responsibility for the incident they reported it to the ministry of education, the school grantee and the police.

## Family

"We further went to the child's family with the school committee to apologise on behalf of their teacher whilst also alerting them that such was not intentional. As a school, we take full responsibility for the whole incident and I suspect that my teacher panicked when he saw what happened. I know it was never his intention not to report the matter timely. However, we tried by all means to avert the situation," he pleaded.

## Good Shepherd Nursing College principal resign

By Sicelo Maziya

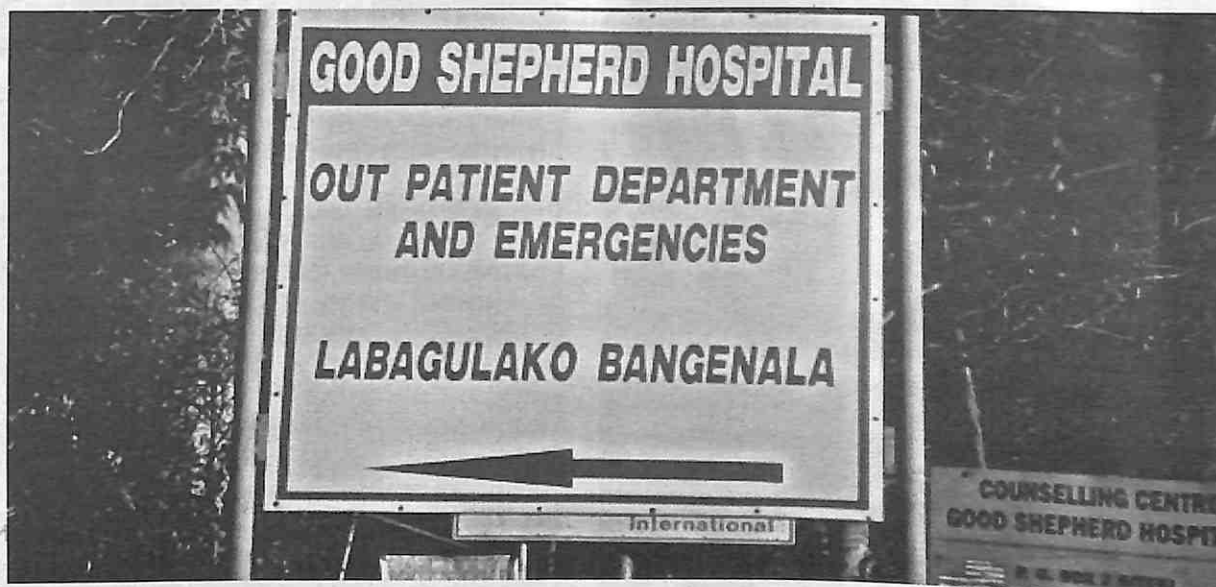
After weeks of speculations on the absence of the Principal, Zanele Manana at Good Shepherd College of Nursing, a memo has finally been issued to notify staff that she is no longer with the college. The brief memo also notified employees of the appointment of Ajao Babajida on acting basis.

Reliable sources close to the matter informed Observer on Saturday that the principal was summoned into a meeting last Friday immediately after the graduation. The principal, it is alleged, was already on and off at work on several occasions on a sick leave and an acting principal was already acting on her behalf most of the time.

Sources within the institution revealed that the sacking of the principal was long overdue as she is alleged to have caused a lot of irreparable harm to the institution. The principal was also equally hailed for also improving the nursing college status with training programmes said to be introduced by her when she took over as principal of the institution.

However, there were mixed reactions with the principal's administrative style as some allegedly accused her of having created division amongst the workers of the institution. It is also alleged that she was also instrumental in what resulted to the firing of another lecturer at the institution.

The Board Chairperson Dr Khosie Mthethwa, when called to confirm the meeting with the principal soon after the



graduation was coy on the matter. Dr Mthethwa said; "I cannot confirm anything on issues that are administrative as they are handled by the administrator / CEO who can be in a position to help you on that. I only respond on issues that relate to policy directions of the institution".

The Administrator Dumsile Simelane was called several times and a Short Message Service (SMS) was also sent to her to respond on the allegations but she never responded in the past two weeks. In the build-up to the graduation, a number of irregularities were raised by students on many things that were not going right at the institution.

The graduation itself was postponed several times and communication between

the students and college was never professional. Students complained of getting different versions of what was expected of them done through social media yet to them this is not formal correspondence.

Students almost boycotted their own graduation and it needed a plea by Dr. Mthethwa to compel them, assuring them that any other issue can be dealt with when anger has been put aside.

The second graduation at the Good Shepherd College of Nursing seems to have marked the last assignment of Manana as principal.

Her last words to students and dignitaries were kind as she informed the gathering at the achievements of the institution have been experienced over the

past years.

Manana disclosed that the institution's growth resulted in the introduction of a new programme, a Post-Graduate Diploma in Midwifery.

Manana further disclosed that the programme had the first admissions this year. Manana said the institution was motivated by the demands of the society to introduce this programme.

She also stated that Good Shepherd has committed itself to working professionally and tactically with the available human and financial resources to upscale its desired academic and nursing high levels. Manana said they also remained committed to high standard performances through collaborative local, regional and international institutional

“

...I cannot confirm anything on issues that are administrative as they are handled by the Administrator/ CEO who can be in a position to help you on that, I only respond on issues that relate to policy directions of the institution.

partnerships to serve the nation.

She said the institution was proud to be contributing to the health sector by providing well trained nurses.

The former principal further urged the graduates to uphold the standard and morals of the institution even at their various workplaces. She warned them against developing a character of insensitivity as this may destroy their career. The graduates were urged to remain focused and work towards improving their skills and knowledge.

The graduation that saw 84 students graduating with Diploma in General Nursing and Certificates in Nursing Assistant was attended by Lubombo Regional Administrator Sylvia Mthethwa, Minister of Education and Training Dr Phineas Magagula, WHO Health Systems analyst Dr Khosie Mthethwa, who is also Chairperson of the Good Shepherd Board.



# RA cited in sub judice hearing

By Ackel Zwane

The Manzini Regional Administrator Prince Gcokoma has been called upon the issue minutes of a hearing of a land dispute matter currently before court between the University of Swaziland and eight Kwaluseni residents.

Attorneys SB Motsa wrote to the RA in a letter filed with the regional administrator's office on November 24, 2014 "our clients instruct us that on November 19, 2014, your office convened a meeting between them and the University of Swaziland.

However our client left the meeting as they felt the matter subject to discussion was sub judice.

We are further instructed that, the matter proceeded in the absence of our clients and a ruling was issued to the following effect: that our client pays a cow each for instituting an action against the King, that they vacate the land alleged to belong to the university and that they withdraw the action against the university, which is pending before the High Court of Swaziland.

We request your office to furnish us with a written ruling or written minutes of the meeting for our consideration and to advise our clients accordingly."

However no such minutes were obtained from the RA office and furthermore those ordered to pay a cow each never paid a single cow.

The matter before the court is between the university and eight others case number 1557/14 in which Themba Dlamini, Ndoda Dlamini, Sishosonkhe Msibi, SiphoMabuza, Thomas Motsa, Benson VusiMalaza, Darius Dloomo and Nono Kunene are the plaintiffs while the university is defendant.

## Sweeping

This was followed by sweeping changes in the general traditional leadership of Kwaluseni, in partic-

ular Mbikwakhe with the members of the royal household dismissing a council of elders formed by the late Musa Dlamini who was the overall traditional head for Kwaluseni on behalf of the Zombodze Royal Kraal.

Themba Dlamini informed the Zombodze superiors under then Governor Timothy Velabo Mtetwa and his sidekick Mphatsakhe that "on behalf of *Bantfwabenhkosi bendlu yeMbikwakhe* (princes) I Themba Dula Dlamini notify you that on the December 10, 2015, we dismissed Ndvuna Musa's Libandla from all activities pertaining to the running of the *Umphakatsi*. Ndvuna Musa is sick and while he is recuperating the acting *Indvuna* will be Ndoda Nicholas Dlamini and his chairman will be Velinjani Patrick Motsa.

Both of them, with our approval, will choose a *Libandla* they will work with. My father was Timothy Dlamini younger brother to Mciniseli Dlamini both who come from the house of Prince Ncabeni who was King Somhlolo's son. Ndoda's mother was Rose 'Dandane' Mtsetfwa whose father was David Sikumane Mtsetfwa who comes from the house of Gwala Mtsetfwa the father of Mgudlula Mtsetfwa. Velinjani's father was Mshiyane Motsa who comes from the house of Chief Manzini Motsa.

A full list of the libandla will be sent to you as soon as it becomes available. The letter was copied to the RA, Ludzidzini Libandla, Kwaluseni Libandla and Sigodvweni Police Station.

## Follow up

Nine months later Timothy Velabo Mtetwa was served with the list of the new *libandla*. "As a follow up to the letter I wrote to you on December 11, 2015 the following *Bandlancane* was elected and approved by *Bantfwabenhkosi* (princes) *bendlu yeMbikwakhe* and



CITED: Manzini Regional Administrator Prince Gcokoma.

*imisumphe yase Kwaluseni*. Ndoda Dlamini will still be the *Indvuna yase Kwaluseni*.

*Bandlancane* will be as follows: Velinjani Patrick Motsa (chairman), Steve Dube (vice chairman), Dumisa Zwane (secretary), Lindiwe Vilakati (vice secretary), Purene Bhembe (treasurer), members Lofana Vilakati, Mfanawenkhoi Seyama, Emmanule Sobi Kumalo, Phineas Masina, Titus Simelane, Thandie Nkambule and Happiness Tsela.

The *Imisumphe yase Kwaluseni* also elected Bigboy Mtsetfwa the son of Skoyoyo Mtsetfwa to be *ungijimi* of Kwaluseni who replaces the late Musa Dube.

The above mentioned *Libandla* of Kwaluseni will start work at the *Umphakatsi* with immediate effect since the last one led by Thomas Motsa was sacked on December 10, 2015." This last letter was dated

November 23, 2016.

In the meantime the original settlers and governors of all affairs of Kwaluseni are the Mazibuko clansmen who have made strides in reestablishing their authority in the whole of Kwaluseni which encompasses Mbikwakhe.

## Claims

At the same time one Thomas Motsa claims he was given the authority to look into the affairs of Kwaluseni by the late Zombodze overall governor *Indvuna* Timothy Velabo Mtetwa.

The Mazibuko's claim that even the princes of Mbikwakhe have their homestead on a territory belonging to the Mazibukos and that the true leaders from the Mbikwakhe household comes from the descendants of Mtsakatsi and not those currently claiming to appoint and dismiss traditional structures.

side Kruger National Park rangers and anti-poaching operators in helping stymie the efforts of those intent on decimating South Africa's rhino population, soldiers also confiscated rifles, mostly heavy calibre, high powered ones, from suspected poachers. "39 rifles were taken from foreigners in and around Kruger," Paxton said. Soldiers on a regular patrol, including search and seizure, also found two rhino horns, in a hidden compartment in a vehicle en route to Mozambique. "We were told the horn was easily valued at E3 million," he said.

The value of contraband taken from smugglers of goods including cigarettes, liquor, shoes (mostly trainers) and liquor was over E22 million with the "most popular" illegal points of entry South Africa's landward borders with Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

Livestock rustling and smuggling is an apparently thriving illegal industry, particularly along the Free State and Eastern Cape borders with Lesotho. Soldiers deployed along them recovered close 1 100 head of cattle and "small livestock," including goats and sheep.

accordance with the requirements of Operation Corona, the border protection task that the SA National Defense Force (SANDF) took back from the SA Police Service (SAPS). According to the defense ministry the number of companies will be upped until 22 are deployed but no definitive timeframe has apparently been set for this to happen.

As an example, meeting the deployment requirement of the 2016/17 financial year cycle was only met in March, the final month of the cycle. Among successes achieved by soldiers on both foot and mobile patrol since January was confiscation of dagga conservatively valued (E1 000/kg) at E23 million.

"If it had reached the streets of say, Johannesburg, this value would have increased substantially," Paxton said, adding the majority of the confiscated narcotics was inbound from Lesotho with Mozambique second as a supplier of dagga to South Africa.

In addition to being active along-

## Prizes up for grabs in TV licence competition

Stories by Bodwa Mbingo

Prizes ranging from television sets, cell-phones, spending money, romantic nights and dinners and many others are up for grabs in the 'Pay and Win' competition that has been established by country's TV licence Collection Consortium to entice television sets owners to pay their TV licences.

It costs only E180 a year for a television licence in the country and the consortium with the assistance of a number of sponsors has decided to run the competition for a period of six months, from December 2017 until May 2018. Announcing the competition at DataNet offices yesterday, TV Licences Project Manager Modicai Donga revealed that it is open to all television owners that have paid in full their TV licences for the period 2017 and 2018. He disclosed that monthly draws will be conducted from the end of January 2018 with the grand draw in May 2018.

"In discharging our mandate to collect TV licence fees, set up systems and enforce the Swaziland Television Act of 1983 we have come up with a television licence competition dubbed 'Pay and Win'. The competition is expected to run for a period of six months. To enter the competition you must renew your existing TV licence or purchase a new TV licence at approved TV licences payment agents such as SPTC, Nedbank or through paying via MTN mobile money number 7622 2000.

Entrance into the competition shall be on a voluntary basis, and upon complying with the entry requirements. The competition shall not be open to directors and employees of S.V Mdladla and Associates, Swaziland Television Authority permanent, freelance or contract employees or members of their immediate families (parents, spouses, siblings, and children) and staff from competition sponsors," he stated.

He noted that the success of the competition will be based on solicited sponsorship partners for different prizes which may be drawn at different intervals as from the first week of February 2018 to the final and grand draw on the last week of May 2018.

He appreciated the response they have received from their sponsors and partners who for now include Summerfield Botanical Gardens, Swazi Mobile, HiFi Corporation, The George Hotel, MTN Mobile Money, Mountain Inn and OK Furnishers, just to mention a few.

"There are a number of other sponsors who have promised to come on board in the course of the competition and will be announced in due course. There are a number of lucrative prizes set aside by each sponsor and the public is encouraged to participate in the competition," he added. Donga also thanked all the sponsors for breathing life into the competition and those customers who have come forward to pay their TV licences.

## Amnesty period ends December 31, imprisonment looming

The amnesty period for the payment of TV licences ends on December 31, this year.

This was revealed by the TV licences Project Manager Modicai Donga who also highlighted that failure to settle the outstanding bill will result in a fine of E500 or six months imprisonment and further settle the outstanding amount.

"Offenders should know that we will still institute means to recover the owed amount even after one is convicted. The collection of the licence fees is backdated from 2012 and TV owners who purchased their sets after this date should provide proof," he added.

Phumelele Njoya, Project Coordinator, disclosed that they have a data base of all TV set owners in the country as STVA has been conducting the exercise of collecting the fees in the past.

## E32m stolen cars recovered by army on Swazi, SA border

By Bodwa Mbingo

Through the Operation Corona border protection, the deployment of more than 2 700 South African soldiers on "border duty" has done much to prevent even more illegal aliens from settling in South Africa, stopped millions of Emalangeni worth of illegal goods from being sold in that country without the necessary duties and kept tons of narcotics off the streets.

Defence web reports that the 2017 calendar year, some days short of completion, saw goods, vehicles and livestock conservatively valued at E123 121 542 either confiscated by soldiers or recovered for the rightful owners in the case of livestock and vehicles, according to Lieutenant Colonel Piet Paxton, Staff Officer, Operational Communication, SANDF Joint Operations Division.

Soldiers, particularly on KwaZulu-Natal's borders with Mozambique and Swaziland, were also responsi-

ble for the recovery of 145 stolen vehicles, valued at over E32 million. Soldiers working the Swaziland border noted an increase in the number of Mozambicans apprehended during the year.

Paxton was of the opinion this might be because people wanting to enter South Africa illegally from the country's eastern neighbour "thinking there might be less border protection activity in Swaziland, but they are wrong".

## Undocumented

As far as undocumented persons, the official term used by the South African government for illegal aliens, are concerned, soldiers apprehended just under 13 000, all handed to police for further processing.

"As in past years, the majority of undocumented persons are from Mozambique and Zimbabwe," Paxton said. There are currently over 2 700 soldiers making up 15 companies, in military parlance, but which politicians prefer to call "sub-units", deployed on South Africa's land borders in



# Construction truck in fatal crash at Malindza

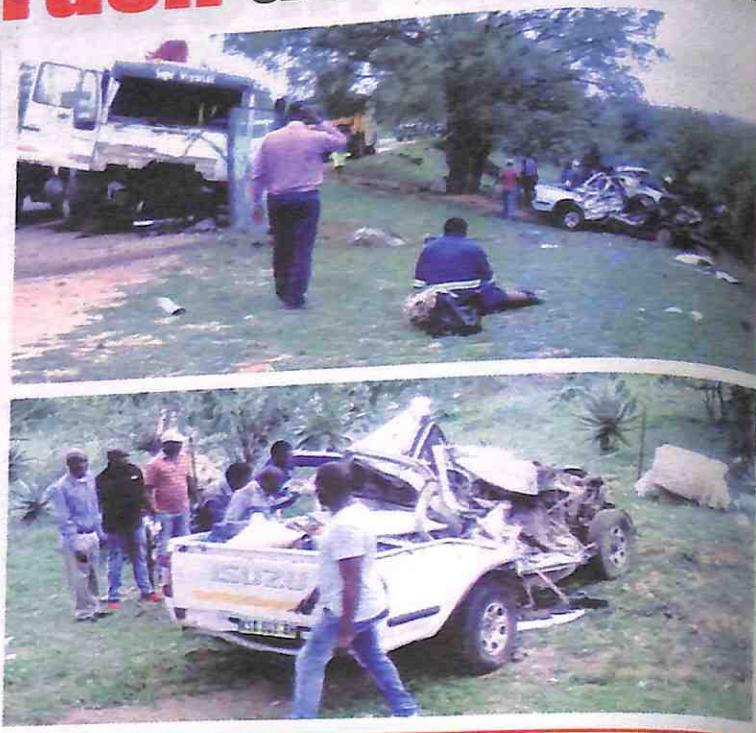
By Sicelo Maziya

A horrific disaster struck at Malindza as a truck from Inyatsi Construction company and a van from Lilawu construction collided head on. The accident claimed three lives, all the occupants of the delivery van that was a total wreck after being involved in the accident.

The accident happened yesterday morning on the MR3 Manzini - Lomhlupheko road around Malindza. Residents and motorists tried in vain to help save the lives of the victims.

The accident was confirmed by Chief Police Information Communications Officer Superintendent Khulani Mamba.

Police are still investigating the cause of the accident. Next of kin of the deceased were still being sought. Early this year, the President of Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross Happy Dlamini said the organisation noted with concern that road accidents were becoming common on this road, especially near Malindza and Mpaka.



## Runaway truck plunges into game room



**ACCIDENT:** A runaway truck at LaMgabhi rammed into a game room in the early hours of yesterday after the driver lost control as he approached the shopping complex owned by Steven Shabangu, adjacent that owned by former LaMgabhi Member of Parliament and Public Transport Minister Ntuthuko Dlamini. One of the two passengers was seriously injured while the driver survived. Andreas Mavimbela brought the pictures.

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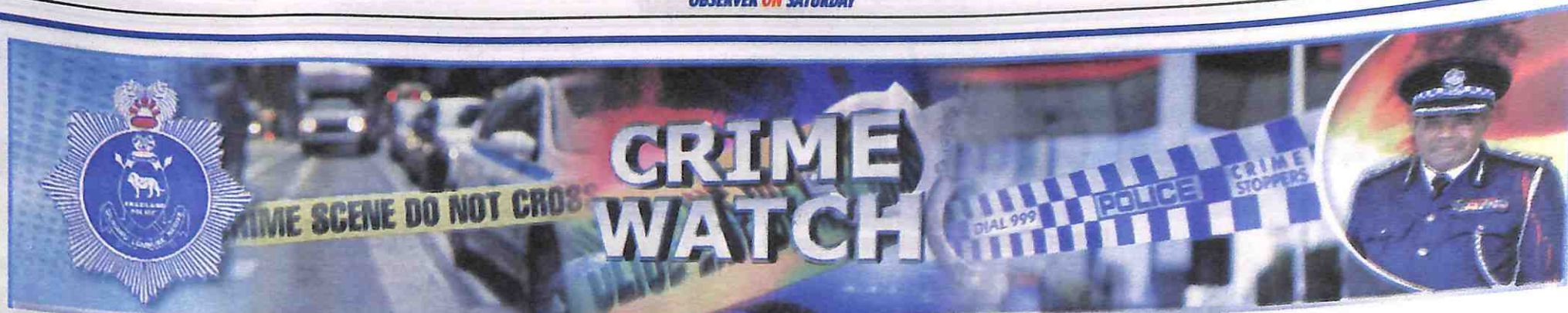
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## RSPS ON COURSE TO MEET ITS TARGET AND MANDATE

The Prime Minister Dr Sibusiso Dlamini has commended the Royal Swaziland Police Service for its concerted efforts in engaging in vigorous crime prevention initiatives countrywide.

The premier noted that these efforts are not in vain as it is a known fact that the country has a reputation for high standards of public order and safety.

Speaking during the opening of the 2017 end of year conference for senior officers and senior civilian support staff held on Thursday at Matsapha Police Academy, the prime minister, who is also the minister responsible for the police said the level of public order and safety is an indication of the work of the police service which includes visible patrols, public education initiatives and the standard of public behaviour.

The conference was themed 'Integrating Conventional and Contemporary Strategies to Turn the



**LISTENING:** The Prime Minister Dr Sibusiso Dlamini and National Commissioner of Police Isaac Magagula following the proceedings.

Tide Against Emerging Crimes and Road Traffic Accidents' was aimed at reviewing the challenges faced over the twelve months and coming up with new operational standards. Dlamini noted with concern that despite the police efforts, there seemed

to be too many road accidents and other traffic related offences. He urged the Police to continuously increase efforts to crackdown on traffic offences that lead to the many accidents.

He highlighted that there is a need for an independent apparatus that will



**REMARKS:** The PM Dr Sibusiso Dlamini delivering his speech during the event.

assess police behaviour at roadblocks as the temptation to solicit and accept bribes must be eliminated.

### Pointed

The prime minister applauded the police for working in corporation with other stakeholders such as the business community. He pointed out the signing of the MoU with the Federation of Swaziland Employers and the Chamber of Commerce (FSE&CC) and Federation of Swaziland Business Community (FESBC) is a commendable initiative.

He said safeguarding the security of the businesses is a key element as it would in turn encourage new investment and faster economic growth.

The police service was also com-

mended for the working relationship it has established with police agencies in neighbouring countries as this is key in the clamping down on cross-border crime.

Dlamini added that gender-based violence (GBV) continues to be a thorny issue as it continues unabated in society, with some sectors of the population condoning it.

He appealed to the citizens of the country to stop perpetuating GBV and urged those who witness such to report. The premier further expressed his appreciation to Parliament for the processing of the police Bill which is near completion as it was a matter of urgency.

He said it was reassuring to note that the main police stations continue to display a performance against target.

He said the recent allocation of additional vehicles will undoubtedly improve the capability of attending to the emergencies of the public within the prescribed time.

Dlamini encouraged the police service to heighten the levels of security during the festive season and Incwala ceremony so to ensure the safety of the Swazis and tourists.

## ...NATIONAL COMMISSIONER CALLS FOR RESPONSIBLE JOURNALISM

The National Commissioner of Police Isaac Magagula has appealed to the media to report accountably, responsibly and considerate to avoid creating a strain between the police and the Swazi Nation.

Magagula was speaking during the official opening of the 2017 end of year conference for senior officers and senior civilian support staff held at Matsapha Police Academy on Thursday. He made the appeal following articles which appeared in last Saturday's newspapers regarding police promotions and housing facilities.

The national commissioner clarified that promotions are not done willy-nilly, but they are financed from an already appropriated police budget submitted and approved by Parliament on a yearly basis. He noted that while issues of security cannot be compromised, factors of the prevailing economic situation are taken into consideration.

### Channelled

He condemned the article which insinuated that the police promotions utilised funds that could have otherwise been channelled for other social challenges and programmes as this sets the nation to be against the police service. He expressed concern that the article which outlined the monthly expenditure of the promotions was not validated with the police to balance the article.

On the issue of housing facilities at police camps, Magagula lamented



**YES SIR:** A section of those who attended the event.



**ATTENDED:** Zombodze Emuva MP, Titus Thwala and Senator Moi Moi Masilela also attended.

that the issue was unfairly generalised and blown out of proportion considering government/police efforts to address deficiencies.

On the issue of the rondavels at Zakhele Police Camp, he specified that they are not presently utilised by police officers and a process to demol-

ish them is underway.

Pertaining to the end of year conference, the national commissioner revealed that it is held primarily for the purpose of appraising performance for the outgoing policing year and mapping out strategies for the

upcoming year.

He stated that the core police business is fighting crime and road accidents hence the conference theme 'Integrating Conventional and Contemporary Strategies to Turn the Tide Against Emerging Crimes and Road Traffic Accidents'.

### Statistics

Magagula revealed that even though there has been a slight decrease in the crime statistics, the police will continue with their oomph and verve in tackling crimes such as armed robbery, theft, drug dealing, stock theft and landela syndicate which continue to exasperate the Swazi nation.

He revealed that consequent to such police vibrancy, 16 organised syn-



**A FEW WORDS:** NatCom Magagula delivering his speech.

icates that were terrorising communities along the Mbabane - Manzini corridor were busted with 57 suspects arrested.

He revealed that to curtail ATM bombings as an emerging crime trend, a coherent strategy has been put in place in collaboration with the Swaziland Bankers Association.

With regards to traffic accidents, the national commissioner revealed that there has been a gradual decline in the number of serious and fatal road accidents with a 3.6 per cent and 14 per cent reduction recorded respectively. He stated that to avoid any sign of complacency in this regard, police presence on the roads and in particular the accident prone Malagwane Hill has been intensified.

He recommended that for efficiency in accident situations, the police service should be issued with a recovery vehicle in order to be able to clear the road and an emergency lane at Malagwane which would be accessed by the police, fire and 977 personnel.



# VISIT TO IDI AMIN'S HOME,

Stories by Ackel Zwane  
(Reuters Thomson Foundation Fellowship)

Most Ugandans have little or no memories of Idi Amin, their president who ruled with a reign of terror for eight years butchering over 20 000 of his people.

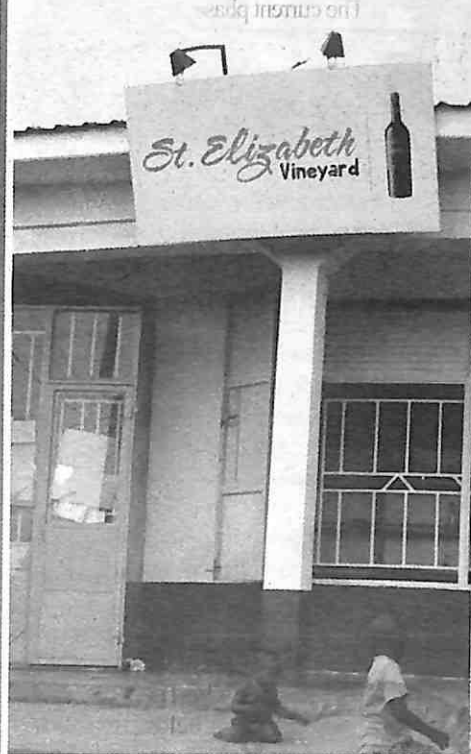
His residence is now open space save for a wall fence and a gate now belonging to the Khan dynasty.

Amin called his residence Cape Town View. Just across Cape Town view is the field marshal's 23-acre paradise on the island of Mukusu in Lake Victoria, which went on sale at a mere £214 000 back in 2002. The only deterrent to prospective buyers was the fact that it was once used by the despot as a combined holiday home and torture camp.

The island, surrounded by the crocodile-infested waters of Lake Victoria, was being marketed as a perfect site for a luxury hotel or a tycoon's holiday home.

## Occupation

But 'Paradise Island' as it was known by Amin, still bore the scars of his occupation. Both residences are said to have been razed to the ground by liberation fighters who bombed it when they took over the country from Amin in 1978. The brick shell of the dictator's former beach home



**HOLY WATER:** St. Elizabeth winery stands out as an attraction to Kampala visitors with prospects of getting high and holy.



**IDI AMIN DADA:** Ugandan butcher and former dictator Idi Amin's residence is now an open space bought by the Khan dynasty after buildings were razed to the ground by the liberation army of President Yoweri Museveni in 1978.

had become a makeshift school. By night, the building sheltered the island's small herd of cattle.

The 'Butcher of Uganda's' thirst for violence and death was boundless. During his years in power, tens of thousands of personal and political enemies met with unspeakable brutality.

Some were crushed alive by tanks, others disembowelled and maimed.

Prisoners were forced to beat out the brains of fellow inmates before suffering a similar fate themselves. Amin once even boasted about his own taste for eating human flesh, claimed media reports.

## Illicit financial flows: Uganda perspective

The world intensifies the fight against illicit financial flows with Uganda now removed from the money laundering list of shame in a move likely to shift the country's focus from a firefighting compliance strategy to aggressive enforcement of anti-money laundering rules.

Uganda was placed on the FATF list of shame in February 2014, which is also known as the light grey list.

Exclusion from the international financial system constrains a country's banks from carrying out international transaction such as Electronic Funds Transfers (EFTs) and Letters of Credit traditionally used in import and export trade deals and worker remittances.

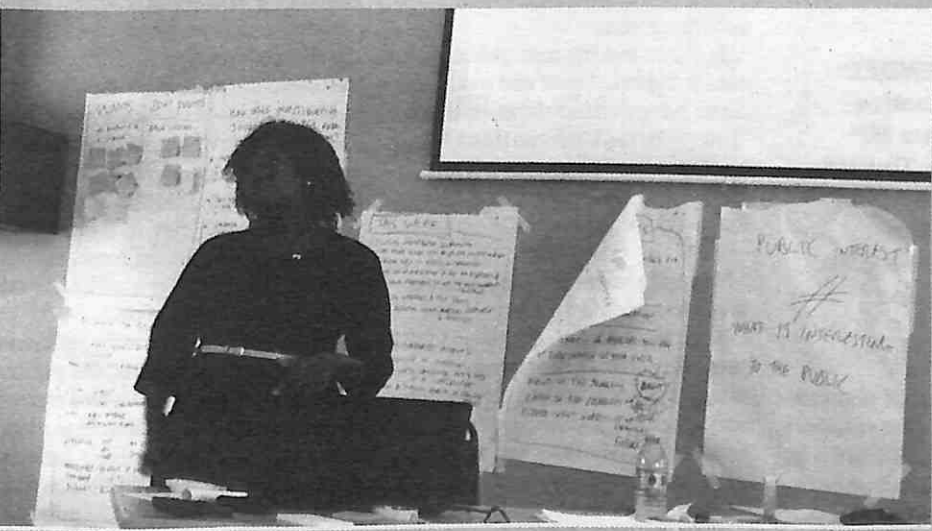
### Illicit

Uganda Revenue Authority's Mwajumah Nakku Mubiru, guest speaker at a Reuters Thomson Foundation training on illicit financial flows held at the Alliance for Centre for Media Excellence (ACME), gave journalists from around the continent attending the meeting a list of cases currently giving Uganda a headache: Pension scam in the ministry of public service in which over UGX. 200 billion was embezzled; Embezzlement of huge sums of money in the office of the prime minister, the Global Fund, NAADS, Katosi Road, etc; Banks have also fallen prey, e.g. March

2015 when US\$ 1.5 million was fraudulently withdrawn from Equity bank; Mobile money fraud in MTN; Aggressive DTA abusive activities are Heritage Oil and Gas Limited and the Zain International BV case and Heritage Oil & Gas Co. Ltd; In 2010, HOGL sold its 50 per cent stake in Uganda's oil fields to Tullow Uganda Limited for US\$1.5 billion (Butagira, 2016). Consequently, Uganda, through the URA imposed a capital gains tax on the transaction amounting to US\$ 404 million.

This resulted in a tax dispute of over four years in Uganda's Tax Appeals Tribunal and a commercial court in London to Uganda's success. The panama papers report that HOGL had learnt about the eminent CGT liability before it was actually imposed and thus opted to re-domicile from Bahamas to Mauritius in order to defeat the tax liability in Uganda and partake of the benefit from the Mauritius-Uganda DTA (Butagira, 2016). One of the leaked emails stated that;

•'HOGL ... was due to complete the sale of an asset in Uganda within the next 11 days. Due to tax reasons emanating from Uganda, the directors have been advised by tax accountants to re-domicile HOGL to Mauritius from the Bahamas before completion [of the sale]'.



**GURU:** Uganda Revenue Authority's Mwajumah Nakku Mubiru.



**CREATIVITY:** Ugandans always have Plan B, this being another reason for a cold one.

## Commissioner general, URA Versus Zain International BV

Zain International BV disposed off its 100 per cent shareholding in Zain Africa BV to Bharti Airtel International. Both companies are resident in the Netherlands.

Zain Africa BV, the subject of the disposal, had 100 per cent shareholding in Celtel Uganda Holdings BV which owned 99.99 per cent of Celtel Uganda Limited.

Celtel Uganda Ltd's shares in Uganda were not transferred and its property, movable or immovable, was not disposed off. The transfer of the shares in Zain Africa BV took place in the Netherlands.

The commissioner general, Uganda Revenue Authority (URA), raised an assessment of CGT against Zain International BV on the resultant gain realised from the disposal of shares. Zain International BV objected to the assessment and stated that the transaction was only concerned with the transfer of shares of Zain Africa

BV in the Netherlands, and that no shares in Celtel Uganda Ltd were disposed off.

The URA later made an objection decision stating that the transaction under consideration is one of gain arising from the disposal of an interest in immovable property located in Uganda.

The Zain case was unfortunately not decided on its merits but on procedural issues, which saw the assessment raised by the URA being set aside for procedural impropriety, although the court maintained that URA had the jurisdiction to raise a proper tax assessment against Zain international BV.

Indeed a fresh assessment regarding the same has been raised by the URA in that regard.

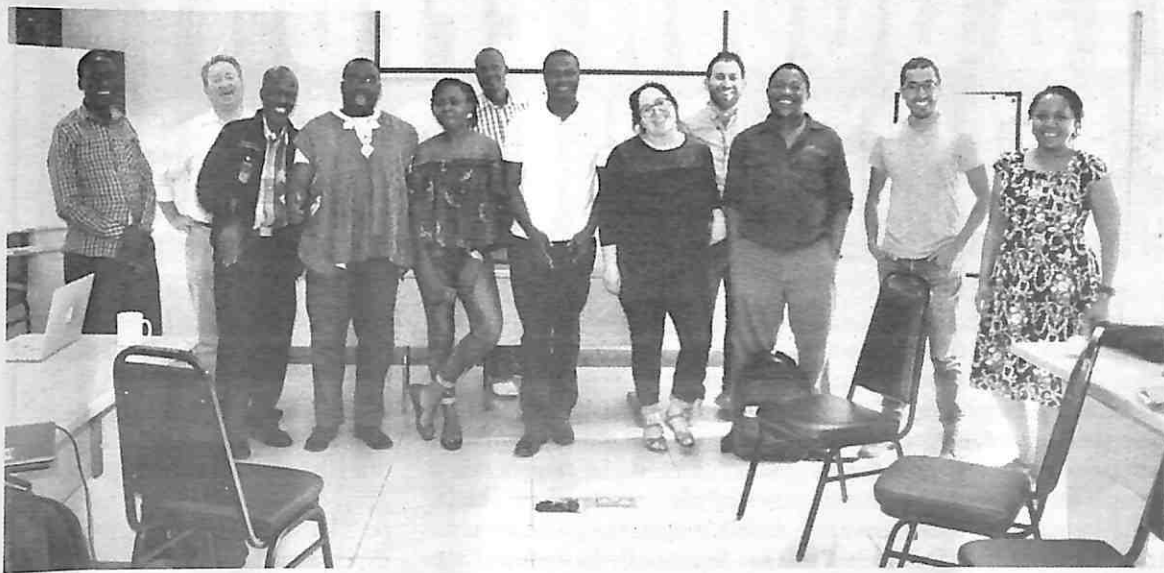
Trade misinvoicing is a method for moving money illicitly across borders which involves deliberately misreporting the value of a commercial transaction on an invoice submitted to customs.



# OR WHAT WAS



**SURBUBIA:** Nearly every urban area in Uganda resembles this landscape and architecture.



**PANAMA PAPERS:** Illicit Financial Flows investigative journalists from across Africa at the meeting point in Kampala, Uganda.

## Common reasons for misinvoicing

# A.C.M.E

**M**oney laundering – Criminals or public officials may seek to launder the proceeds from crime or corruption.

**Directly Evading Taxes and Customs Duties** – By under-reporting the value of goods, importers are able to immediately evade substantial customs duties or other taxes.

**Claiming Tax Incentives** – Many countries offer generous tax incentives to domestic exporters selling their goods and services abroad. Criminals may seek to abuse these tax incentives by over-reporting their exports.

**Dodging Capital Controls** – Many developing countries have restrictions on the amount of capital that a person or business can bring in or out of their economies.

Investors attempting to break these capital controls often mis-invoice trade transactions as an illegal alternative to getting money in or out of the country.



**GROUP EFFORT:** Investigative journalists taking a group photo during training.



**DOWN NOT OUT:** After a stupor this pub in Kampala offers patrons a second chance to another black-out.

## Increased chances of normal to above normal rainfall for SADC

By Ackel Zwane

**T**he bulk of Southern African Development Community (SADC) is likely to receive normal to above-normal rainfall for most of the period January to May 2018 period.

However, the extreme western part of Angola, Namibia, south-western part of South Africa, extreme northwest of

DRC and eastern Madagascar are more likely to receive normal to below-normal rainfall for some of the seasons.

This is according to a statement from the 21st annual Southern Africa Regional Climate Outlook Forum (SARCOF-21) mid-season review and update, SADC headquarters Gaborone, Botswana held from 5-8 December 2017.

The January to May period is the second part of the main rainfall season over most of southern

Africa. Owing to the differences and evolution patterns in the predominant rainfall-bearing systems, the rainy season has been subdivided into three overlapping three-month periods (i.e. JFM, FMA and MAM).

### REVIEW OF THE CURRENT SEASONAL RAINFALL TREND (OCTOBER TO NOVEMBER 2017)

Four climate driver patterns significant for SADC rainfall behaviour were active since the beginning of the rainy season:

- The inter-tropical convergence zone (ITCZ) is still very active and centered over the northern and eastern parts of SADC region.
- Weak La Niña conditions were observed during October - November 2017. Negative sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies stretching across most of the eastern and central equatorial Pacific Ocean, will persist up to the first quarter of 2018.
- The Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) at a standstill neutral condition will evolve with a weak positive trend index (+0.1), as the monsoon trough transitions into the southern hemisphere. The strong positive IOD is associated with augmentation of rainfalls in parts of southern Africa.
- An active Madden Julia Oscillation (MJO), which is defined as an eastward moving 'pulse' of cloud and rainfall near the equator that typically recurs every 30 to 60 days. Strong MJO activity is often observed during weak La Niña years or during ENSO neutral years.

The wet phase of enhanced convection and precipitation is followed by a dry phase where thunderstorm activity is suppressed.

The current phase seven (7) of MJO (as of 10 December 2017) is associated with suppression of rainfall over north-east of the SADC region in the intra-seasonal scale.

The rainfall pattern associated with the climate driver induced the start of season during September in the northern part of the region. It progressed to the bulk of the region in October and November 2017.

Above normal rains were received in most areas of the northern part and north-eastern part of the sub-region. Whereas the central and south-western parts of the region experienced normal to below normal rainfall condition during the normal start of the season months of October and November 2017 period.

The figure one (1) below depicts the spatial distribution of percentage cumulative rainfall compared to normal during the first two months of the rainfall season and it is in contrast to what was observed last year during the same period of a weak La Nina condition.



**Zone 1:** Bulk of DRC, central Angola, Caprivi of Namibia, north-most Botswana and southern Zambia.

Increased chances of normal to above-normal rainfall

**Zone 2:** Northern most Tanzania. Increased chances of normal to above-normal rainfall

**Zone 3:** Northern half of Mozambique, bulk of Tanzania, Malawi, bulk of Zambia, eastern most

Angola and southern DRC.

Increased chances of normal to above-normal rainfall

**Zone 4:** Southern fringes of Zambia, eastern half of Botswana, Zimbabwe, southern half of

Mozambique, Swaziland, western parts of South Africa and western parts of Lesotho.

Increased chances of normal to above-normal rainfall

**Zone 5:** South-western Angola, bulk of Namibia, south-western half of Botswana, north and central South Africa and eastern Lesotho

Increased chances of normal to above-normal rainfall

**Zone 6:** Western fringes of Namibia and South Africa.

Increased chances of normal to below-normal rainfall

**Zone 7:** Madagascar.

Increased chances of normal to above-normal rainfall

**Zone 8:** Mauritius.

Increased chances of normal to above-normal rainfall

**Zone 9:** Seychelles.

Increased chances of normal to above-normal rainfall



HIS MAJESTY'S  
CORRECTIONAL  
SERVICES

## CORRECTIONAL WHEEL



**BIG LOSS:** Commissioner General Isaiah Mzuthini Ntshangase inspecting the damage caused by the catastrophic storm at Matsapha Correctional Centre where hectares of crops were damaged. The storm frustrated the department's efforts of being a food sufficient organisation.

# STORM SHOOTS DOWN EFFORTS TO MITIGATE FOOD SHORTAGE

Often unanticipated and occurring in haste, a storm is a feared natural phenomenon known for leaving a trail of destruction in its wake. In most instances, storms leave victims with minimum or no recourse to cushion the damage suffered.

Towards the end of November, the

Matsapha Correctional Complex like many parts of the country experienced a severe storm that caused extensive damage to the infrastructure and destroyed field crops and vegetables in the

Correctional farms in Matsapha. The catastrophic storm ravaged 16 hectares of maize which was at different growth stages, 0.25 hectares of spinach and 0.25 hectares of cabbages.

The storm also damaged department infrastructure which includes amongst others; staff houses with window glasses hit by hail stones, broke window panes for inmates' cells, bakery building, towers at Matsapha Correctional Centre and other adjacent structures.

The storm also damaged car pots, poultry sheds and electric poles cutting off electricity supply to the Matsapha Correctional complex.

The total cost suffered by the department as a result of the catastrophic storm amounts to E801 648.87. This being total costs for the loss incurred in maize seeds, compound fertilizer, pesticides, seedlings and the structures destroyed by the storm.

Commissioner General Isaiah Mzuthini Ntshangase lamented this unfortunate incident and noted that it has subjected the

departments to costs that were not budgeted for and yet government was also facing cash flow problems due to the ailing economy.

Ntshangase said the storm robbed the department the opportunity to make a meaningful contribution in assisting government cut down inmates' rations budget through the crops that were destroyed by the storm and other agricultural activities undertaken by same. The agricultural activities are also undertaken as means of capacitating offenders with livelihood skills as espoused in the Prison Act, 1964, the newly passed Correctional Services Act and the Swaziland Constitution of 2005.

Ntshangase said as per the above legal instruments, including the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Offenders (The Mandela Rules) all incarcerated persons ought to have three meals per day. However, he noted that fulfilling this mandate under perilous economic situation was no easy task.

It was such challenging times that

forced the department, through the commissioner general to embark on various farming activities to ensure no inmate goes to bed on an empty stomach. Generally, each inmate out of the annual population of 3 500 offenders consumes E65 per day. This being breakfast, lunch and supper. This figure excludes medical expenses and clothes.

Farming activities are carried out on land measuring above 180 hectares. Here, the department produces field crops such as maize, beans, cowpeas, sweet potatoes and jugo beans amongst others. Vegetables such as cabbages, beetroot, carrots, green paper, tomatoes and onions are also produced mainly to supplement inmates' nutritional requirement.

The farming activities also benefit offenders with livelihood skills thus indirectly addressing the challenges which forced a majority of them to commit crime. This correctional programme amongst many that the commissioner general has introduced promotes a smooth social reintegration of offenders. Such initiatives are also credited for the roles they play in reducing the rate of recidivism.

**CONCERNED:** Commissioner General Isaiah Mzuthini Ntshangase.



**DAMAGED:** Director of Agriculture Assistant Commissioner Mancoba Nkambule having a look at the destroyed maize fields at Matsapha Correctional farm.



# SWAZILAND INCORPORATED: 2022 & BEYOND

#ISSUE No.23

'MOVING FROM RHETORIC TO ACTION'

## A DREAM DEFFERED

The African National Congress (ANC) begins its four-day 54<sup>th</sup> elective conference today at NASREC in Johannesburg.

The eyes of the world will be following the conference with keen interest, especially the Southern African region.

We are all interested in the kind of leadership the ANC delegates will choose from this conference.

I am just passing on that topic because it will inform the kind of relationship the Kingdom of Eswatini will have with the Government of the Republic of South Africa.

Under the leadership of outgoing ANC President Jacob G. Zuma the relationship between the party and the Kingdom has been cordial.

In my next column I will try to reflect on the above matter in detail given the benefit of knowing the new party leadership.

But let the ANC deal with its issues this weekend, let me deal with our local issues.

One virtue that any leadership must almost demonstrate is that of being calm in the midst of storms. That disposition gives everyone the appreciation that in as much as we are in crisis, but our leadership remain resolute and works hard to resolve or steer the ship ashore.

Leadership must not panic or find itself caught in the frenzy of despair.

However, there is a very thin line between keeping one's head above water, showing calmness and or indifference.

Being calm in an effort to provide leadership is characterised by owning up. You admit as leadership that you are in a crisis or storm. You do everything within your means to calm those you lead that despite what appears to be severe challenges you have a plan to steady the ship safely ashore.

You appeal to your audience for patience and understanding. You make them buy into your plan and action in order to minimise the adverse effect of the challenges you are facing.

Such a disposition makes the followers to sympathise with you and it also appeals to their conscience to do something.

Meanwhile an indifferent leadership would want to conceal the existence of the challenge. At first he acts in a manner that wants to downplay the seriousness of the challenge before him.

Anyone who maybe observing that we are in serious challenge is often times rebuked, made to feel inferior and unimportant – not worthy to be taken serious.

Such an attitude is bad because like an Ostrich, the leadership deliberately buries its head in the sand.

In light of the situation we found ourselves in as country, we don't need to behave in a manner that is indifferent.

The sporadic labour issues and lack of social service delivery are an indication that some-



Prime Minister  
Sibusiso Dlamini

Minister Martin  
Dlamini

Prince  
Hlangusempi.

thing is not right.

What as citizens we are clear on is that those in leadership don't personally own this situation. Their role is that of being custodians and always acting in the best interest of the populace. It is unfortunate though when some individuals in leadership forget that they are serving in public office on behalf of the people and the King.

### Situation

It is such disposition that creates agitation and desperation for everyone. From where we are, signs are that the economic situation we have currently is worse than that of 2010/11.

Then the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) receipts have shrunk to levels that almost collapsed our economy.

This time around receipts are within what we expect, but our economic growth is growing at one per cent or even below, owing to the challenges of our anchor which is the Republic of South Africa.

Meanwhile our expenditure pattern has not been reviewed downwards to cope with the current situation.

What we need therefore is a shift in the behaviour of our government. We need the Executive to start behaving in a manner that demonstrates that we are in a crisis. We need an urgent public plan on what we need to do to reverse the

prevailing situation. We can no longer afford to hope that we will have jobs and have investments but still not contain our expenditure. We need to start by containing our expenditure and grow it gradually with the improvement in our economic outlook.

The season we are in is a silly one, where we are quickly approaching an election in less than 10 months time.

### Trust

We need to trust those in government that they are always acting in the best interest of the country. It would be unfortunate if some people are abating this prevailing situation in order to be indispensable by the time their time is up. We need to be responsible in the manner we manage this economy. In an environment where resources are scarce, there tends to be a lot of corrupt practices, which are deliberate and detrimental to good governance.

There are some people who thrive in chaos and position themselves as the only people who can sort out whatever mess they may have engineered.

I hope for the sake of this country, we won't have such, hence we appeal to a responsible programme to take this country forward.

At the rate things are going, we may not achieve many of our targets towards 2022.

A poorly resourced country will struggle to

put together a successful 50-50 Independence and King's Birthday Celebration, let alone an effective election process.

If the current situation is not arrested all our efforts to be the Promise of Africa and thereby host a successful 2020 African Union Summit are in danger.

Our economy is indeed in a bad space, many ministers have attested to that, it is time we save ourselves from further downward spiral.

We can do it. We need the Executive and the other arms of government to start smelling the coffee. We need to be pro-active and not be forced into some economic recovery plan, but do it ourselves.

The 50-50 CEOs fund-raising team should look beyond just this one event but ensure that strategies are in place to put the country in a sound fiscal position.

We must create a good legacy for the country, not one which celebrated its economic demise, hence any plan that is put forward must look beyond the two major events we will have next year, the celebrations and the elections.

Those in charge should ensure that our dream of a prosperous Swaziland doesn't get deferred. We have been promised First World country status by the year 2022 let therefore no one derails us from achieving that vision.

All hands must be on deck!

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## Dealing with Diabetes



WITH: Nomalungelo  
Ginindza

Diabetes  
Swaziland PR

# DIABETES AND ALCOHOL

Last Saturday we were talking about diabetic diet, this Saturday we are looking at the linkage between Diabetes and Alcohol, a very sensitive topic to most people since it's the festive season.

Diabetes and substance abuse are two conditions that can seriously impact health. It is not only their potential to cause damage that relates these two together. There can also be a more direct relationship between them. Some people may develop diabetes because of excessive alcohol intake. Alcohol lowers the blood sugar levels in the body and that causes diabetes (Hypoglycemia). It is also likely that any form of substance abuse will make life worse for the diabetic. Alcohol in particular can be dangerous for anyone trying to manage their diabetes. According to the American Diabetes Association, most alcoholics develop pancreatitis and about one third of those with this condition will go on to develop diabetes. Alcohol abuse may also lead to glucose intolerance and obesity, which are both connected to Type 2 diabetes.

## Let's look at how alcohol is made;

To make alcohol, you need to put grains, fruits or vegetables through a process called fermentation (when yeast or bacteria react with the sugars in food- the by products are ethanol and carbon dioxide).

## What is fermentation?

Wine and cider are made by fermenting fruit, while fermented cereals such as barley and rye form the basis of beer and spirits. A drink's alcohol content is affected by how long it's left to ferment. Spirits also go through a process called distillation -where a proportion of the water is removed, leaving a stronger concentration of alcohol and flavour ([www.drinkaware.co.uk](http://www.drinkaware.co.uk)).

## Understanding how alcohol affects the body

Alcohol is absorbed into the bloodstream via small blood vessels in the walls of the stomach and small intestines. Within minutes of drinking alcohol, it travels from the stomach to the brain, where it quickly produces its effects, slowing the action of nerve cells. Alcohol is also carried by the bloodstream to the liver, which eliminates the alcohol from the blood through the process called metabolising, where it is converted to a nontoxic substance. The liver can only metabolise a certain amount at a time, leaving the excess circulating throughout the body, thus the intensity of the effect on the body is directly related to the amount consumed. When the amount of alcohol in the blood exceeds a certain level, the respiratory (breathing) system slows down markedly and can cause a coma or death because oxygen no longer reaches the brain ([www.drugfree-world.org](http://www.drugfree-world.org)). Anyone who has been diagnosed with diabetes will need to be cautious around alcohol. Some diabetics will be advised against drinking at all, especially those who have nerve damage, hypertension, or eye disease. The dangers of excessive alcohol use for diabetics include:

- Drinking alcohol can lead to high blood glu-



cose levels. Drinks like beer and wine contain particularly high amounts of sugar.

- A lot alcohol can cause dangerously low blood glucose levels. This is because of interference with the liver's ability to release stored glucose.

- Alcohol abuse can worsen the nerve damage caused by diabetes.

- Alcohol can interfere with some diabetic medications so that they are not as effective.

- Alcohol makes some people hungry. This causes them to eat more than they should leading to hyperglycemia.

- Heavy drinking can worsen any eye disease caused by diabetes.

- Diabetics should never drink on an empty stomach or when their blood sugar levels are low. Drinking alcohol on an empty stomach can lead to diabetes; as alcohol lowers blood sugar levels.

- Alcohol normally damages nerve cells, even light drinking. For those diabetic patients with nerve damage there will be an increase in pain, numbness and burning or tingling sensations.

- For those with symptoms of eye disease, drinking can worsen the condition, leading to blindness.

- Levels of triglycerides (human fats) and blood pressure increase with the consumption of drinks, in whatever quantities. Diabetic patients with a high level of triglycerides should not drink at all.

## Some considerations about alcohol

- Alcohol can metabolise to produce energy and has dietary consequences.

- Alcohol supports the intake of blood glucose into the liver.

- Many alcoholic drinks contain sugar, especially mixed ones.

- The symptoms of hypoglycemia (drop in blood sugar) and drunkenness are similar and as such alcohol is liable to mask the symptoms of hypoglycemia.

- Excess consumption of alcohol increases the level of triglycerides.

- Diabetics with drinking habits must remain sober enough to take care of themselves.

## There are three main ways drinking alcohol to excess can be a factor in causing diabetes

1. Heavy drinking can reduce the body's sensitivity to insulin, which can trigger Type 2 diabetes.

2. Diabetes is a common side effect of chronic pancreatitis, which is overwhelmingly caused by heavy drinking.

3. Alcohol contains a huge amount of calories - one pint of lager can be equivalent to a slice of pizza. So drinking can also increase your chance of becoming overweight and your risk of developing Type 2 diabetes.

Hypoglycemia can be particularly danger-

ous when you're drinking because people can mistakenly think that you're drunk and may not realise you need urgent medical help. Drinking heavily can also increase the chances of developing hypoglycemia because it prevents the liver from making glucose when you drink on an empty stomach. The symptoms of too much alcohol and hypoglycemia can be similar - sleepiness, dizziness, and disorientation. You do not want anyone to confuse hypoglycemia for drunkenness, because they might not give you the proper assistance and treatment.

- Excess alcohol can actually decrease your blood sugar level - sometimes causing it to drop into dangerous levels.

- Beer and sweet wine contain carbohydrates and may raise blood sugar.

- Alcohol stimulates your appetite, which can cause you to overeat and may affect your blood sugar control.

- Alcohol may also affect your judgment or willpower, causing you to make poor food choices.

- Alcohol can interfere with the positive effects of oral diabetes medicines or insulin.

- Alcohol may increase blood pressure.

- Alcohol can cause flushing, nausea, increased heart rate, and slurred speech.

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IT'S BEEN ONE HECK OF A YEAR..

Lifestyle & Entertainment

Issue # 164

# AWARDS

PAGES 4,5



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BY AYANDA DLAMINI

**W**e are just about the shut the year 2017 down, so today we decided to do an awards ISSUE; Lifestyle and Entertainment

Awards (*Our very own version*), just to appreciate our stars who have been making us proud locally and internationally. Wait, should we call them earth shakers?

Yes, they've left their foot-

prints.

They made history in the art industry.

There might not be any prizes available for the winners, but we commending the job well done. A colleague once said 'We

are the eyes and ears of the society thus our observations are without any favours,' and today I repeat the same words. Turn to Page 4 and 5.

Till next week, Compliments of the season.

# MY 2017 HIGHLIGHTS



## ■ Nduzozo Matse

**“2**017 has been a great year for me with many remarkable achievements. Performing at the state banquet dinner for SADC, the biggest Swazi bank cup finals, Mpumalanga awards, Winning the Song of the year and best stylist artist in the local Gospel music awards was also my highlights.

One of my greatest highlights in 2017 was being awarded the Best of African Gospel at the Crown gospel awards and being hosted by Rebecca Malope on Gospel Time.

### Future plans in 2018

“I am doing a massive Live CD and DVD recording in April 21, with an orchestra band, 30 vocals, with at least 5000 audience. I will launch it in all the major cities of South Africa including Maputo and Botswana and lastly I will run a soccer tournament for young boys in Manzini in partnership with Shibobo Academy.



## ■ Banele Dlamini

**2**017 has been a year of growth for me as an artist. The primary focus was to get people to know Banele Dlamini and get to identify with the name.

I appreciate the strides that I have taken so far, with my management company. I had to learn to be patient and to wait for my opportunity without complaining. It took 13 months to get my album out and I had to trust in God.

## ■ Mozaik The Producer

**“T**he year has been great for me, there has been so much growth for me and I have achieved so much.

I guess my first highlight would be releasing my second solo international radio single; 'Right On Time'. It has received so much airplay on SA radio. Also, I launched my website, produced Dino Bravo latest single - 'Burn Out' which features Gigi Lamayne, Bo and Buffalo Souljah. Amongst the many highlights, I also produced DJ Qness - Art Of EDM album which was

released weeks ago. It features Kyle, Zolani, Matthew Gold, Velemseni and more. I successfully did my first leg of international radio tour and locked down a few international production jobs.

### Future plans in 2018

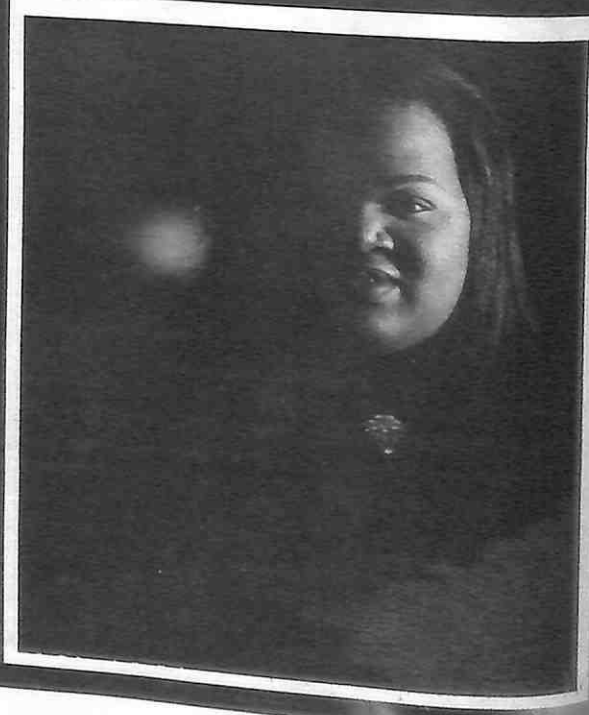
“I'm working on finalising my album, working towards releasing it next year, with international features. I'm also doing the second leg of my radio tour and starting the album tour. Lastly but not the least, making my brand bigger and getting it onto bigger platforms.

### Highlights

Today, I am officially a solo artist. My album is available for sale for the first time ever.

Sitting at one of the best studios in the whole of South Africa to listen to my own project brought tears to my eyes.

The reputable people in the industry that had an input, it still feels like a dream and getting bookings as a solo artists has also been amazing.







## ■ Master P

**“2** 017 been a phenomenal year for me as an artist. It's been a year of growth, I've made new working relationships and achieved a lot.

Coming to my highlights where do I start? Being on the Bushfire line up, being invited to perform at Live Festival in Mozambique (Coconuts) also being invited to perform in

Botswana at the Gaborone International and Music culture week, where I got to link up with an award winning rapper, (Foster Juliano) and we made a song together, also on the song is Mozaik and Reason. Been crowned MTNSWAMA DJ OF THE YEAR 2017.

In 2018 I'm planning on expanding the Master P brand, not just regionally but globally, I'm also dropping my debut album, so be on the lookout.



## ■ Nothando Hlophe

**“2** 017 has been an amazing year where I have grown so much as a solo artist. My biggest target was to get people to know Nothando Hlophe and to be identified as a separate entity from Women in Praise, where I first got my break.

I am excited with where I am today and the doors that have continued to open for me to grow. My 2017 highlights would be performing at the 10th SABC Crown Gospel Awards and having my song being the theme song for the awards was quite special.

Winning two awards at the #MTNSWAMA awards; 'Best Gospel artist' and 'Female artist of the year' was huge for me.

Being nominated and performing at the Mpumalanga Gospel Awards was amongst the many highlights.

My last performance with Women in Praise and their last recording at the Lyric Theater was huge for me.

### Future plans in 2018

My biggest plan for 2018 is doing a live DVD recording in Johannesburg on the 28th April. That will require a lot of promotion before and after the recording and travelling, so that just about covers my 2018.

I am also hoping to feature once more on the Spirit of Praise volume 7 recording in July 2018.

## ■ Dusty and Stones

**“2** 017 has been a year of major developments for D&S! It has been a year where we saw the hands of God doing his wonders for us!

We feel it's been a year of blessings since within this year we managed to fulfill our dreams as artists: play extensively locally and travel abroad still to play! Looking back now it sure feels like it was just a dream yet its reality! In short it's been "the ideal year".

### 2017 Highlights

"Being nominated at Texas Sounds International Country Music Awards, being the first and only blacks in that competition! To fly there participate and win an award is a major point in our lives and music career that we will never forget!!

We still can't believe we went to Nashville! Icing on the cake was to have our songs recorded in there with the best of the best musicians who play for super stars like Dolly Parton, and have Taylor Swift producer work on our songs! That's unbelievable! And of course having a documentary crew tracing our lives for five six months from Mooihoek to Texas!!

It doesn't get better than that if you're an artist especially from Swaziland where the industry is still growing. The reaction and reception we got back home when we returned is something we will never forget! Everyone from



government to fans and media was super excited just as we are. This year we saw priceless support for what we do and for that we are grateful.

### Future plans in 2018

"We are focusing on recording the rest of the songs and release our album

if all goes according to plan. Or singles if not full album!! Working on going to Nashville again to finish the album if possible. We're looking at releasing some videos as well of some of the new material we working on. We are planning on playing more next year locally and abroad. 2017 has been a year of showers of blessings for D&S."

## ■ DJ Tendaness

**S**peaking to his Manager Sibusiso Simelane, "2017 has been a great year for Tendaness as he was able to achieve some of his goals which was, introducing his own sound, collaborating with the best artists from Swaziland and releasing timeless feel good music that is accepted locally and international.

We released five hit singles, 'Jika', 'Love Me', 'Call on me', 'Solo' and 'Tell Me'.

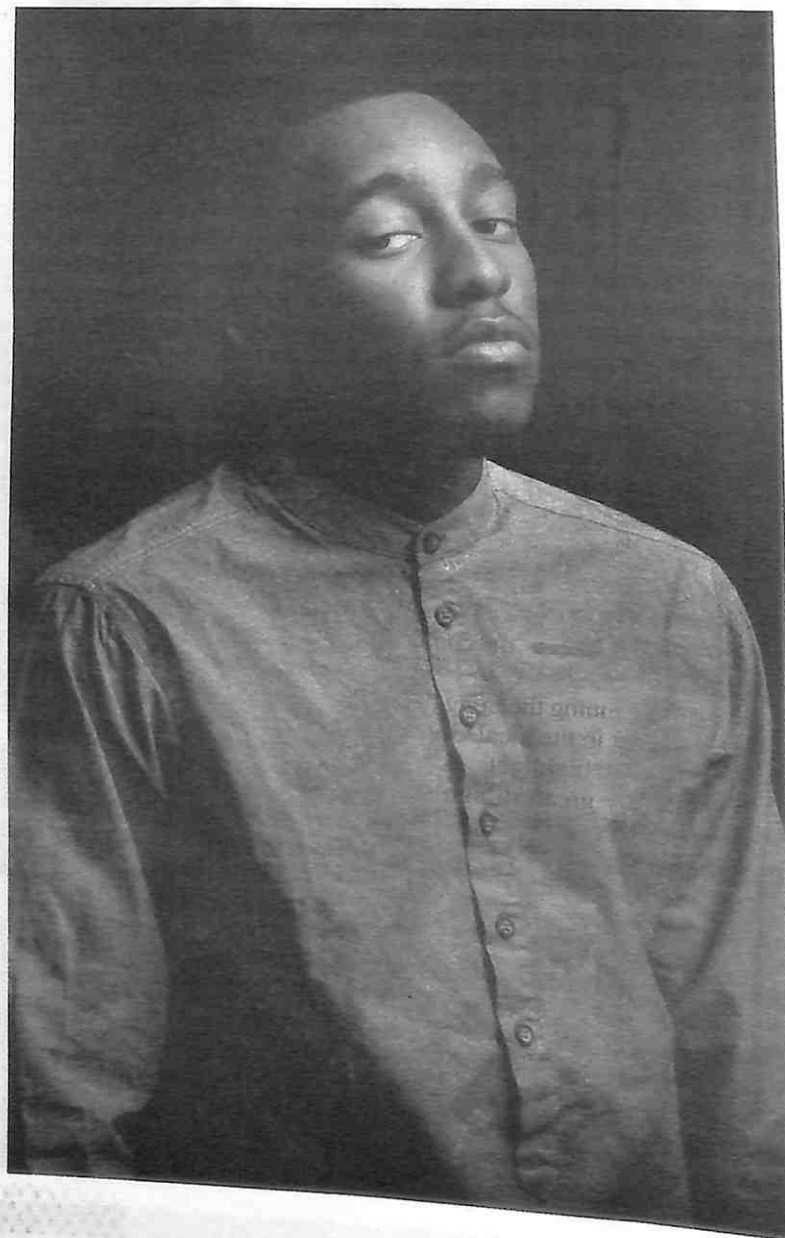
Headlined one of the biggest festivals in South Africa 'Home coming Africa'. Also got his music on playing on radio stations across the world, and his music topping charts.

He got invitations for interviews on South African radio stations but only managed to do YFM only because of his tight schedule, pushed the rest to next year.

2018 it's going to be more performances locally and internationally as we have already started getting inquiries.

More radio and TV interviews locally and internationally as we have some lined up and music videos for all the music we had released this year.

(Compiled by Ayanda Dlamini)





# LIFESTYLE AND



## Best comedian – Mdura

**H**e scoped the very same award in 2015, and 2017 has been a year for Mdura, scoring big gigs and sharing stage with international comedians. By no doubt he makes people laugh without even trying too much. He surely deserves this award.

## Merchandise/ clothing brand of the year - Touch Of Soul

**T**his brand has become an international brand, worn by South Africa big guns such as AKA, Julius Malema, DJ Zinhle just to

name a few. This brand has surely touched many hearts. Who doesn't own a TSO merch? I mean really.



## Song of the year - Tigi

**T**igigigi! We've been jamming to this track since last year and still got the groove. This song has blown the whole country and South Africa away as it has been sitting on top

five in numerous radio charts; locally and internationally, leaving music lovers to question if it will make history as the crossover song for two consecutive years.

SONG  
OF THE YEAR



## Artist of the year – Sands

**H**is album 'Sands of Time' has touched so many hearts, he scoped a number of awards locally especial at the MTN SWAMA awards. He is the Swazi golden boy. He has

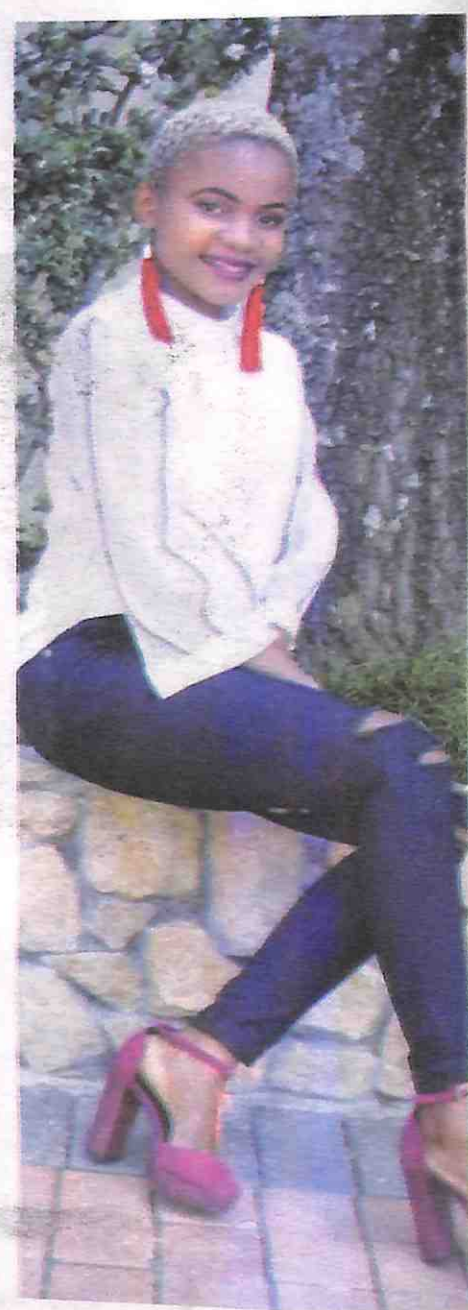
raised the Swazi flag so high, bracing international shows; TV, radio and graced international stages. A lot Sands has achieved this year and making us proud.



## Model of the year - Coralee Vilakati

**S**he was amongst the first models to grace the Soweto Fashion Week in South Africa. She left her modeling agency Top Models and still excelled in

the modeling industry. Mind you, she is the one of the Darling. She won Miss Africa Fashion week in Southern Africa, isn't that big? She is true definition of a model.



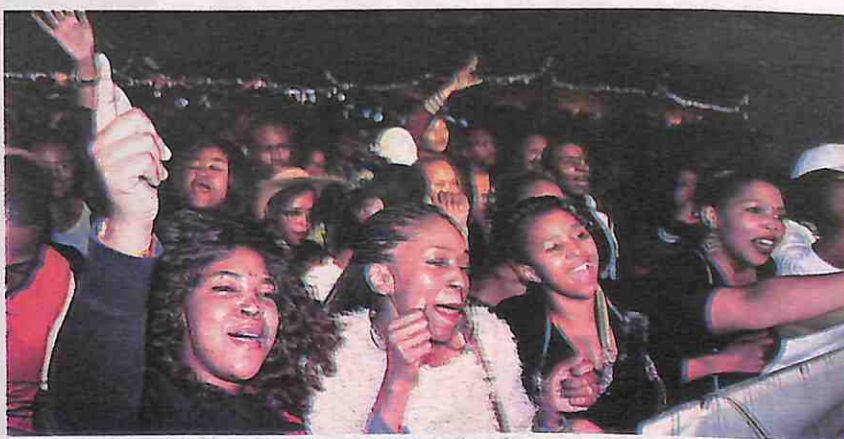
## Socialite of the year - Balindile Tfwala

**S**he supports all kinds of shows from gospel to comedy shows. She's always there. She supports local. Even on Social media she gives reviews about the shows. She's a truly loyal to local fan.

## Best show of the year - FNB SmoothFest

**W**hat a show it was! The #Zajik'Zinto lived up to the expectations as fun lovers had best time of their lives.

From the line-up, turn out, the organising team, hooray! From the launch of fest to the show everything ran smoothly. All artists came through and on time and bought their A game. Facebook users are still taking about the show even today mind you.





# ENTERTAINMENT AWARDS



## Most flop show/ event - Umdabula Crossover

The marketing was quite good but the show did not live up to its standard as marketed. Artists did not show up mostly the South Africans. A makeup show

was pledged, till today still no makeup show for the ticket holders who stood up by the organisers promising them fireworks but couldn't deliver.



## New comer of the year - Mandisa Mamba

Hello America. Her lively and seductive dance moves leaves yearning for more. She's unapologetic on stage. She gives the best and she's a very good performer. She's our very own Beyonce, not to mention her sexy outfits on stage.



## DJ of the year - Master P

He is well known for his hip hop sets that drives everyone crazy in the club scene. Self proclaimed phenomenal spinner that makes

people dance, while building a legacy. Looking at the pace you are going there is still more music fanatics will be celebrating about you.



## Beauty queen of year - Baby Mthinkhulu

She might be a second Princess of Miss Swaziland, but hey! She has represented the country so well international. She recently represented the coun-

try in Miss University Africa in Nigeria where she was battling the crown with 54 beauty queens from Africa. She might not



## Best gospel artist - Nothando Hlophe

Miss Khulul' ugcobo. She has shared staged with gospel idols and legends. She rose to fame in 2015 and recorded her debut album 'Imphilo Yami' and that album still rocks. Her Khulula Ugcobo video is standing on 2. 8 million views. She has received so many acceptances and she has been a regular face in One Gospel TV shows. Her star still continues to shine as she widens her horizons.



## Feleb of the year (Most well known Facebook User) - Kiki Mkhwanazi

She talks about anything from arts to politics. She's unapologetic on social media. She educates at the same

time through her funny posts. Sometimes her posts are overlooked and misunderstood but factual at most.

## Best MC of the year - Lindokuhle Mthupha

They call her Leendor. Besides being loyal to local advocate, she's a bull on stage, her funny comments and eye pleasing outfits. She pulls crowds. She has graced many successful

shows as MC such as Total Gold Series first edition, making a comeback to this year's edition, Face OF Swazi Plaza search pageant, Reason's show and the MTM SWAMA awards to name a few.



## Soccer star of the year - Tony Tsabedze

He has done so much for himself in the football scene From playing

local to international tournament. Bravo 'TT'.



# 7 steps to HAPPY, HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS



**W**riting in 'Safe people: how to find relationships that are good for you to avoid those that aren't', Henry Cloud said "You aren't alive if you aren't in need. This is one of the marks of a truly safe person: they are confrontable."

Cloud goes further and states that; "We were created for intimacy, to connect with someone with heart, soul, and mind. Intimacy occurs when we are open, vulnerable, and honest, for these qualities help us to be close to each other."

Perhaps one of the most outspoken phrases is that to love is a great feeling but even greater is being loved or that special someone returning the gesture extended to him or her. All of us definitely want to experience healthy, caring and loving relationships with those people closest to us. More so this being the festive season where everyone wants to experience the warmth and joy of being closer to the special people in one's life after the tiring and eventful year behind us.

How you choose to handle this world we call life is up to you even though most would attest that change is inevitable. Some writers even said the only constant thing under the sun is change so either embrace it or perish under the changing environment we live in. Every relationship has its winter just like the four seasons of the year, which can swiftly change at an instant all year round without any warning whatsoever.

But in this hustle and bustle world with its constant pressures and deadlines, it is sometimes easy to forget how simple things can go a long way in making your life and that of your loved ones so much better.

It all takes much effort, time, patience and endurance to turn things around for one to achieve a healthy relationship so below relationship expert Andrea Muller of Family Club shared some immortal piece of advice on seven steps in living a happy and healthy, if not enviable relationship;

## Face time

In a world filled with technology, it has never been so easy to stay in touch yet so difficult to keep relationships that are real. Sadly, WhatsApp and Messenger applications have become a replacement for one-on-one time. Sometimes it is the people that we live with that we

end up spending the least quality time with. Never underestimate the value of catching up with your spouse over a cup of tea or coffee after work, or discussing your children's day at school after they come home. Try to make dinner time with the family an important phone-free zone. This is the perfect time to give everyone a chance to talk about those things that matter to them and seek advice from the rest of the family.

## The power of thank you

When was the last time you thanked those closest to you for the simple things that they do every single day? Showing gratitude and appreciation can literally change your relationships. Because when the people around you feel appreciated and happy, they will try to do the same for you.

## Acknowledge achievements

Everyone enjoys having their achievements acknowledged. Positive affirmation is one of the most powerful motivations for people. Make a fuss when you daughter wins that long-distance race at school, celebrate your friend's promotion at work with a drink or special dinner. Even small achievements need to be celebrated, and people need to know that their friends and family are cheering them on.

## Obstacles are opportunities in disguise

All relationships go through difficult times that can seem overwhelming. Constant arguing, anger, sarcasm, outbursts and even just silence can have long-term, damaging consequences. But successfully solving these conflicts can strengthen relationships for life. Sometimes the only way to solve these challenges is to swallow your pride and start a con-

versation. Don't play the blame game, or take on all the responsibility for the problem but have a sincere, honest talk about what is really going on.

## Don't assume the worst

One of the most damaging mindsets for any friendship, marriage or parent-child relationship is not giving your loved one the benefit of the doubt. If your spouse is constantly on their laptop, is it fair to assume that they are having an online affair? If you get a call from your child's school to say they have been in a fight, don't just assume your child threw the first punch. And if your best friend has gone quiet, maybe she/he is going through difficulty and needs some support and encouragement, instead of a snotty message about where she/he has been.

Too many of us are living in our own little world, but when we put ourselves in the shoes of loves one, we can go a long way in easing their pain and difficulty. Remember to ask first and stop assuming. Words as simple as; 'I can see you're not yourself, how can I help?' Sometimes that is all anybody needs to feel supported.

## Don't dog up the past

All of us have made mistakes, and your friends and family are no exception. What they don't need is someone constantly reminding them of it. The secret to happiness is to deal with these problems in a constructive way. You may be entitled to your anger, and you may even be angry for a long time, but don't clutch it like a hot water bottle. If you have confronted your loved one, they have sincerely apologised and shown a willingness to change or correct their mistake, and you have chosen to forgive- then you need to move on. Constantly reminding them of that one mistake will only make them resent you.

## Watch and listen

Ultimately as human beings we form connections with other people to enhance our lives. That's what it is all about. You may have a list of expectations that you want from your friends, children, and spouse but watch what other people do and say

because often they are telling you something by their actions. People will often do for others what they would love someone to do for them. If someone gets up early in the morning to make you a hot cup of coffee, surprise them the next day by doing it for them. That's a simple example but one that you can practice daily. Also, listen; really listen to what your loved one is saying. The most important things to all people is to be heard, seen, acknowledged and accepted for who they are. On a parting note, it is fundamental to note that safe relationships are centred and grounded in forgiveness. When you have a friend with the ability to forgive you for hurting her or letting her down, something deeply spiritual occurs in the transaction between you two. You actually experience a glimpse of the deepest nature of God Himself. People who forgive can—and should—also be people who confront. What is not confessed can't be forgiven.

## NB. Never say to friends and family;

I don't have time for you/this/us.  
I don't care what your opinion is.  
You always do this or that negative thing.  
I will never forgive you for that.

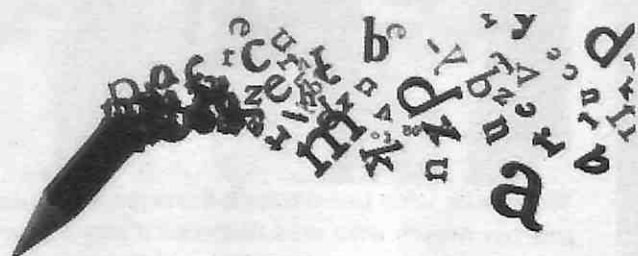
## Always say to friends and family

I appreciate you and everything you do.  
That hurt my feelings.  
Thank you for being in my life and everything you do.  
Here are the things I love about you.  
(By Njabulo Dlamini – with additional material from Family Club)





POETRY CORNER



RECITATIVE

Every night, we couldn't sleep.  
Our upstairs neighbors had to keep  
Dropping something down the hall—  
A barbell or a bowling ball,

And from the window by the bed,  
Echoing inside my head,  
Alley cats expended breath  
In arias of love and death.

Dawn again, across the street,  
Jackhammers began to beat  
Like hangovers, and you would  
frown—  
That well-built house, why tear it  
down?

Noon, the radiator grill  
Groaned, gave off a lesser chill  
So that we could take off our coats.  
The pipes coughed to clear their

throats.

Our nerves were frayed like ravelled  
sleeves,  
We cherished each our minor griefs  
To keep them warm until the night,  
When it was time again to fight;

But we were young, did not need  
much  
To make us laugh instead, and touch,  
And could not hear ourselves above  
The arias of death and love.

SOAPIE WATCH | SOAPIE WATCH



Monday 18 December

Kwa'Manzini is shocked by a tragedy. Pam and S'Khaleni argue about a way forward in their marriage. Iris is charmed by a mysterious and very rich man at the club.

Tuesday 19 December

Thandeka finally tells S'bu the truth about her pregnancy. Pam and S'Khaleni struggle to come up with a mutual solution. Qondi is encouraged by Kaone. Melusi returns home.

SOAPIE WATCH | SOAPIE WATCH

Wednesday 20 December

Iris and the mysterious rich stranger get closer by spending more time together. After Ntandane talks some sense into S'Khaleni, he patches things up with Pam. Will Qondi stand up for herself in front of the Ngubane elders?

Thursday 21 December

Pam and S'Khaleni work through their problems. Richard "Rich" Harqvist (played by Murray Clive Walker) comes through for Iris and Iris is blown away. Phumelele is swept off her feet by Mpiyakhe.

Friday 22 December

Iris thinks Rich is the best Christmas gift any woman could have. Qondi's awareness event gets a thumbs up. S'Khaleni struggles to rise up to Pam's challenge, but he refuses to give up.

ISIDÍNGO

Monday 18 December

Nikiwe tells Benjamin that Sibiya's van was ambushed. Lerato informs Sechaba she's running out of time. Hendrik grounds Anja and Zandre.

Tuesday 19 December

It's a day of dismissals in Horizon Deep as a few people get given their marching orders. Lerato fears her dream is getting trashed.

Wednesday 20 December

A dejected Lerato begins to doubt that she will meet the deadline for the big launch of her new salon. Anja is disappointed when her father grounds her after she

decided to be mature and honest about things. Kgothalo catches Benjamin watching Nikiwe with mesmerized eyes and she gets ideas.

Thursday 21 December

When Kgothalo still hasn't come to the party, Lerato faces the fact that she might have to give up on her dream for now. Anja sees alarming posts on Facebook about Tina moving in on her man. Benjamin seemingly takes every opportunity to spend time with Nikiwe. Could Kgothalo be right about his feelings for her?

Friday 22 December

Lerato is conflicted between spending Christmas with Sechaba or working to meet her launch date. Hendrik is still fuming over Anja lying to him. The chemistry between Nikiwe and Benjamin continues to build.



Monday 18 December

Tenda finds out who his little sister is dating. Vusi learns Katlego was discharged and he's worried. Matshidiso tells Sthe she's only interested in one thing.

Tuesday 19 December

Pfarelo flees to the royal house and Livhu learns that Dee has moved in with Tenda. Kat finally shows up after being missing. Sthe's declaration of love pours cold water over his hot affair.

Wednesday 20 December

K comes home early. Katlego takes charge of her life again. Livhuwani is back in Thathe to claim her home and her man.

Thursday 21 December

Sthemiso is convinced that KK is on to him and is terrified. Tenda and Dee have a fight. Rendani decides to go to Venda for the holidays.

Friday 22 December

A brawl between Tendamudzimu and Rashaka ends in disaster. KK gets a confession out of Matshidiso about her affair with Sthemiso. Rendani is in trouble and Matodzi comes to her rescue.



Monday 18 December

Fats's dream comes true. Puleng tries to sort her life out. Big Man moves in on the 66ers as David tries to ward off his assassin.

Tuesday 19 December

David tries to work out who betrayed him. Rene gets caught in the middle of more goat drama. Dumisani lets down the team.

Wednesday 20 December

David is sure he knows who took out the hit on him, but Andiswa has other ideas for him. Dumi is approached by a stranger, who gives him money. Jafda and Fats tussle over the goat.

Thursday 21 December

Andiswa tells David who ordered the hit on him. Busi is falsely accused. Jafda has a favour to ask Kop.

Friday 22 December

Dennis has vanished. Big Man tries to save Gail. Mapula and Sabelo are worried about Dumi.

SCANDAL!

Monday 18 December

Boniswa makes a complete turn around and a dangerous decision. Ingrid is determined to find the truth, but is discouraged from doing so. Ndumiso takes a chance, and the outcome surprises Gontse

Tuesday 19 December

Yvonne makes a frightening discovery, and Boniswa makes a shocking confession. Ingrid tells a lie in order to cover her tracks. Two women are determined to stand in the way of their family members becoming friends.

Wednesday 20 December

A husband tries to protect his wife with a lie, but she makes a shocking confession. A young woman is frustrated in her search for the truth about her past. Zinzile plans to rely on the talent of an elder to help her family change their lives.

Thursday 21 December

The disappearance of an unhappy woman is cause for much alarm amongst her family. Eddie unwittingly reveals to a father that his daughter has been lying. Ndumiso is shocked by a sight he never thought he would see.

Friday 22 December

A woman who can take no more concedes defeat, and has some distressing news for someone who loves her. Stokkies is unsuccessful when he undertakes a mission on behalf of his boss.



Baby Blues



Blondie



Hagar the Horrible





# Thandeka Mdluli's 21<sup>st</sup> BIRTHDAY



Thandeka Mdluli celebrated her 21st birthday in style where she was joined by her friends and relatives at a small gathering held at Sibane Hotel on Friday. The theme of the night was all white save for the birthday girl who was in black. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



Thandeka Mdluli in smiles as she cut her stylish birthday cake.



The birthday girl joined by her parents Senator Ndumiso Mdluli and mother Mavis.



Thandeka with her parents Senator Ndumiso Mdluli and mother Mavis who was with her sister Phumzile.



Bhutane Magagula, Yenzo Nyawo and Ntokozo Hadebe were also guests at the event.



Friends to the birthday girl were all clad in white outfits for the special day.

## PROM Best Suits



ENGLISH LOOK: Samkelo Dlamini



PEACE: Lungelo JJ Mlambo.



THSOLA: Tshepo Mahlalela



DAPPER: Vuyo Ginindza and Thubenhle Maziya



MINE: Vuyo Ginindza and his date Sikanye Mamba.





SWANCEFA



With: Thulani Lushaba

**T**he dawn of Free Primary Education in Swaziland was a result of strategic litigation.

In today's article we look at a study conducted by one of our partners, the Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA) on the impact of strategic litigation for education.

From this article, we will realise that achieving free quality inclusive education for all has been a struggle for many African countries.

It has been partially won because we now all agree that education is a fundamental human right and that all citizens have a right to access to education. Strategic litigation has made sure that we don't only open the doors to learning but also learning equipment are available in the classroom. Below is a brief summary of the study.

It is axiomatic that children who cannot access at least basic education do not reach their full potential. Access to quality education shapes both an individual's life-long opportunities and her society's achievements. But despite the attending legal obligations and self-evident benefits for states to fulfil their positive obligation to progressively realize this right, many countries are failing to do so, and the international community failed to meet the UN Millennium Development Goal of achieving universal primary education by 2015.

Basic literacy—a fundamental indicator of equal access to quality education—has risen only incrementally in the last 15 years globally, from 87 per cent to 91 per cent; in Africa it rose from 70 per cent to 74 per cent.

Currently, 758 million people age 15 years and older "still cannot read or write a simple sentence. Roughly two-thirds of them are female." That so many adults cannot read and write means millions of children around the world have not enjoyed the right of access to quality education.

In some instances, neglect or prejudice exclude certain children from educational opportunities. In other cases, while there may in fact be adequate and equal access to education—in terms of the number of children who enrol in schools—the quality of the education that is offered may be so poor that it fails to result in the required capabilities.

What value does a school house have if it lacks qualified teachers, or if some students are barred from entering because of discrimination that the state fails to prevent? Such endemic failures have mired whole generations in poverty.

Strategic litigators and other civil society actors have increasingly turned to the courts for solutions. This study examines their efforts, and in so doing reveals a willingness among litigators and allies to consider the effects of litigation, as well as an enthusiasm to learn from experience—both their own and that of others. It is hoped this report will provide them a further opportunity to do so.

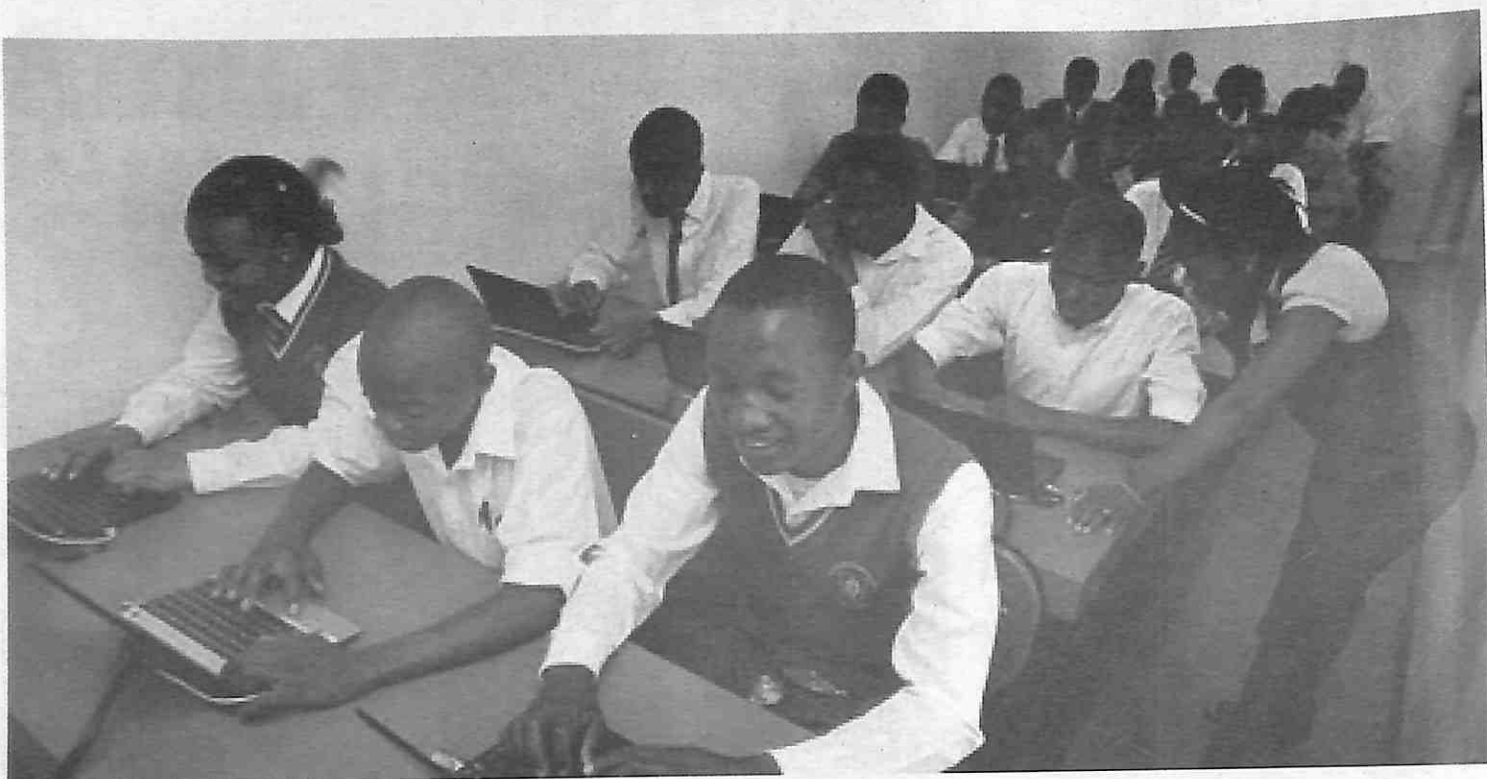
Clearly, the context in which strategic litigation takes place matters, and this study includes an overview of the litigation context in each of the countries under review, including constitutional and legal frameworks and processes, as well as the socio-political context relating to education.

A brief history of the struggle for education in each country is followed by a description of the legal environment in which the strategic litigation plays out, and an outline of the education cases that have been brought.

The bulk of the study examines three types of perceived impacts of the strategic litigation: material outcomes, changes in policy and law, and non-material or attitudinal change (referred to as "agenda change").

There are specific challenges associated with winning access to quality education; this report

# STRATEGIC LITIGATION FOR EDUCATION



looks at how—and how successfully—strategic litigation has tackled them. These challenges include the availability of education, such as a lack of spaces in schools, or low levels of student enrollment. There are also problems with access to education, such as children who have been excluded due to discrimination or have dropped out of school. Exclusion might also occur as a result of adaptability problems, such as children being excluded due to disability. Finally, there is a challenge beyond availability and access: the challenge of access to quality education. Gaining access to a seat in the classroom matters little if the seat is broken or the classroom lacks a competent teacher.

## Principal findings

**1. Strategic litigation has been an effective tool for achieving equal access to quality education in Brazil, India, and South Africa.** The "equal access" component can be seen in the many cases examined here that promote inclusion and access to education, particularly for the poorest and most marginalised children. However, many of those interviewed for the study feel that even where litigation addresses access, it is failing to address "quality" adequately. There is no clear correlation between the litigation and literacy rates, for example, or the litigation and the number of children attending school.

Although this may be due to an overly narrow approach to defining quality, it is valid for strategic litigators and the social actors with whom they collaborate to consider whether students who have gained access to education are receiving a quality education. If students are not gaining in knowledge, skills, and competencies, further litigation may be needed to address the quality of the education on offer.

**2. Broadly speaking, in Brazil, India, and South Africa the greatest litigation successes have been in material improvements, such as to school infrastructure:** fixing dilapidated buildings and providing basic sanitation, teaching materials, desks, chairs, and textbooks. More qualitative components—such as adequately trained teachers and norms that value the dignity of all students—have been litigated to vary-

ing degrees of success. For example, litigation has been critical in creating thousands of places in childcare institutions and pre-schools in Brazil; reducing the number of out-of-school children in India from 170 000 to 15 000 in less than two years; and building 138 new schools and securing the appointment of 145 new permanent teachers in South Africa.

Increased budgetary allocations towards improvements in the education system arising from litigation have been similarly impressive. However, focus on material outcomes can skew resource allocation and draw attention away from other important aspects of equal access to quality education. This research suggests that litigators and their partners are well advised to understand the service delivery system as a whole and ensure that litigation does not distort it by emphasizing access at the expense of quality.

**3. Strategic litigation has had a positive impact on education policy and jurisprudence in all three focus countries.** These changes include the recognition of early childhood education as an immediately realisable right in Brazil, the shift in definition of a child having "dropped out" of school from 60 consecutive days out of school to only seven days in the state of Karnataka, India, and the publication of norms and standards for school infrastructure in South Africa. The litigation has also produced important jurisprudential shifts, such as clarifying the immediate realisation of the right to education. In South Africa, the courts have begun to spell out the core content of this right, in contrast to their approach in other socio-economic rights cases.

**4. Social movements and strategic litigation interact in mutually-reinforcing ways.** The study finds a complex synergy between social movements and litigators in which social movements can give rise to litigation, and, under certain circumstances, litigation can catalyze movements for change. After Brazil's Movimento Creche para Todos (Childcare for All Movement) tried local, non-litigation initiatives without great success, it found that a bolder strategy emphasizing litigation would better address the deficit in access to early childhood education. On the other hand, in South Africa, the need for robust

execution of existing court judgments led to a movement of learners who advocated for the implementation of previously-litigated cases. In this regard, India is an outlier in the present study, having seen fewer examples of movements leading to cases or cases giving rise to social movements and, arguably, little sustainable improvement in the fulfilment of the right.

**5. The synergies between social movements and litigators have led to innovative litigation tactics and novel remedies.** The study reveals a sophisticated understanding of litigation strategy among litigators and movement leaders, as well as a willingness to try new approaches. Shifts from individual cases to collective cases in Brazil and the use of new strategies such as the "opt-in class action" in South Africa demonstrate a pioneering approach among strategic litigators in those countries, which is less evident in India.

**6. Strategic litigators in the three countries have largely taken an incremental approach to litigating for equal access to quality education.** Of course, local context is especially significant in determining a litigator's approach, and taking incremental steps may be most appealing to an individual litigator and her client. Yet it is surprising that despite having one of the largest school-age populations in the world, India has experienced few public-interest litigation cases (commonly known as PILs in India) of any kind, and fewer still related to access to quality education.

**7. Data-gathering is itself a valuable result of strategic litigation.** Sometimes increased access to and use of data is a conscious aim of litigation, while sometimes it is a by-product. Either way, information about education outcomes and financing of education, for example, is useful for both social mobilisation and follow-on litigation. According to the field research, strategic litigators and social movement partners are using it effectively.

To respond to these articles email us on swancefa@gmail.com or call us on 2404 9617 or like our Facebook page Swaziland Network Campaign For Education For All (SWANCEFA).



ECONOMICS  
TODAYWITH: George  
Choongwa

**T**he definition of the informal business sector borrows much of its concept from the definition of the informal sector in general.

Though some authors such as Webb (2012:3) attempt to separate the two terms by stating that "Informal" entrepreneurial activities can overlap with other categorisations of entrepreneurial activities including 'family firms,' 'community entrepreneurship,' 'homework,' 'emerging firms,' and 'self-employment' which in real terms also composed of the general definition of the informal economy, it also generally understood as a structure for economic activities that occur outside the formal institutional boundaries, but remains within informal institutional boundaries for large societal groups (Webb, Tihanyi, Ireland, Simon, 2009).

However, as stated before, there is a close relationship between the informal business sector and the general informal sector; International Labour Organisation (2002) states that:

*The term 'informal economy' refers to all economic activities by workers and economic units that are - in law or in practice - not covered or insufficiently covered by formal arrangements. Their activities are not included in the law, which means that they are operating outside the formal reach of the law; or they are not covered in practice, which means that - although they are operating within the formal reach of the law, the law is not applied or not enforced; or the law discourages compliance because it is inappropriate, burdensome, or imposes excessive costs. (ILO 200:2).*

On the same level, World Bank (2014) defined informal economy as a socio-economic structure whose characteristics can be associated to:

*...activities and income that is partially or fully outside government regulation, taxation, and observation. The main attraction of the undeclared economy is financial. This type of activity allows employers, paid employees, and the self-employed to increase their take-home earnings or reduce their costs by evading taxation and social contributions (World Bank, 2014).*

These general definitions of the informal sector to some degree coincide with the definitions of the informal entrepreneurship sector in the sense that the latter becomes the subset of the generic informal sector as Hart (2008) points out that the informal sector represents a set of economic activities that takes place outside the framework of bureaucratic public and private sector establishments. However, it remains not in compliance with government regulations. The understanding of Hart (2008) relates the informal sector to an economic structure that was associated with all manner of irregularities hence the rightful ascribed definition of shadow, hidden; black, parallel, second or underground economy (Oladayo, Ayakpat, and Adisa, 2014).

On the other hand, Mukherjee (2016:16) argues that an informal economy can refer to a "set of illegal yet legitimate (to some large groups) activities through which actors recognize and exploit opportunities" the understanding of this notion is interwoven with the concept that though informality might exist in an economy, its legitimacy becomes fundamental because through informal economy, human livelihood is sustained to some degree

# CHARACTERISTICS OF INFORMAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP SECTOR



despite its questionable state of existence.

## Cause for the formation of an informal enterprise sector

The following are some of the common causes of the informal enterprise sector as proposed by Sparks and Barnett (2010:2) namely: the existence of urban bias and labor laws, rural-Urban migration, structural adjustment policies, difficulty in establishing new firms, and peace and the Demobilisation of the Military.

### Existence of urban bias and labour laws

Urban bias is somehow caused by the political motives of those who happen to be in power as in most African states, political influence is much felt around the urban or city areas, hence the formation of the informal sector could have been as a result of some political mileage that would have been formed in bid of political recognition. Sparks and Barnett (2010:2) argue that most leaders in Africa devote the vast majority of resources toward urban development, to the detriment of rural areas. However, due to the rapid growth of urban areas, causing much of limited resources to sustain the economy, small and informal business sectors are formed for livelihood purposes.

### Rural-urban Migration

Misra and Alam (2010:76) states that migration from the rural or semi urban areas in Africa is one of the major causes of the informal business sector. The motivation to this negative social trend is associated with limited and concentrated social amenities in the cities as compared to the rural communities. Sparks and

Barnett (2010:2) also argues that several public policies such as school education and business ones encouraged most of the rural-urban drift in Africa in the sense that the rural based schools creates an assurance that once completion of schooling in rural areas, a decent job would have been obtained in urban areas, but due to influx of the job seekers in the urban areas, most of the school leavers have preferred engaging in some form of income generating activities eventually despite being informal.<sup>1</sup>

### Structural Adjustment policies/ programmes (SAPs)

Structural adjustment policies are another reason that brought about the formation of the informal business sector in most African economies. The understanding around the influence of Structural Adjustment Policies (SAPs) to the economy comes along with the conditions mainly from the international funding agencies to the state where in the pursuit of recovery the external debt, the country would be forced to cut down on public spending of which job creation is the most common case in Africa. A case of Kenya (1999) is given by Ikiara and Ndung'u (1999) where they argue that SAPs have the potential to causes the employment rate in the informal sector to increase from about 4 per cent in the 1970s to about 50% by 1994.<sup>2</sup>

Furthermore, Heidhues and Obare (2011:56) argue that:

*After independence around 1960, African countries started with high hopes for rapid growth and development. Whereas the initial performance was remarkable, economic development slowed in the 1970s and stagnated in the 1980s. In response, the states' attempts to reinvigorate economic growth through state-*

*led investments and import substitution industrialisation strategies were unsuccessful."*

With the case view of Zimbabwe, Kawewe and Dibia, Robert (2000:79) argue that SAPs introduced by World Bank and the International Monetary Fund as major international financial institutions in economic globalization, have been an inappropriate public policy for Zimbabwe.

### Difficulty in establishing new firms

Challenging procedures in starting and running a successful business in Africa has been one of the reasons why the informal business sector is common. The World Bank report on Doing business(2009) indicates that "Where regulation is particularly onerous, levels of informality are higher." the report also indicates that among the global regions, sub-Saharan Africa ranks highest in the number of procedures and days (63) required to establish a new business (Sparks and Barnett, 2010:3).

<sup>1</sup> Sethuraman, S.V. (1997) "Informal Economy in Africa: the Emerging Development Challenge," Chapter 13 in ILO (1997) *Africa's Informal Economy*, ILO, Geneva.

<sup>2</sup> Ikiara, G.K. and N.S. Ndung'u (1999). "Kenya", in van der Geest, W. and R. van der Hoeven (eds.) (1999) *Adjustment, Employment & Missing Institutions in Africa*, ILO, Geneva, and James Currey Ltd, Oxford.



## Untipping The Societal Scales

WITH: Dumisa Dlamini



Nothing would sober up, humble and even crush a man than the knowledge that his lawfully wedded wife cheats on him.

The very thought and speculation of the idea brings him to an avalanche of emotions all which may be ugly and have far reaching consequences. All men who love their wives are ever suspicious that they are cheating on them. For some unexplained reasons they are always following them from a distance, questioning and prohibiting every move in a ploy to safeguard his interest. Often times a man will hear rumours or scale his wife's behaviour that he may be cheated on. That becomes very easy to deal with. He would utter a stern warning or even intimidate her but will never provide her with the fact that *yena akaboni lutfo konkhe utekelwa bemanga*. If the woman is cunning enough she may turn the tide against the informer and the husband will never again believe the rumour mongers. Indigenous culture and custom has it that *awumcebi umfati wemnakenu* that you saw her with another man, at least not to the husband. *Umkhula wakho* will tell her husband that *wena kadze wacala ucela eMambonyo emnakenu* and you shall be enemies forever as brothers. But here is a scenario where the husband evidently knows his wife has and still cheats on him. What could he possibly do with that circumstantial evidence?

Most men would become extremely violent. A wise woman would never come anywhere near her husband once informed that *sewuyati babe* that *bekukamachancha leLondon yakhe* lest there would be murder in the house. He is most likely to beat the hell out of his wife. They are most likely to attack the other man if he happens to find him in his house. Several violent attacks on spouses, especially women, come to the fore when the man may have collected evidence that he has been cheated on all along. The woman would have confessed it all after all attempts to hide the affair have been squashed. She would just not admit guilt instead she would sing everything she has done with the many and count all the places they would have had sex. A young teacher who cheated on her husband with another male colleague in the school did not know her husband had all the information of her cheating escapades. He had spotted the young man driving the family car whilst *lomake acetfule situlo*, the man had one hand on the wheel and the other *sivakasha* with absolutely no restrictions on the very territorially treasured places of the lady's lower parts, *asitsi nje ngentasi kwesisukantsi ngenhlakwe-madvolo*. When she got home *wamhhwabu-la ngemphama yinye* and she started singing. The next day he was at the school premises. The teacher had to arrange a quick transfer because *lokwelibhubesi kwakumfikela* unannounced.

Not all men would fight and be violent though but they would also react in a manner that indicates *uphoceke kwekwengca*. Someone would not hear anything from the pleading wife but instead apply litigation on the man who slept with his wife. These are the embarrassing stories splashed on the headlines as the matter is battled out in court. Society is exposed to every minor and serious detail of the wife's cheating from evidence the husband would have brought in front of the court of law. *Lomunfu*

# WHAT WOULD A MAN DO IF HE HAS EVIDENCE HIS WIFE CHEATS ON HIM



*lomdvuna ufile lengekhasi esikilkileni sakhe* and doesn't mind what society thinks of him. Others spare themselves the embarrassment *avele nje acoshe lomake*. A gentleman whose wife begot a son suddenly became reserved in the house when the bundle of joy was brought home from the hospital. Whilst he doubted it was his child he had faint hope he could have been the father. However, the very sight of the child cracked his heart. He had long been told that LaManyatsi had a very worrying relationship with Matatazela *Nauden LiNdiya lesitolo eSifobelweni*. Lo and Behold! *Loluswane kwakuLindiya nje vele kungu* Matatazela. He never asked the woman anything until the child was crawling, "LaManyatsi *uhamba nini lamtini weMntfwanenkhoi nalelindiya?*"

### Lost

When he came back from work the woman had packed all she had and she took the youngest child before *lowalelikula* and got lost. The man never went after him instead he married another wife.

When the man has evidence that *uyamgangela umfati wakhe* he will also know the man she cheats with. That is the most difficult part for both of them in the house for he will occasionally bump unto him. *Ubuya lakhaya avut-sa lulaka lakhaya lobabe*. The adage that says "time heals everything" cannot be very accurate. Rather one would say time teaches one to live with the pain. *Ugcina sewumbingelela lomzi* and even have a drink together. Tradition has it that *awuyishayi indvodza lelala nemkakho*. Instead your friends would trap him into a

fight and in the physical confrontation, especially when he is losing the fight you mention why he is beaten, "*Ngitakushaya uze uyekele lomfati waMbokodvo loganga naye*" He may be beaten near death that he may even be scared to tell his wife where he reaped *tindvuma letingaka*. Whilst he may cheat with other women elsewhere, he would never ever again cheat *nalowaMbokodvo*.

Some husbands would just ignore the whole thing as if *akaboni lutfo*. That is a man whose wife is more powerful than him in many counts than one. He can tell that *uyajabula lomake* with the cheater so much that if he can challenge the illicit affair *angesuke nje avilaphiswe kuphefumula*. Many men have lost their lives mysteriously the moment they discover who is cheating with his wife.

### Mechanism

A man who knows you already know that he cheats with your wife can be extremely dangerous to your life, turning a blind eye to the whole saga can be one of the most effective defence mechanism. *Umbeka* at the gate *ngemoto* and you come out to wave goodbye to the cheater *wati kahle nje*. Mtjelekwane Gamedze *wesuke njewatenta umgewu waya eJozi wangabuyi* because LaMatsebula was cheating with Mhlahlavu Matsenjwa *inyanga mtsakatsi yaseMampondweni*.

A senior officer in a big company with several branches sprawling over the country gathered evidence that one of his junior managers was bonking it like rabbits with his beautiful wife LaMsibi. He had pictures of the two of

them relaxing in a beach *bangagcoki kakhulu* yet enveloped in each other's arms. That weekend, his wife had asked to visit a sister in Port Elizabeth. The sister denied having hosted the cheater in her house during the time speculated. *Kwaba lukhuni kuphika kumake* and also went on to expose the manager. Many people thought he would be fired at work by the cheated bigger boss. He wasn't. However, each time he had to do business with his branch he would call a much junior officer. One day he just would not avoid dealing with the cheating manager directly. Before he would even begin the meeting in the boardroom, he shot out of anger, "*Yewena site emhlanganweni wakho awuhlamlambe noma uhlakaniphele bafati bebantfu kuphela*" The tension in the meeting was so thick that it was finished less than half the time it was meant. Some of the employees advised *sigebengu sabafazi babantu* to resign from his post. He didn't. The husband just stopped visiting *iLondon yemkakhe* out of anger but *wangamcoshi*. The woman was also scared to move out for she knew she was at fault. Scales is informed after a long time the husband *wamazimfazi wakhe* and life continued *emshadweni*.

The ultimate end of a cheated man is forgiveness and reconciliation with their wives as if they were never cheated *aze amtsengele imoto lensha make* and they celebrate an anniversary.

Catch Scales, if you can at  
Dumisumlangeni@gmail.com



**PET OBSERVER**

HILLARY HAGUE  
SWAZILAND ANIMAL WELFARE  
SOCIETY (SAWS)  
FOR VACCINATED AND STERILISED  
PETS PHONE

MBABANE 2404 3446  
MANZINI 2505 6231

Christmas is a family celebration. Pets – even dogs whose main function is to guard and protect – are part of the family. If gift giving is a family tradition, don't leave out the pets!

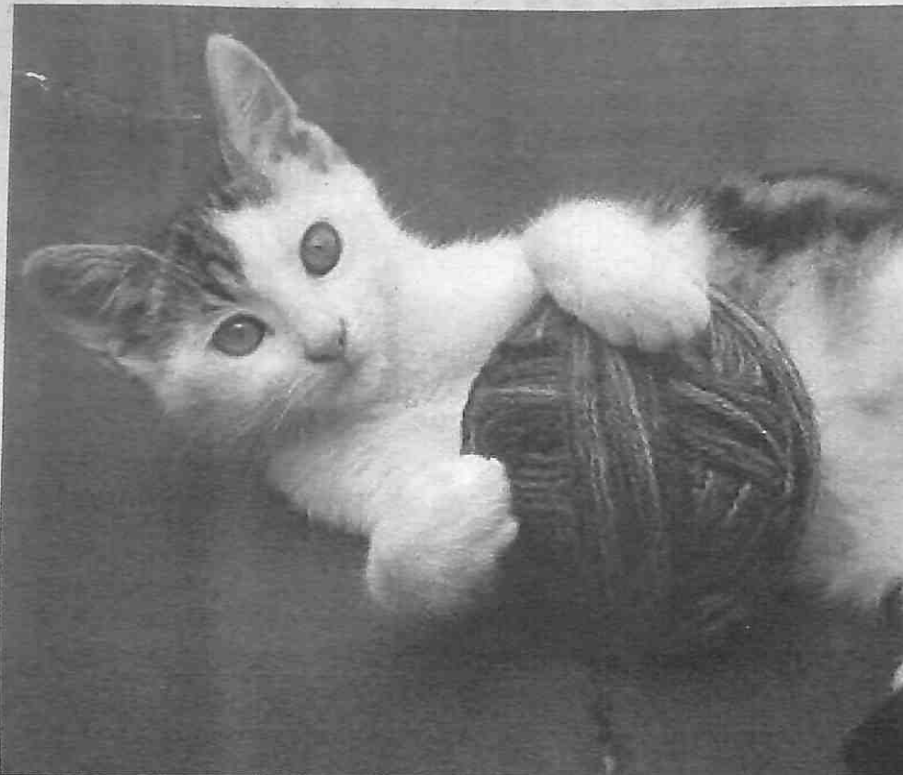
Dogs will appreciate a juicy, big bone (very big, even for a small dog, because small bones are dangerous as they can splinter, get stuck between the teeth or cause choking), a rawhide chewy, a new ball or frisbee. Cats will enjoy a new toy, especially one containing catnip, a new blanket or a special tinned treat. Keep pets away from Christmas decorations which can be chewed.

If you are going away, make arrangements for your pets. Either book them into boarding at SAWS or appoint someone responsible to water, feed and check on them at least three times a day. Have a back up standing by in case the first person is indisposed. Leave more than adequate food. Leave nothing to chance.

Animal hearing is different to ours. What we hear is not what they hear. Poppers, crackers, champagne corks and fireworks are festive sounds to us but to dogs and cats they are terrifying explosions. Protect and shelter your pets from loud noises over the festive season.

Golden rules of gifting a pet:

Don't give a pet as a gift unless you are one hundred percent sure the recipient wants a pet

**PETS AT CHRISTMAS**

and is prepared for it. A cute, cuddly puppy on Christmas day is one thing. A sixteen (puppy) or twenty (kitten) year care commitment is quite another matter.

If the pet is welcome, be sure that either you give with it, or that the recipient has waiting: bed, blanket, food supplies (appropriate to the

animal's age and size), food and water bowls, litter box and litter for a cat, collar and leash for a dog.

Do not give – or accept – a pet younger than eight weeks. Puppies and kittens need as much time as possible with their mothers for good mental and physical health.

Don't give a pet at all unless the recipient is committed to:

Sterilizing by five months of age. Sterilization costs, excluding consultation fee, are approximately: female dog E1200, cat E685; male dog E675, cat E440.

Do not delay: caesarean sections are far more expensive than simple neutering. Do not add to the stray population. In six years, one breeding dog and its progeny can produce 67 000 dogs. In nine years, one breeding cat and its progeny can result in 11.5 million cats.

Deworming: puppies and kittens should be dewormed at six weeks with a puppy/kitten Dewormer. Then they should be dewormed every two weeks until twelve weeks. Thereafter, cats every six months and dogs every three months.

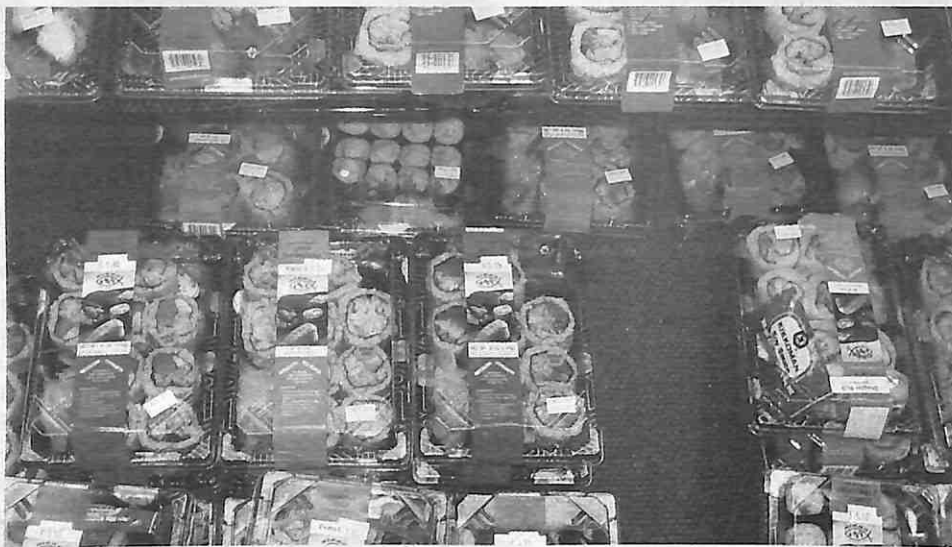
Vaccinating: Between six and eight weeks, puppies should get their parvo+5-in-1 and kittens their 3-in-1 vaccinations. At ten to twelve weeks: puppy 5-in-1 booster and kitten 3-in-1 booster. Rabies is due at twelve weeks followed by another visit to the veterinarian at twelve months for the first of a lifetime of annual vaccinations.

Mahatma Gandhi said that the test of civilisation is how the weakest members of society are treated (children, disabled, animals). He said, "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated".

Wishing everyone and your pets a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year!

**Swaziland Standards Authority**

With: Samukelisiwe  
Sibisi

**MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS CERTIFICATION**

Management systems i.e. SZNS/ ISO 9001 and SZNS/ISO 14001 were originally implemented to help organisations gain market access, satisfy mandatory customer requirements, streamline processes, manage growth, drive continual improvement, and generally keep up with competition.

Your management system is more than a manual, and more than the certificate on the wall. It's a critical tool that will help you meet legal and regulatory requirements, minimise risks, strengthen your market position, protect the brand, focus on the customer, improve organisational efficiency, and reduce costs. It is the link between policy, performance, objectives, and targets. It is therefore very crucial to know the certification process before committing to embark on it.

**Management systems certification process**

The certification process starts with a full audit of the client's management system against the requirements of the standard in question. In some cases the client may wish to have a pre-assessment audit carried out to establish its state of readiness, but this is not part of the formal certification process. The duration of the audit depends on the complexity of the client's activities, the number of staff and the physical size of the operation.

When the client has successfully undergone the audit and resolved any non-conformances found, a certificate stating that the client's management system complies with the standard is issued. Surveillance audits are thereafter carried out, partly to look at particular aspects of the system in more depth, and partly to ensure that the system overall is being implemented in accordance with the client's own requirements. Clients are thereafter provided with detailed information on the proper use of MSC's certification mark.

**Steps in the certification process**

The first stage in the certification process is the enquiry. Upon receipt of the enquiry the certification unit sends the client a questionnaire to complete, giving details of their operation and processes. This will enable the certification unit to formulate a proposal for the certification cycle.

The information in the questionnaire is then reviewed to determine how best to meet their requirements. A quotation/contract is issued to the client which includes the terms & conditions covering the years of the certification cycle.

A suitably competent auditor / audit team is then selected to carry out the audit. To ensure that the client achieves the optimum result from the certification process, the certification assessment is carried out in two stages. The first stage is essentially a preliminary check of the quality management system and its documentation to establish if there are any gaps in the system that might result in delay in attaining certification. This stage involves a visit to the client, and a detailed examination of the documentation, which may be carried out off-site. At the end of Stage 1 the client is notified of any aspects of the system that may not be in compliance with the requirements. It is important to understand that this is not a consultancy audit, and the audi-

tor is not permitted to provide any advice in relation to how any deficiencies could be resolved.

On a date agreed with the client, Stage 2 of the assessment of the system is carried out. This is a detailed assessment of the individual processes (both main processes and support processes). When the assessment is completed the client is informed of the outcome of the audit. The auditor is only authorised to make a recommendation to Management Systems Certification. The recommendation may be either: unreserved recommendation to grant certification, recommendation to grant certification when certain specific issues have been resolved. This may require a follow-up visit to verify the corrective action; recommendation to refuse certification, which requires a full re-assessment. It is unusual for an organisation that has completed Stage 1 to have this result at the end of Stage 2.

On completion of the audit, the auditor completes a report for the certification body. The client also receives a copy of the report. The audit process is therefore reviewed by the certification approvals committee, which then arrives at the decision whether to grant certification or not. Once certified the client is issued with a certificate confirming compliance to the relevant standard(s). To ensure that clients maintain their management systems a programme of surveillance audits is put in place. This involves either one or two visits per year, depending on the size and complexity of the operation. At the end of the three year cycle a new cycle commences with a recertification audit. Contact the Swaziland Standards Authority to get you started on this valuable journey!

FOR QUESTIONS AND MORE INFORMATION  
e-mail us at: [info@swasa.co.sz](mailto:info@swasa.co.sz)  
Tel: (+268) 2518 4633/10



LIVE SMART, BE ACTIVE, EAT WISELY

WITH:

Ministry of  
Agriculture Home  
Economics  
SectionDietary characteristics  
of vegetarian diets

**V**egetarians are defined as individuals who do not eat any meat, poultry or fish. Vegetarians are sub-classified as lacto-ovo vegetarians who eat dairy products and/or eggs and vegans who do not eat any animal products.

Since vegetarian diets are defined by what they do not contain, the actual composition of vegetarian diets can vary widely but this article aims to highlight how mushrooms can be incorporated in vegetarian diets.

## Why mushrooms?

Mushrooms are a type of fungus commonly found on the ground and sometimes on trees. This delicious food is full of nutrients, including fiber, vitamin D, minerals, and protein. Since mushrooms are also low in carbohydrates and fat free, this makes them a good food to include in your diet if you are a vegetarian or if you are watching your cholesterol and triglyceride levels. Most edible mushrooms do not have a particularly strong taste, so they can be included in practically any dish you create. However, because some mushrooms contain poisons that could harm you, it is always a good idea to be sure that the mushroom you are eating is edible before you put it on your plate. Edible mushrooms like Oyster mushroom and other which are commonly grown in the country and those available in local grocery stores - are very versatile.

## Health benefits of Mushrooms

**Cholesterol Levels:** Mushrooms themselves provide you with lean proteins since they have no cholesterol or fat and are very low carbohydrates. The fiber and certain enzymes in mushrooms also help lower cholesterol levels. Moreover, the high lean protein content found in them helps burn cholesterol when they are digested. Balancing levels of cholesterol between LDL cholesterol ("bad" cholesterol) and HDL ("good" cholesterol) is essential in the prevention of various cardiovascular diseases like atherosclerosis, heart attack, and stroke.

**Anemia:** Anemic patients are characterized by having low levels of iron in their blood, resulting in fatigue, headaches, reduced neural function, and digestive issues. Mushrooms are a good source of iron, and over 90 per cent of the nutritive iron value can be absorbed by the body, which promotes the formation of red blood cells and keeps people healthy and functioning at their full potential.

**Breast Cancer & Prostate Cancer:** Mushrooms are very effective in preventing breast and prostate cancer due to the significant presence of Beta-Glucans and conjugated Linoleic Acid, which both have anti-carcinogenic effects. Out of these two, linoleic acid is particularly helpful in suppressing the harmful effects of excess estrogen. This increase in estrogen is one of the prime causes for breast cancer in women after menopause. The Beta-Glucans, on the other hand, inhibit the growth of cancerous cells in cases of prostate cancer, and numerous studies have shown the anti-tumor properties of mushrooms when applied medicinally.

**Diabetes:** Mushrooms are an ideal low-energy diet for diabetics. They have no fats, no choles-



terol, very low levels of carbohydrates, high protein content, and a wealth of vitamins and minerals. They also contain a lot of water and fiber. Moreover, they contain natural insulin and enzymes which help the breaking down of sugar or starch in food. They are also known to contain certain compounds which help proper functioning of the liver, pancreas and other endocrine glands, thereby promoting the formation of insulin and its proper regulation throughout the body. Diabetics often suffer from infections, particularly in their limbs, which tend to continue for long periods of time. The natural antibiotics in mushrooms can help protect diabetics from these painful and potentially life-threatening conditions.

**Bone Health:** Mushrooms are a rich source of calcium, which is an essential nutrient in the formation and strength of bones. A steady supply of calcium in the diet can reduce your chances of developing conditions like osteoporosis, and can also reduce joint pain and general lack of mobility that is associated with bone degradation.

**Nutrient Absorption:** Vitamin D is a relatively rare vitamin to find in vegetables, and in fact, edible forms in general are not particularly common. However, mushrooms have it, and this essential vitamin can facilitate the absorption and metabolism of calcium and phosphorus. They also contain levels of these two nutrients, so the combined effects of having all of these nutrients in one powerful source, mushrooms, makes it a good idea to eat them whenever possible.

**Immune System Strength:** Ergothioneine, a powerful antioxidant present in mushrooms, is very effective in providing protection from free radicals as well as boosting the immune system. It is actually an amino acid that contains sulfur, which is something that many people are deficient in, despite not knowing it or seeing its effects. That being said, the presence of this "master antioxidant" which is unique to mushrooms, can give you a major boost to immune system health. It helps to eliminate free radicals, which are the dangerous compounds that are released during the metabolic processes of cells, and can float throughout the body and cause significant damage and disease, so antioxidants, like ergothioneine, are vital elements for overall health.

**Blood Pressure:** Studies of various types of mushrooms, including shiitake, oyster and maitake

mushrooms, have shown them to be high in potassium content. Potassium acts as a vasodilator, relaxing tension in blood vessels and therefore reducing blood pressure. High blood pressure is connected to a number of deadly conditions, particularly heart attacks and strokes. Potassium also increases cognitive function, because increased blood and oxygen flow to the brain stimulates neural activity. Studies have shown that increased levels of potassium improve memory and knowledge retention.

**Weight Loss:** Most fats are burnt to digest proteins found in our food, more so when the protein is accompanied by a very low carbohydrate count, no fat or cholesterol, and a good amount of fiber. This is exactly the combination that mushrooms offer to help in losing weight! Due to their nutrient density, they actually rank higher than most fruits and vegetables, and some researchers say that mushrooms are one of the rare foods that people can eat as often as possible, with no side effects.

## Edible mushrooms are a healthy food

**Protein** - Most mushrooms have high protein content, usually around 20-30 per cent by dry weight. This can be useful for vegetarians or anyone looking to increase the protein content in their diet.

**Fibre** - Helps lower cholesterol and is important for the digestive system.

**Niacin and other important B vitamins** - As certain B vitamins are found in animal tissue but not plants, this can be another good supplement for vegetarians.

**Vitamin D** - Essential for the absorption of calcium.

**Copper** - Aids in helping the body absorb oxygen and create red blood cells.

**Selenium** - An antioxidant that helps neutralize free radicals, thus preventing cell damage and reducing the risk of cancer and other diseases. Mushrooms contain more selenium than any other form of produce.

**Potassium** - An extremely important mineral that regulates blood pressure and keeps cells functioning properly. A large Portobello mushroom is said to have more potassium than a banana.

**Other important minerals** - Such as phosphorus, zinc, and magnesium.

Low levels of fat, calories, and sodium

No cholesterol.

## How to include mushrooms in your diet

**Mushroom stir-fry:** This is one of the easiest and best ways to include mushrooms in your diet. Get loads of exotic vegetables to make a healthy mushroom platter.

**Try this:** In a pan, heat some oil and add cut and chopped vegetables of your choice. You can include a variety of colorful vegetables like red, yellow and green bell peppers; broccoli, carrots, baby corn and beans. Stir fry them for a while and sauté till cooked. Mushrooms cook easily, so add them in the end. To this add salt, oregano or other herbs of your choice. Do not restrict yourself with just the veggies; tofu or paneer when added to the platter can make the dish even healthier.

**Mushroom and rice:** You can never go wrong while adding mushrooms to rice preparation - fried rice, pulav, biryani, etc. Here is an easy and tasty mushroom-rice preparation which can be done within minutes.

**Try this:** Heat some oil in a pan and add whole spices like black pepper, cardam and bay leaves to it. Allow them to crackle or sauté till you get a light fragrance. To this, add chopped onions, garlic, ginger and sauté for few minutes. When the color changes to golden brown, add chopped tomatoes and sauté till it turns tender. Next add the mushrooms, washed and cut into two halves. Mix all the vegetables well with salt and spices of your choice. To this, add rice, previously soaked in water for 15 minutes, mix the rice well with the veggies, then pour little coconut milk and water and cook it. Flavorful mushroom rice is ready in minutes.

**Mushrooms and peas:** This is one combination that acts as a great side dish for any meal. Succulent mushrooms and boiled peas give a texture to the dish that's unique and healthy.

**Try this:** In a frying pan, add oil and heat it for a while. To this, add cumin seeds and few spoonfuls of yoghurt. Keep mixing the yoghurt till the oil separates. Then add chopped onions and garlic, and sauté for a while. When it turns golden brown, add chopped tomatoes and sauté. Next, add boiled peas and mushrooms, stir it for a while and then add salt and spices of your choice. Stir fry till the veggies are cooked and mushroom changes its color. If you wish you can also add boiled potatoes with peas. Sprinkle chopped coriander to garnish.

**Stuffed mushrooms:** This is an easy to make dish that goes well as a snack or a starter.

**Try this:** Wash the mushrooms and cut the stalk. Scoop out the cap and set aside. For the filling, heat butter in a pan and add chopped onions and garlic. Sauté for a while and as the color changes, add chopped tomatoes to it. Remove from flame and allow it to cool. To this, add grated cheese and add the filling to the scooped out mushroom caps. Next, bake them in an oven for four minutes at 220 degrees or go by your microwave settings.

**Mushroom gravy:** Mushrooms are a great addition to Indian curries. You can prepare mushroom gravy with rich spices and paneer along with onions and tomatoes.

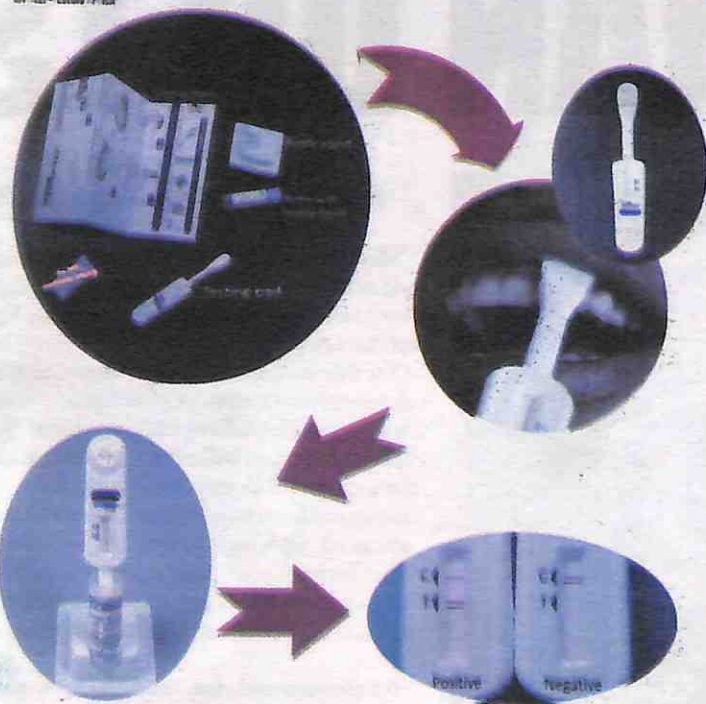
Shahi mushroom, oyster mushroom, mushroom chettinad, goan mushroom curry, kadai mushroom, mushroom kofta and the list is endless. The best part about mushrooms is that they blend well with most spices.





## HIV SELF TESTING

### How to take the test at home



- Once you have collected your test kit at Newstart, you will need a private space, good lighting a flat surface and some thing to tell the time.
- Read the instructions found inside the test kit packet.
- Your test kit packet has two pouches. First, open the pouch containing the small plastic bottle. The bottle contains liquid. Open the bottle by flipping open the cap.
- Carefully slide the opened bottle into the hole in the stand taking care not to spill the liquid in the bottle. Now open the other pouch and take out the test device. Do not touch the flat pad when removing the test device, use the handle instead. The same pouch will contain a desiccant packet. Throw this away as it is not needed for the test. Holding the handle, use the flat pad to swab your upper and lower gum.
- Immediately place the flat pad into the open bottle until it touches the bottom of the bottle and note the time (leave the test device in the bottle for 20 minutes).
- To interpret your results, make sure there is good lighting.
- If you see two red lines, one next to 'C' and one next to 'T' it means the test is HIV positive, even if one of the lines is faint. If the test is positive it means you may have HIV and you need to do a second test to confirm this result. Visit your nearest HIV testing Centre or Health Facility as soon as possible for confirmatory testing. If you see one line next to 'C' it means the test is HIV negative. Seek regular testing if you are exposed to HIV. If you are HIV negative you should continue to be careful to protect yourself against HIV. Use condoms, minimise your number of sexual partners and consider male circumcision.
- If you do not see any lines then the test did not work properly (on visual showing no lines, to add the blurry red background). Visit your nearest HIV testing Centre or Health Facility to test again.

For more information and updates please call 2518 7676/5 or toll free number 1212  
Don't forget to also connect on cyber space with us via:



New Start Swaziland



@new\_start206



Newstartsd

### THE CUSTOMER CENTRIC ORGANISATION

With: Phatsimo Mbhamali - Tafa  
(Customer Service Specialist)



## CUSTOMER SERVICE: NEED FOR SPEED

- Speed of response is said to be one of the "fundamental pillars of customer service" and has an overall impact on customer satisfaction. With so much competition in every aspect of life, especially business, customers seek companies that can give them what they want fast, such that they can continue with their own business.

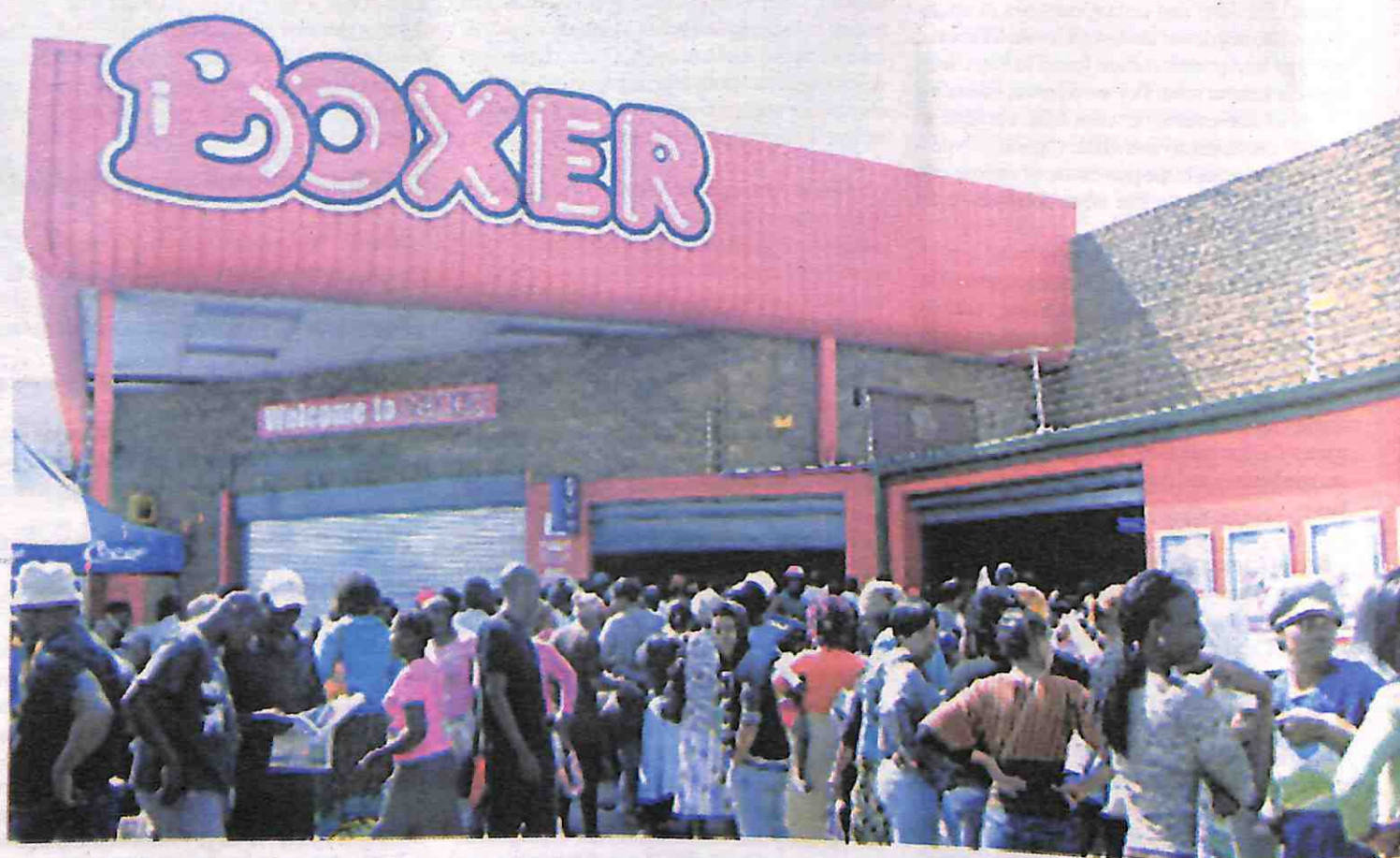
Imagine the last time you were "put on hold" over the phone with a business for a much longer period of time than you had anticipated or perhaps being transferred back and forth a number of times.

How was the frustration? In the past, consumers were satisfied to wait two to three days for a response to their query, but that is no longer the case. The reality is that consumers now want instant answers. When it comes to customer service, in the age of smart phones, we have nearly everything we need at our fingertips, and are accustomed to getting answers in a matter of seconds. The general population doesn't like to wait for anything, much less for customer service.

Speed of response is said to be one of the "fundamental pillars of customer service" and has an overall impact on customer satisfaction. With so much competition in every aspect of life, especially business, customers seek companies that can give them what they want fast, such that they can continue with their own business.

Managing customer service in the social media era we are in is not easy or a walk in the park. It requires being constantly online, checking your accounts and responding to various messages from different channels. Customer support representatives are expected to work as quickly as possible while maintaining composure under pressure, multitasking, being accurate and knowing the products or services all at once. Some companies are hesitant to speed up customer service because they think that they have to sacrifice service quality, but this does not necessarily have to be the case.

While speed, accuracy, and reliability are all



important characteristics of good customer service, none of them will work as well alone as they will together; you'll need a combination of all three to create the ideal experience for customers.

tomers.

Quote: "Today's consumers want speed and convenience, but they also want a great customer experience." - John Tschohl

Contact me:  
Email: phatsimo@nef-aid.com



# Focus on SA scene

## 'NO JUDGE ACTS WITH ULTERIOR MOTIVES'

**P**ORT ELIZABETH – Former Deputy Chief Justice Dikgang Moseneke has roundly rejected any suggestion that any judge in the country has acted with ulterior motives.

"Remember, judges do not choose cases. Cases come to them. Remember that judges have no luxury of choosing any kind of conflict. These are brought by citizens and indeed by many mongers of power," he said in his acceptance speech after receiving an honorary doctorate in law at the Nelson Mandela University (NMU) in Port Elizabeth on Thursday.

"However, judges themselves seek no power, influence or control of the state. They seek no more money than they earn as prescribed by law and they try to espouse the best values

and the highest values of our people because, after all, it is not what the political elite want, it is what is good for the people."

Several politicians have criticised the judiciary recently, particularly after judgments that went against the government and President Jacob Zuma.

Moseneke thanked his wife, Khabonina, for being the silent, non-intrusive and solid bedrock of his life journey for 42 years.

"Somebody reminded [me] that you do not get an honorary doctorate on the day that it is conferred, so there is no need to be bombastic at all," he said.

Moseneke, who served as a judge for 15 years and who has since retired, was all praises for his judicial col-

leagues.

"History will show that they are great patriots. They are not what some politicians tell you on public media. Judges often stand between lawlessness and the modicum of democratic practice. They stand between your oppression and hard-won rights to live well as human beings," Moseneke said he was proud of his fellow colleagues who do not blink when crucial and critical moments face South Africa.

"My fellow judges understand the onerous duty that our collective will, which is the Constitution, imposes on them. Having this opportunity, I reject with deep contempt any suggestion that any of our judges are acting for some ulterior motive. I have lived with them. I have led them

and they are wonderful patriots and will continue to keep you and me safe."

Moseneke said being honoured at NMU reinforced his revolutionary connection as well as his father-and-son relationship with late statesman Nelson Mandela.

"Comrade Mandela emphatically rejected narrow self-serving party lines and hegemony in favour of inclusivity, of non-racialism, of non-sexism. He trusted in merit and compassion, the stuff that true revolutionaries and humanists are made of," Moseneke had wise words for fellow graduates, encouraging them to be steadfast in being good, doing good and sharing goodness, not power, greed or arrogance.

*African News Agency*



**SHOCKED:** Chairperson of the commission Thoko Mkhwanazi Xaluva.

## Commission 'shocked' that people are living on top of graves

**J**OHANNESBURG – The Commission for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Cultural, Religious and Linguistic Communities (CRL Rights Commission) has received a "shocking and disturbing" complaint from the Vaal about an informal settlement that has mushroomed on a grave site.

The informal settlement has been crudely named 'Hlala Kwa Bafileyo', isiZulu for 'living among the dead'. Chairperson of the commission Thoko Mkhwanazi Xaluva said it was shocking and "totally unacceptable" for anyone to illegally occupy a grave site.

"The other disturbing aspect of this situation is also that in this place there is a crèche that is being operated, where children play around the graves as if these are their toys or recreational facilities," lamented Mkhwanazi Xaluva.

She said the commission had contacted the relevant municipal authorities to urge them to remove the settlement. Mkhwanazi Xaluva said she told the municipality to commit to specific timelines during which this matter will be resolved.

"The CRL Rights Commission urges the municipality to remove the residents of Hlala Kwa Bafileyo from this area, particularly, as it is reported that these people have illegally built their homes on top of the graves," said Mkhwanazi Xaluva. *African News*

## Another electricity hike may be on cards

**J**OHANNESBURG – Energy regulator NERSA will announce its decision on Eskom's tariff hike application.

The embattled power utility wants a 19.9 per cent increase from next year. Eskom says the hike it has requested would help it turn its financial fortunes around. The parastatal is asking for a steep tariff increase after a decline in electricity sales.

But a major price hike could lead to sales dropping even further. *eNCA*

## DA suspends Patricia de Lille

**C**APE TOWN – The Democratic Alliance has suspended Cape Town Mayor Patricia de Lille following allegations of mismanagement. De Lille has been given until Monday to motivate why she should not resign as mayor. In September, the party put her on special leave.

An inquiry was also established to look into tensions and political management in the city.

It is understood that several councillors testified in the hearings and that a number of allegations were made against De Lille. In a statement, the DA says the suspension is the first step to bringing new management to the city of Cape Town. *eNCA*



## Fuzile takes reins at Standard Bank SA

**J**OHANNESBURG – Former Treasury director general Lungisa Fuzile is to become the new CEO of Standard Bank SA from 15 January.

Sim Tshabalala will remain group CEO.

After 20 years in the public service, Fuzile resigned earlier this year following the axing of Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan and his deputy, Mcebisi Jonas.

Tshabalala said the bank welcomed Fuzile, who has an "outstanding reputation in our industry".



**NEW ROLE:** New Standard Bank SA CEO Lungisa Fuzile.

He will play a critical role in

helping the group to provide consistently excellent service, meet our financial targets, and achieve the group's purpose: Africa is our home we drive her growth," he said.

Fuzile – who began his career as a teacher and lecturer – holds an MA from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg, and has completed the Advanced Management Programme at Harvard. Tshabalala had been the sole CEO of Standard Bank since September, after sharing the role with Ben Kruger for four years. *eNCA*

## 'I am not proud of being an ANC member that is led by this lot'

**J**OHANNESBURG – The ANC was lauded for its moral authority in the fight against apartheid, but many veterans of that era are deeply disillusioned by the party's actions today.

As delegates prepare to elect a new leader to succeed Jacob Zuma, the ANC faces falling public support, a reputation for corruption and the threat of a damaging split between rival factions.

The celebrated activists who stood alongside ANC leader Nelson Mandela in the struggle against white-minority rule say the party bears little semblance to its storied glory days, given its current reputation for putting personal interests above national needs. "I am not proud of being an ANC member that is led by this lot. I am proud of the history of the ANC," Frank Chikane, a prominent figure in the anti-apartheid fight, told AFP.

Chikane, a priest who grew up in Soweto, led protests through the 1970s and 1980s, and was regularly detained by the state – as well as being targeted in an assassination attempt when police poisoned his clothes.

"What is happening out there now is not the ANC," he said. "In the past we thought the enemy was outside, now the enemy is inside."

He urged party members to "stop the rot" when they gather to elect a leader and other senior officials at a five-day conference starting today. Much of the criticism of the current ANC focuses on Zuma, who is seen as backing ex-wife Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma to succeed him as party chief.

Her main rival is Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa, with the vote result expected tomorrow or early next week. *African News Agency*



**NOT PROUD:** ANC member Frank Chikane.



## BRIEFS

## Zim calls for 'unconditional lifting' of sanctions

**HARARE** - President Emmerson Mnangagwa spoke to the ruling party's Central Committee on Thursday, a day before the party is expected to endorse him as its candidate for next year's election. He says the government will do all in its power to make sure the election is "credible, free and fair." Mnangagwa was sworn in last month after Robert Mugabe resigned under pressure from the military and ruling party following 37 years in power. Now Mnangagwa's challenge is to attract foreign investment and revive a shattered economy. His new commitments promise a "robust engagement process" and measures to make Zimbabwe "a place where capital feels safe." *TimesLive*

## Togo opposition wants backing for political change

**LOME** - Togo's opposition on Thursday called on regional leaders to pressure the country's government to accept the reality of political change, as its supporters again protested against President Faure Gnassingbe. A coalition of 14 parties, which has led almost weekly demonstrations since August, appealed to heads of state and government attending Saturday's ECOWAS summit in Abuja to put pressure on the regime. Gnassingbe, who currently holds the rotating presidency of the Economic Community of West African States, has led Togo since 2005 after the death of his father, General Gnassingbe Eyadema. The general himself was in charge for 38 years. *AFP*

## Massive accident shuts N3 freeway

**JOHANNESBURG** - A seven-car pile-up has closed the N3 highway between Johannesburg and Durban on the eve of what is traditionally the official start of the festive season. Details were still emerging on the specifics of the incident, but officials have confirmed that the road is closed in the vicinity of Van Reenen's Pass due to an accident involving seven vehicles. About 2km away from that scene there was another accident involving two trucks. *timeslive*

## Rape activist rebounds

**CAPE TOWN** - One of the two women students accused of kidnapping and public violence during a protest was set to air her grievances against Rhodes University yesterday. The Rhodes University student activist expelled this month after a demonstration against campus rapes was to tell her side of the story to the media after she claimed the university gave her an unfair disciplinary hearing. Yolanda Dyantyi, 20, and a fellow student were accused of kidnapping and public violence after allegedly dragging a man suspected of rape out of his room during a protest about escalating violence against women on campus in April. The Socio-Economic Rights Institute of South Africa has since taken on her case and was expected to file court papers in Grahamstown in a bid to get the university to reinstate her. *simnikiweh@citizen.co.za*

## French convent to become home to resettled refugees

**PARIS** - Dozens of African refugees, including some that were stranded in Libya, will arrive next week in a small eastern French village as part of efforts to resettle asylum seekers whose requests have been examined directly in Africa. The move fits into a United Nations strategy to provide protection for refugees and other vulnerable migrants who attempt to travel to Libya, often intending to make the dangerous sea crossing to Italy. The 56 refugees, including 21 children and teenagers, will be the first to arrive in France as part of a commitment by the government in August to take in 3 000 refugees living in Chad and Niger by 2019, officials said. *Reuters*



# Mugabe visits Singapore hospital on first trip since ouster

**HARARE** - Zimbabwe's former president Robert Mugabe, who was ousted from power last month, visited a Singapore hospital yesterday during a trip to the city-state for a medical check-up.

It was the first time he has been seen in public since he was forced to resign after a military takeover brought a sudden end to his authoritarian 37-year reign.

The 93-year-old was seen leaving a lift in Gleneagles Hospital in downtown Singapore around midday (0400 GMT), wearing a white shirt and black trousers, and accompanied by eight people, AFP journalists said.

He walked quickly out of the building before he and his party were



**CHECK-UP:** Zimbabwe's former president Robert Mugabe leaving Gleneagles Hospital. (AFP)

driven off in two cars. Two hospital employees, speaking anonymously as they were not authorised to talk to the media, confirmed to AFP that Mugabe had visited. A

spokeswoman for Gleneagles declined to comment, citing patient confidentiality.

His ex-spokesman, George Charamba, said on Thursday that

Mugabe was visiting Singapore for a medical check-up as "part of his package as a retired president to travel overseas," adding the new government was keen to show him respect.

The military stepped in on November 14 and ushered President Emmerson Mnangagwa into office after a power struggle with supporters of Mugabe's wife Grace, 52, who had emerged as his chosen successor.

Mugabe, who ruled Zimbabwe from independence in 1980, is accused of brutal repression and bringing the country to economic ruin.

He has been in increasingly frail health and has reportedly battled prostate cancer. *AFP*

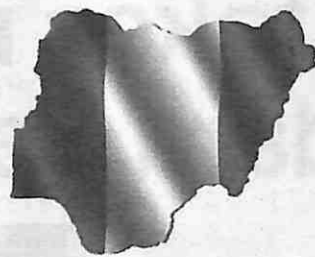
## Nigerian governors approve \$1 billion to fight Boko Haram

**ABUJA** - Nigerian state governors have approved the release of \$1 billion from the country's excess oil account to the government to help fight the Boko Haram Islamist insurgency, Reuters reports.

A total of \$2.3 billion in foreign reserves earned from sales of crude oil is currently held in the account.

"We are pleased with the federal government achievements in the insurgency war and in that vein state governors have approved that the sum of \$1 billion be taken from the excess crude account by the federal government to fight the insurgency war to its conclusion," said Godwin Obaseki, Edo State Governor on Thursday.

"The money will cover the whole array of needs which includes purchase of equipment and training for military personnel and logistics," he told reporters after a meeting of



Nigeria's national economic council. The Islamist insurgency in the northeast of the country has been going on for nine years with deadly attacks, including suicide bombings, targeting the country's military and civilians in the areas that are beyond government control.

At the beginning of the month, the military commander leading the fight against Boko Haram was replaced after six months in the position after he failed to contain numerous attacks by the militant group. *African News Agency (ANA)*

## Libya's oasis town offers safe house for slavery escapees

**LIBYA** - For migrants who escape torture and starvation at the hands of people traffickers, a "Safe House" in an oasis town offers a rare commodity in Libya: shelter and medical care.

Bani Walid, on the edge of the desert 170 kilometres (110 miles) southeast of the capital Tripoli, is a transit point on the way to the coast and perilous boat journeys across the Mediterranean to Europe. With the old green flags of Muammar Gaddafi's regime fluttering in the wind, time appears to have stood still in what was one of its last bastions before he was toppled and slain in the 2011 revolution. The basic housing consists of rooms

made of concrete bricks built around a central courtyard in the industrial zone of Bani Walid, a town outside the control of Libya's UN-backed government in Tripoli.

Amara, a 30-year-old from Mali, is one of the lucky ones.

"There were three of us..." he said, hesitating to hold back the tears before telling of how the other two died of starvation in one of the jails run by trafficking gangs extorting money from desperate migrants.

"We told them we had no money to pay, so they only gave us food one day out of two," said the Malian with a gaunt face behind a full beard. *AFP*



**A GOOD OL' CHUCKLE:** This adorable snap, which shows a cute dormouse climbing up a yarrow flower in the Italian mountains, won the Creatures of the Land category. The photographer, Andrea Zampatti, 32, from Monticelli in Italy, took the photo while hiking on Mount Guglielmo. He said: "I was walking along the track and I began to hear a sharp and strange 'call' coming from the edge of the forest. After a few minutes of searching, with amazement and happiness, I found this tiny dormouse".

## Sisulu joins Ramaphosa's 'winning team'

**JOHANNESBURG** - ANC presidential hopeful Lindiwe Sisulu seems to have abandoned her presidential campaign and thrown her lot in with ANC Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa, wherein Sisulu appears to want to serve as Ramaphosa's deputy.

In a joint statement attributed to both Ramaphosa and Sisulu, which The Star has seen, both senior party members "welcomed with humble appreciation" the branch nominations for Ramaphosa and Sisulu to be ANC president and deputy president, respectively. This seemingly contradicts the stance Ramaphosa took last month at a rally in the Sekhukhune district, where the deputy president announced what he said was 'The Winning Team', which included Science and Technology Minister Naledi Pandor as Ramaphosa's deputy.

However, Pandor failed to garner enough branch nominations for the



**CHANGES HEART:** Lindiwe Sisulu.

deputy presidency in the five provinces where Ramaphosa received the most nominations, where Sisulu and ANC Treasurer-General Dr Zweli Mkhize were the branches' preferred candidates to be Ramaphosa's deputy.

Sisulu, who had been running a presidential campaign centred on the motto 'It's a Must,' failed to receive a provincial nomination for the ANC presidency. *The Star*



# World News

## Putin praises Trump's 'significant achievements'

**M**OSCOW - Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Thursday Donald Trump had made "significant achievements" as US leader, rejecting claims that Moscow meddled in the election that brought the American president to power.

Putin was speaking in a wide-ranging annual press conference that also touched on Olympic doping and Arctic exploration.

The marathon event, which has in the past lasted up to almost five hours and this year saw more than 1 600 journalists accredited, was Putin's first major public appearance since announcing he would seek a new six-year term in March 2018 elections.



**FRIENDS FOREVER:** Russian President Vladimir Putin and Donald Trump.

ance since announcing he would seek a new six-year term in March 2018 elections.

"We can see several quite significant achievements in the short time he has been at work," Putin said

when asked to assess Trump's time in power. "Look at how the markets are reacting, they are growing. This shows confidence in the American economy. With all due respect to (Trump's) opponents, these are objective facts," he said. But he said that accusations Moscow had interfered in the 2016 US presidential election to swing the result had been "made up" by US opposition to discredit Trump's work in the White House.

He referred to contact between Trump's team and representatives of the Russian government, which he said was normal diplomatic practice.

"What is so transgressive in this case and why should it take on this spy-thriller tone?" Putin asked.

The press conference kicked off with a question from a Moscow radio station on why Putin was seeking re-election. **AFP**

## Putin's ex-economy minister sentenced to eight years

**M**OSCOW - Russia's ex-economics minister Alexei Ulyukayev has been found guilty of accepting a bribe and sentenced to eight years in a prison colony, as well as being fined \$2m, a Moscow judge announced yesterday.

Judge Larisa Semenova began reading her verdict at 11.30am — aloud, in a mumbled mantra, as is customary in Russia. Already early in her judgment, it was clear that Ulyukayev would be found guilty; this happens in over 99 per cent of judge-led verdicts in Russia. But it took over two hours to establish that he would be given a such a harsh custodial sentence.

Ulyukayev had arrived at the courtroom with a small briefcase, telling reporters that he had prepared for a "long and happy life." He looked relaxed, laughing and chatting to lawyers with his hands on his hips. He was ready for a "just verdict," he said, and announced he was writing two books. The year



**JAILED:** Former Russian Economic Development Minister Alexei Ulyukayev is escorted to a court in Moscow, Russia.

spent under house arrest was "one of the best" of his life: "I've slept well, walked. Got rid of my dual personality."

The former minister's demeanour changed once the guilty verdict became clear. His arms moved into his pockets, and his smiles turned to a stare. Ulyukayev was responsible for the Russian economy until a sting operation before dawn on 15 November last year.

**Independent**

## Four children killed after train, school bus collide in France

**P**ARIS - Four children were killed and seven seriously injured after a train smashed into a school bus, splitting it in two, outside the town of Perpignan in southwestern France on Thursday, the interior ministry said.

Television images showed a long line of ambulance and emergency service vehicles near the crossing where the collision occurred, with the bus cut in half, highlighting the ferocity of the impact.

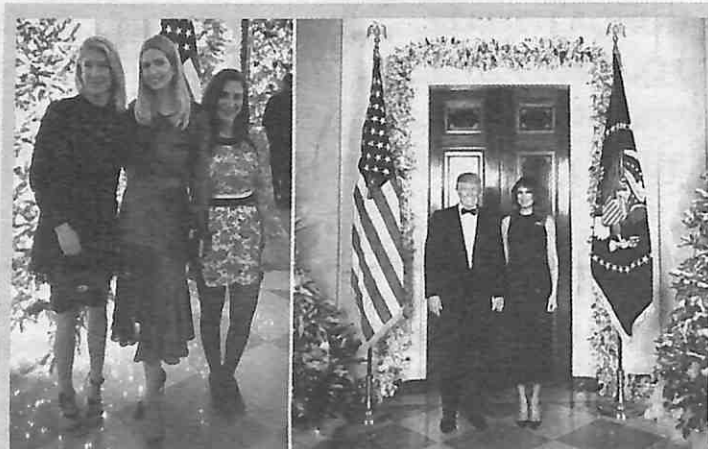
"All my thoughts to the victims and their families of this terrible school bus accident," French President Emmanuel Macron said on Twitter. Prime Minister Edouard Philippe

said he was travelling to the scene, more than 850 km (530 miles) from Paris. "All emergency services have been mobilised and a crisis coordination unit set up," an official at the local Millas townhall told Reuters.

The interior ministry said seven people in the bus, which was carrying students aged 13 to 17, were seriously injured among the 16 aboard. The reasons for the crash are not yet known, officials said.

A spokeswoman from state-owned rail operator SNCF said the train was running at 80 kilometres an hour at the time of the accident and 25 people were on board.

**Reuters**



**POSE:** The Trumps' 2017 Christmas portrait was revealed on Melania's Twitter page on Thursday afternoon. According to the tweet, Andrea Hanks photographed President Trump and his wife on December 5 in the Cross Hall of the White House. The president and first lady are holding hands and smiling for the camera in the festive photo. Melania opted for a sleeveless Delpozo dress featuring a sparkling applique and a pair of classic black pumps, while Trump wore a tuxedo. Meanwhile Ivanka (left) posed up at the White House and wished everyone a very 'Happy Holidays' as she and two friends took in the glittering Christmas trees. **(AFP)**

## US hurts itself with 'invented' Trump collusion case - Putin

**M**OSCOW - Russian President Vladimir Putin on Thursday scoffed at allegations of collusion between US President Donald Trump's campaign and Russia, saying they have been "invented" by Trump's foes and have hurt the US political system.

He also mocked his critic, Alexei Navalny, who is barred from challenging Putin in the March 18 vote by an embezzlement conviction, saying those like him want to plunge Russia into a destabilised quagmire. He vowed not to let that happen.

Speaking at his annual marathon news conference, Putin reaffirmed his firm denial of meddling in the 2016 US presidential election.

"All of it was invented by people who oppose President Trump to under-

mine his legitimacy," he said. "I'm puzzled by that. People who do it are inflicting damage to the domestic political situation, incapacitating the president and showing a lack of respect to voters who cast their ballots for him."

He argued that Russian Ambassador Sergei Kislyak, whose contacts with Trump's entourage are part of the FBI and Congressional probes into ties between the Trump campaign and Russia, was simply performing his routine duties.

Putin also insisted Russia's state-funded RT TV and Sputnik news agency had a very minor presence in the US media market, adding that the US demand for them to register as foreign agents represented an attack on media freedom. **AP**

## BRIEFS

### 'Don't sleepwalk into war over North Korea'

**TOKYO** - United Nations chief Antonio Guterres on Thursday warned the world against "sleepwalking into war" over North Korea, as he called for diplomatic efforts to banish nuclear weapons from the Korean peninsula. Speaking on a visit to Japan, Secretary-General Guterres said: "The worst possible thing that could happen would be for us all to sleepwalk into a war that might have very dramatic circumstances." The UN Security Council has imposed three rounds of sanctions over the past year against North Korea over its increasingly powerful missile and nuclear tests. Guterres said those sanctions need to be implemented "by North Korea first of all, but also fully implemented by all the other countries whose role is crucial". **AFP**

### Violent protests against Argentina pension

**BUENOS AIRES** - A trade union-organised march in Buenos Aires descended into violence on Thursday, with thousands of protesters clashing with police as they demanded lawmakers reject a controversial pension reform plan. Military police used water cannons, tear gas and rubber bullets against demonstrators, who threw stones and burned barricades made of rubbish outside the doors of Argentina's congress. Meanwhile inside, the unrest forced the postponement of the vote, as opposition legislators cried out for the debate to be suspended. "We cannot sit in a session with this violence," said Elisa Carrio, National Deputy for Buenos Aires and leader of the social liberal Civic Coalition ARI party. **AFP**

### EU leaders back May over Brexit talks

**BRUSSELS** - EU leaders voiced support for embattled British Prime Minister Theresa May at a summit on Thursday but warned there was work to do on the next phase of Brexit talks. Her 27 colleagues applauded her after she addressed them over dinner, a day after a parliamentary defeat over her Brexit strategy in which members of her own party rebelled. The rest of the EU leaders were expected to open the next phase of Brexit talks at the summit yesterday, which will focus on a transition period and future trade ties. **AFP**



### 2 dead, 3 hurt in stabbings in southern city

**THE HAGUE** - Two people were killed and three injured on Thursday night in two stabbing incidents in the southern Dutch city of Maastricht, authorities said. Police said in a tweet that one suspect had been detained on suspicion of involvement in the incidents. They released no details on the suspect or the victims. Prime Minister Mark Rutte said it was not a terror attack, echoing comments from the police. "It is terrible what happened there. People were killed and others were injured," Rutte said at an EU summit in Brussels. The incidents happened in a residential neighbourhood in the north of Maastricht, a city 215km south of the capital, Amsterdam, and close to the Netherlands' borders with Belgium and Germany. **AP**

### Two astronauts, cosmonaut return

**DZHEZKAZGAN** - Two astronauts, from the US and Italy, and a Russian cosmonaut on Thursday landed in Kazakhstan after almost five months on the International Space Station, footage from the Russian space agency showed. American Randy Bresnik, Paolo Nespoli of Italy and Sergey Ryazanskiy of Russia landed on the Kazakh steppe at 14:37 local time (08:37 GMT) in a Soyuz MS-05 spacecraft. Over 139 days in space the three men "have supported hundreds of experiments in biology, biotechnology, physical science and Earth science aboard humanity's only microgravity laboratory", NASA said in an earlier statement. **AFP**



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1.00pm

Children's Ministry 8.30am  
10.30am, 11.00am, 1.00pm

Men-Every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of  
the month 6.00pm - 7.30pm

Single Parents -Every 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday  
of the month 2.00pm -3.30pm

Contacts 2404 0979

**EVANGELICAL  
Church - Nhlanguano**  
"Distinctively Christian"

**Every Sunday**  
English Service at  
0830hrs - 0955hrs

**Bible Study -**  
1000hrs - 1055hrs  
**Siswati Service -**  
1100hrs - 1300hrs

**Every Monday**  
**Prayer:**  
1800hrs - 2000hrs

**Last Tuesdays of the  
Month**  
**Family Fellowship:**  
1800hrs - 2000hrs

**Every Friday**  
**Youth Services:** 1800hrs  
- 2000hrs

**Venue:**  
Evangelical Church  
Nhlanguano Church Hall,  
Opposite Nhlanguano  
Central Primary School

**Contacts**  
22075 020/7603 6628



**DIVINE**  
Healing Ministries International

**Manzini Branch:**  
**Wednesdays- Prayer**  
6:00-7:30pm

**Thursdays- Mid-week**  
**Service** 6:30-8:00pm

**Sundays- Teachings**  
9:30-10:30am

**Main Service**  
10:30am - 1pm

**Mbabane Branch:**  
**Tuesdays - Prayer**  
6.00pm - 8.00pm

**Sundays- Service**  
10am - 1pm

**DIVINE**  
Healing Ministries

CALL OUR OFFICES @ 2404 1555 / 2404 8699





# 10 DEATHS

**Phephelaphi Cecilia Nkambule**



**FUNERAL: SUNDAY**  
17/12/2017  
**PLACE: KAZONDWAKO**

Kwatiswa tihlobo nemndeneni wa Phephelaphi Cecilia Nkambule kutsi akasekho emhlabeni, utawufihlwa ngelisonfo 17/12/2017 kaZondwako. Kwatiswa baka Nkambule eMantabeni nebe khabonina ka Mlotsa, nelibandla lakhe lase Sabatha. Simemetelo sikhishwangu mndeneni.

**Lofosho Sihhodlani Shongwe**



**VIGIL: SATURDAY**  
16/12/2017  
**FUNERAL: SUNDAY**  
17/12/2017  
**PLACE: MBELEBELANI**

Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani taLofosho Sihhodlani Shongwe kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kwatiswa baka Shongwe ka Ndzangu bekhakhakhe ka Nsusha nebekhbonina ka Dlamini. Ufihlwa ngelisonfo ekhaya lakhe eMbelebeleni eNsuka mhlaka 17/12/2017 ngemva kwemlindzelo ngemgqibelo. Simemetelo sikhishwa bakhe.

**Lion Phocumtsetfo Tsabedze**



**VIGIL: FRIDAY**  
15/12/2017  
**FUNERAL: SATURDAY**  
16/12/2017  
**PLACE: NKAMANDZI**

Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba Lion Phocumtsetfo Tsabedze lobekasebenta eMhlume RSSC kutsi akasekho emhlabeni, Ushone mhlaka 4 December 2017. Kwatiswa bekhakhakhe baka Mavimbela. Nebakubo baka Tsabedze baka Mamba ekhabonina Kwatiswa nalebane bantfwana naye babaletse. Utawufihlwa mhlaka 16 December 2017, umlindzelo ungalesihlanu mhlaka 15 eStation eStikini eNkamandzi. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngu malume wakhe Simon Machinengun Mbamba.

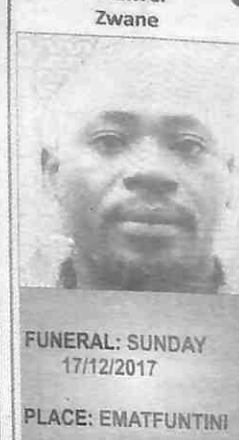
**Mr Louis Neves De-Sousa**



**FUNERAL: SATURDAY**  
16/12/2017  
**PLACE: NGWANE PARK**

Friends and relatives of Mr Louis Neves De-Sousa are notified of his dismissal. He will be laid to rest on Saturday 9 A.M. At Ngwane park with a Salesian Chapel Service at 8 A.M. Contact: 7655 3123/7665 3772.

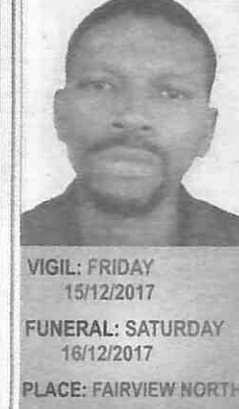
**Jabulane Maxwell Zwane**



**FUNERAL: SUNDAY**  
17/12/2017  
**PLACE: EMATFUNTINI**

Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba Jabulane Maxwell Zwane kutsi akasekho emhlabeni ufihlwa ngelisonfo 17/12/2017 ekhaya ka lomahasha Ematfuntini ngase Vamisa grocery kwatiswa baka Mahlalela ekhabo nina. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngu Phumzile Thembi Tsabedze sisi wakhe egameni lemndeneni 7626 4660/ 7671 9651/ 7678 6602.

**Sabelo Sizwe Masina**



**VIGIL: FRIDAY**  
15/12/2017  
**FUNERAL: SATURDAY**  
16/12/2017  
**PLACE: FAIRVIEW NORTH**

Relatives and friends of Sabelo Sizwe Masina who was working at Natural Resources are notified of his demise. He will be laid to rest on 16/12/2017 after a night vigil at her parental home Fairview North, Kenda Road Plot NO: 21. The Masina of Ludzeludze and the Qwabe family are notified. Announcement by family and may your soul rest in peace Lutsala, Mngomekati Mance.

**Nonkululeko Ngwenya**



**FUNERAL: SATURDAY**  
16/12/2017  
**PLACE: MKHULAMINI**

Relatives and friends of Nonkululeko Ngwenya are notified of her sudden death. She will be laid to rest on Saturday 16 December 2017 at Mkhulamini after a short prayer at 04:00 am. Announcement by her family.

**Mongi Immanuel Mabuza**



**VIGIL: SATURDAY**  
16/12/2017  
**FUNERAL: SUNDAY**  
17/12/2017  
**PLACE: ENKHABA**

Friends and colleagues (S. B. I. S) are notified that Mongi Immanuel Mabuza is late. He will be laid to rest at his home Enkhaba Ulubuyaneni on Sunday 17/12/2017 at 6:00am after a night vigil on Saturday 16/12/2017. Announcement by his wife on behalf of the family. R. I. P Mshengu.

people don't always need advice sometimes all they need is a hand to hold

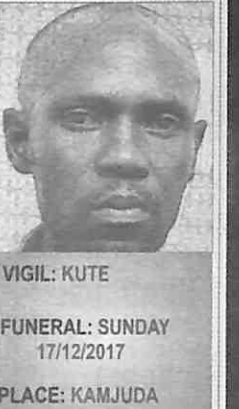
**Gcebile Lisa Shabangu**



**VIGIL: SATURDAY**  
16/12/2017  
**FUNERAL: SUNDAY**  
17/12/2017  
**PLACE: MBEKELWENI**

Friends and Relatives of Gcebile Lisa Shabangu are notified that she has passed on to be with the Lord. Memorial service will be at St. Marks High School at 1300hrs on Saturday 16/12/17. Funeral Service at Mbekelweni eNcangkhona ka Shabangu on Sunday 17/12/17 after a night vigil. Announcement by Family

**Bongani Richard Simelane**



**VIGIL: KUTE**  
**FUNERAL: SUNDAY**  
17/12/2017  
**PLACE: KAMJUDA**

Relatives and friends of Bongani Richard Simelane are notified of his untimely death. He will be laid to rest at Nhlangu cemetery on Sunday 17/12/2017 after a short prayer to be held at kaMjuda (T - Junction Hall) at Nhlangu starting at 6am. No night vigil. Announcement by family.

May the gates of heaven open up to reveal strength and comfort in your times of trial and sorrow God will comfort you.

## JOB 13:15

Though He slay me, yet will I hope in him; I will surely defend my ways to his face.

*The LORD is close to the broken-hearted; he rescues those whose spirits are crushed.*

it's almost unbearable when so much hope turns in deep sorrow wishing you much strength



For over 65 years, we have kept the tradition of caring for the families we serve as if they were our own.





# MESSI GAVE MADRID A HEADACHE - ALONSO

**M**ADRID - Ex-Spain international Alonso has opened up about Los Blancos' attempts to control the Argentine wizard.

The two giants of Spanish football meet again in their 236th competitive clash in just eight days time at the Bernabeu.

Manchester United boss Jose Mourinho was in charge of Real during the majority of Alonso's four year spell in the capital.

And the former Liverpool midfielder has revealed that the players used to have meetings about how to stop Messi's huge impact on Los Clasicos.

"Messi did me a lot of damage, I suffered a lot," he explained to Ecos del Balon.

"He made us squeeze our heads a lot. We spoke a lot with Mourinho and with Sergio [Ramos].

"How was he damaging us? How could we control him?

"Messi was playing, and behind him on the right of midfield was Xavi. And they provoked me."

"Xavi would show me the ball, I would go, Messi would get in behind me and Sergio would have to come out to cover him, and they cut through us. Messi is the top scorer in the history of games between Barcelona and Real Madrid with a remarkable 24 goals. Alonso explained that eventually they realised that Sergio Ramos couldn't handle marking the five time Ballon d'Or winner, so



**FOLLOW ME:** Lionel Messi has scored 24 times against Real Madrid.

he took up the challenge. "You only began to control Messi when it was me, not Sergio, who was in charge of marking him," he added. "Xavi called me, but I stayed with Messi and Sergio did not have to come out, and from there, we controlled him pretty well. "We sacrificed metres on the pitch, and to be

able to win the ball back, to prioritise dealing with Messi.

"And when we controlled this position, the Barca-Madrid games became even." Real Madrid take on Brazilian side Gremio in the Club World Cup final this evening in the UAE (5.00pm).

*Daily Star*

## Ferguson still angry I never joined him - Kahn

**M**UNICH - Bayern Munich's legendary former goalkeeper Oliver Kahn has revealed one big regret from his stellar playing career.

He won the Bundesliga an impressive eight times during his 17-year career with Germany's most famous club.

But when Manchester United and Sir Alex Ferguson came calling over a decade ago, Kahn turned the Premier League giants down.

And it turns out that the Scotsman is rather unhappy with his decision all these years later.

"Alex Ferguson is still at odds with me," Kahn told Sport Bild.

"He was convinced I'd join Manchester United in 2003 or 2004, but building an era at Bayern was more important to me.

"Looking back, I believe that I should have done it back then. It would have been one last big challenge for me."

The 1999 Champions League final is



**HANDLE:** Bayern Munich's legendary former goalkeeper Oliver Kahn.

probably the most dramatic in the history of the competition. Although Liverpool fans might agree that their epic 2005 comeback against AC Milan is perhaps on par. United's incredible last minute comeback against Kahn's Bayern side in the Nou Camp has gone down in history. Teddy Sheringham equalised in the 91st minute before Ole Gunnar

Solksjaer famously poked home the winner two minutes later. But the German stopper, who represented his nation 86 times, has convinced himself that was actually on the winning side. "In my memory, I have stored that final against Manchester United as a win," Kahn said. "I've erased the final two minutes."

*Daily Star*

## Mayweather makes \$1 billion demand to fight in UFC

**L**AS VEGAS - Floyd Mayweather has claimed he could make \$1 billion from fighting in the UFC.

'Money' retired from boxing after defeating Conor McGregor in August, but has hinted that he could return to the fight game.

In a video posted on YouTube, Mayweather suggested he could make one billion dollars from "three or four" fights.

He said: "You already know I'm a money-getting motherf\*\*\*\*."

"I'm Money May. They just called me not too long ago and asked me to come back.

"I can come right back to the UFC.

"If I want, I can go, I can come right back to the UFC, I can go fight in the Octagon.

"I can do a three or four fight deal in the Octagon and make a billion dollars. Remember, I'm Floyd 'Money' Mayweather, and you motherf\*\*\*\* love me, and I love you motherf\*\*\*\*." His comments have sparked speculation that he could face McGregor in the Octagon. It would be just one of a number of options for the Dubliner in 2018.

Last week, Manny Pacquiao revealed he has held preliminary talks with McGregor about a potential fight. When asked about holding



**MONEY MAY:** Floyd Mayweather.

talks with the 29-year-old, Pacquiao said: "Initially but we have not yet had any follow-up conversations.

"If we can negotiate it, I have no problem. It is OK with both of us."

Pacquiao, who is now a senator in his native Philippines, says his next fight must take place during the Senate recess and that McGregor is just one of a number of options.

He added: "It depends who they can finalise as my opponent by April." Last month, UFC President Dana White claimed McGregor might never fight again. *Mirror*

## Brazilian football boss Del Nero banned

**B**RAZIL - Brazilian soccer chief Marco Polo del Nero was banned for 90 days by FIFA yesterday while he is investigated over possible unethical conduct, the global body said in a statement.

Del Nero, a former member of FIFA's executive committee, was among 42 soccer officials and sports marketing executives indicted in the United States in 2015 in a corruption scandal that sparked the biggest crisis in FIFA's history.

Brazil does not allow the extradition of its own citizens and Del Nero had remained as president of the Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) until yesterday decision.

Del Nero, 76, has denied wrongdoing while the CBF could not immediately be contacted for comment yesterday. His two immediate predecessors, Jose Maria Marin and Ricardo Teixeira, were also among those indicted in the United States.

Marin is currently standing trial

in the US alongside former South American Football Confederation President Juan Napout and former Peruvian football boss Manuel Burga.

The three have pleaded not guilty to allegations they were involved in a conspiracy to take bribes from sports marketing companies in exchange for lucrative marketing rights to soccer tournaments, including the Copa America and Copa Libertadores.

Teixeira, who has denied wrongdoing, has remained in Brazil. FIFA did not give any details yesterday of the alleged offences involving Del Nero, saying only that he was "banned from all football activities at both national and international level" following a request from its chief ethics investigator. FIFA said the ban could be extended for an additional 45 days to allow investigations to continue.

*Reuters*

## This sport is tougher than I thought - Benn

**L**ONDON - Conor Benn has flashed his horrific facial injuries after beating Cedrick Paynaud on Wednesday night.

The British boxer, who is the son of fans' favourite Nigel, suffered a difficult night, twice getting knocked down to the canvas in the opening round of the fight, but recovered to emerge victorious at the York Hall.

And he showed off the after-effects

in a post on his Twitter account on Thursday afternoon.

Benn had already clearly shown bruising to both of his eyes during the fight but managed to pull through and win courtesy of a decision.

The swelling had clearly worsened overnight and he felt the need to share it with his followers on social media.

He wrote on his Twitter account: "This sport is tougher than I thought.

Bloody hell. Love to my supporters! See you next year!"

Benn was floored twice in the opening round - these were the first times he had hit the canvas during his professional career - but fired back in an unbelievable battle, knocking the Frenchman down twice in the final two rounds.

*Daily Mail*







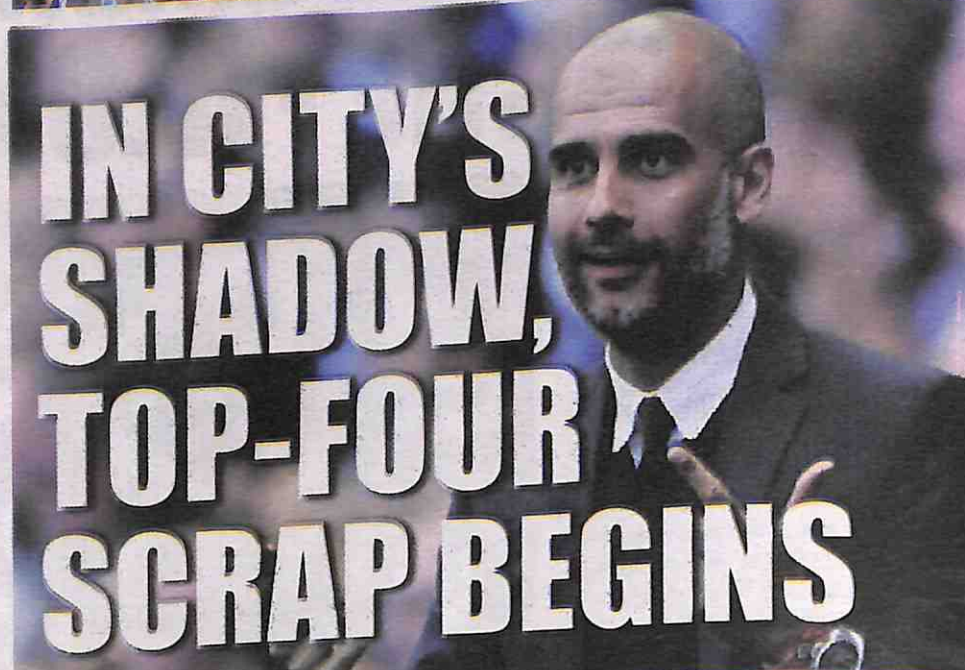
Tel: (+268) 2518 4615 | Cell: (+268) 7907 8654 or 7657 1505 | Email: [mavelas@simavsheq.com](mailto:mavelas@simavsheq.com) or [marketing@simavsheq.com](mailto:marketing@simavsheq.com)  
Physical Address: Plot 784, 1<sup>st</sup> Street Matsapha Industrial Site, Office number 11.

## PUBLIC TRAINING SCHEDULE - January to June 2018

COURSE	DURATION	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
SHEQ Management Systems Awareness	1 day	19		13	3	7	8
ISO 9001: 2015 Awareness Training	1 days	16		27	4	8	7
Transition Course (ISO 9001: 2008 to ISO 9001: 2015)	2 days	17-18	6-7	14-15	5-6	9-10	5-6
Construction Industry's Health and Safety Awareness Training	1 day	23	27	20	10	11	12
Municipalities and Town Council's Health and Safety Awareness Training	1 day	24		21	11	15	13
Forestry and Timber Industry Health and Safety Awareness Training	1 day	25		22		16	14
Public Transport Staff Health & Safety Awareness Training	1 day	26		23	12	17	15
SHEQ Officer's Refresher Training	3 days		13-15		10-12		20-22
SHEQ Officer's Diploma Training (Correspondence with Scheduled study schools) 10 <sup>th</sup> January 2018 (Intake final registration)	3 Years	13,20,27	3,10,17, 24	3,10,17, 24,31	7,14,21, 28	5,12,19, 26	2,9,16,23, 30
SHEQ Representative Course	2 days	10-11	2,9,16,23	22-23	17-18	19-20	26-27
Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment	2 days		8-9			21-22	28-29
SHEQ Internal Auditing Course (ISO 9001, OHSAS 18001, ISO 14001 Internal Auditing based on ISO 19011 standard)	5 days		5-9	27-28		29-30	11-15

**NB:** All courses can be presented at the client's premises provided a minimum of ten (10) participants is registered for the course. **Training Venue** shall be Alcon Business Center and SIMAV SHEQ Conference room.

SIMAV SHEQ CONSULTANCY & TRAINING IS ISO 9001 Certified Consultancy Firm with offices in Matsapha (BD), Riksburg (BA), Gaborone (Botswana)



**L**ONDON - With Pep Guardiola's record-breaking Manchester City team galloping away towards the Premier League title, attention is starting to shift to the jostling for Champions League positions.

Manchester United, 11 points below City in second place, and third-place Chelsea are well placed, but beneath them the picture is more fluid.

Just a point separates fourth-place Tottenham Hotspur and seventh-place Arsenal, while Burnley and Leicester City are both threatening to crash the cabal of the 'Big Six'.

United and defending champions Chelsea find themselves in a strange hinterland, both miles behind City - 11 and 14 points respectively - but otherwise enjoying broadly successful seasons.

Jose Mourinho's United had gone 40 home games without defeat prior to last Sunday's stormy 2-1 loss to City in the derby, while Chelsea have taken 22 points from a possible 27.

United drew a line beneath the derby defeat by beating Bournemouth 1-0 on Wednesday and defender Phil Jones says it has restored belief ahead of tomorrow's game at West Bromwich Albion. **AFP**

## UCL HURTING CHELSEA'S CHANCES - HAZARD

**L**ONDON - Eden Hazard admits Chelsea are experiencing a more gruelling December than during last season's Premier League title-winning campaign because of the club's involvement in the Champions League.

Antonio Conte's side welcome Southampton to Stamford Bridge this weekend after recovering from the shock defeat at West Ham United with a convincing 3-1 midweek win at Huddersfield Town. The display against the newly-promoted Yorkshire side highlighted Chelsea's forward strengths with Hazard combining well with Willian and Pedro to overwhelm the hosts.

The win opened up a four-point gap to fifth place and while Conte may have already conceded his side have no hope of defending their title, they are making impressive headway towards the target of ensuring their return to the Champions League next season. Having failed to qualify for last season's European football, Conte's side benefited from a reduced fixture list that contributed to them eventually becoming champions. This time around, the Chelsea head coach has been forced to manage his squad in a different way and Hazard admits the additional demands have taken their toll.

**AFP**



## Public Service Pensions Fund

PUBLIC SERVICE PENSIONS FUND  
P.O. BOX 4469, MBABANE  
Tel: 2411 9000 / Fax: 2404 2712 [www.pspf.co.sz](http://www.pspf.co.sz) TOLL FREE: 800 2401  
email: [info@pspf.co.sz](mailto:info@pspf.co.sz)

[/PSPFswaziland](https://www.facebook.com/PSPFswaziland) @PSPF\_Swaziland

## TENDER INVITATION

HILTON GARDEN INN, MBABANE

### BMS & CCTV SUB-CONTRACT TENDER INVITATION

TENDER NO. 1. BMS - H42/12/2017 ; 2. CCTV - H43/12/2017

The Public Service Pensions Fund (PSPF) hereby invites suitably qualified local and international Building Management System (BMS) and Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) specialists to tender for the supply, installation, commissioning and guarantee of these work packages to the above project, on Portions 934 & 935 of Farm No.2 in the Mbabane Central Business District.

The scope of works is detailed in the tender documents which may be obtained as from 10:00 am on Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> December 2017, at the PSPF offices, (physical address below) on payment of a non-refundable deposit of E500.00 (cash payment only).

Public Service Pensions Fund (PSPF)  
Ground Floor, Ingcamu Building  
Mhlambanyatsi Road  
MBABANE

Please note that there shall be no compulsory site inspection, however, should a Tenderer wish to familiarise himself with the site, then arrangements could be made upon request.

**Tenders must be accompanied by the following documents:**

Original receipt confirming payment for the tender documents, Certified Valid Tax Compliance Certificate, Certified Valid Trading Licence 2018, Audited Financial Statements for the last 3 years, Company Profile with CV's of key personnel, Workmen's Compensation, Labour Compliance Certificate, Statement of joint ventures / partnerships (if tendering as a JV or partnership), Letter of Intent for Surety, Names and contact details of at least three (3) recent reference customers on a project of similar magnitude.

Tenders are to be returned NOT LATER than Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018 @ 2:00 pm, deposited in the tender box at the physical address mentioned above. Tenders must be enclosed in sealed envelopes, dated and marked "PSPF-1. BMSSUB-CONTRACT TENDER - HOTEL; 2. CCTVSUB-CONTRACT TENDER - HOTEL". No late submission will be accepted. No facsimile, email or other forms of submission will be accepted than the prescribed. It is not a prerequisite to be registered with the Construction Industry Council (CIC) for the purpose of these tenders; however it shall be a condition of the tender that the award shall be made to Contractors that have valid CIC registration certificates.

The PSPF does not bind itself to accept the lowest tender or any tender nor give any reason for the acceptance or rejection of a tender. For enquiries, please contact Jethro Ndlangamandla, E-mail: [jethro@pspf.co.sz](mailto:jethro@pspf.co.sz)

Doc 15462



# 2017/18

## Ingwenyama Cup last 16 Knockout Fixtures

### Saturday, 16 December 2017 : Mhlume Stadium

Tambuti FC	Vs	Mbabane Swallows FC	1430hrs
Green Mamba FC	Vs	Moneni Pirates FC	1530hrs

### Saturday, 16 December 2017 : King Sobhuza Stadium

Hlathikhulu Tycoons FC	Vs	Manzini Sundown FC	1330hrs
Milling Hot Spurs FC	Vs	Mbabane Highlanders FC	1530hrs

### Sunday, 17 December 2017 : Killerny Stadium

Mbabane Citizens FC	Vs	Red Lions FC	1330hrs
Vovovo FC	Vs	Young Buffaloes FC	1530hrs

### Sunday, 17 December 2017 : Mayaluka Stadium

Madlenya FC	Vs	Royal Leopards FC	1330hrs
Tinyosi FC	Vs	Manzini Wanderers FC	1530hrs







## Chippa host struggling Polokwane City

**J**OHANNESBURG - Chippa United will welcome Polokwane City in an Absa Premiership match at the Nelson Mandela Bay Stadium today.

Kick-off is at 3:30pm. The Chilli Boys saw their 10-match unbeaten run in the league come to an end when they suffered a 1-0 defeat to Ajax Cape Town in their previous match in Johannesburg last weekend.

As a result, United are placed fifth on the league standings with 19 points from 14 matches. They are a point behind second-placed Orlando Pirates.

Meanwhile, City extended their winless run to five matches in the league when they drew 1-1 with Bidvest Wits in their previous game which was played in Polokwane last weekend. Rise and Shine are placed 14th on the league standings with 12 points from 13 matches.

They are only a point above the relegation zone. **BackpageTXT**

### Possible team list

Chippa United: Mhlongo, Mvelase, Mako, Konqobe, Okwuosa, Maphanga, Mabaso, Mdlindzo, Lentjes, Mayambela, Sekola.

Polokwane City: Chigova, Semenya, Hlongwane, Tshilo, Maponyane, Seabi, Tlolane, Maluleke J, Ramagalela, Ndou, Maluleke W.

# Mosimane not counting his Premiership title

**J**OHANNESBURG - Pitso Mosimane wants a double-digit lead at the top of the table before he can comfortably say the ABSA Premiership title is Mamelodi Sundowns' to lose.

And the coach might just get his wish considering how this current 2017-18 season is turning out, with rivals incredibly off colour and simply not at the races.

"You can't start talking when you only have a five point gap," Mosimane said after Sundowns beat Maritzburg United 1-0 at Loftus on Wednesday night to widen the gap at the summit. "I know we have those two games in hand, but that is dangerous. Look at SuperSport United. What is happening now with their games in hand? That thing is not an advantage because you have to win those games." Even Fadlu Davids, the Maritzburg coach, said immediately after the encounter that Sundowns were champions in waiting. "He's just being nice," said Mosimane. "Fadlu is being a nice guy and he means well, but we have got to be careful. It is too early and we have to manage all these compliments. "When you have a 14 or 15-point lead, then you can start saying it will be silly for us to lose



**NOT YET: Sundowns coach Pitso Mosimane.**

the title. But when you are not there yet, it is way too early. "We have not even played half the league matches. It will be very difficult to get the six points from the two games left before Christmas." But what does Mosimane think about his title rivals and a campaign that has been characterised by inconsistency? "I think the second half of the season will actually be worse," the Sundowns coach opined. "The season so far

has been deceiving. When you go two rounds of matches and there are no goals, there's obviously a topic and it's justified at that time. "I like what Cavin Johnson (AmaZulu coach) said. He says most of us coaches play not to lose and we are conservative. It's true, who wants to lose? But if you don't attack, how are you going to win? If your game is 70 per cent defence and 30 per cent attack, are you going to score

from that 30 per cent? We need to play." Mosimane then argued this approach would affect Bafana Bafana in the long run. "I understand we are all afraid to lose our jobs. So am I. But we play withdrawal football and it's easy to do so, but for big teams this is scary because we still have to try and build from the back because our people want entertainment. "This is dangerous for the national team because we are not building attackers," the coach continued. "We will all be scraping for points in the second half of the season. "It will be one draw after another, hence you find yourself in second place if you just win two games. We don't want to play. But we are Sundowns and we have to try, you can't give it to the centreback and ask him to hoof it forward." Sundowns host Bloemfontein Celtic on Saturday afternoon at Loftus and it's another opportunity for the Brazilians to show they are a cut above the rest.

"But we might not have the legs," Mosimane said. "You saw Vila (Sibusiso Vilakazi) and Thapelo (Morena) cramping.

And (Hlompho) Kekana was also struggling at the end because he played four games in 12 days.

**The Star**

## FS Stars eyeing Pirates scalp

**J**OHANNESBURG - Free State Stars will want to bag their second Absa Premiership win when they host Orlando Pirates this evening at Goble Park Stadium.

Kick-off is at 6:00pm. The improved Ea Lla Koto will want to bag their consecutive win and ensure they keep moving up the log table.

Fresh from a 1-0 win over SuperSport United in their mid-week game at home, coach Luc Eymael will motivate his charges to stun the Buccaneers.

In addition, the Bethlehem-based side has been revived following the arrival of the Belgian mentor at the beginning of this season and are a different outfit. In their previous three matches, they have also defeated Golden Arrows, but lost 3-0 to Bloemfontein Celtic in the Free State derby last Sunday. Sitting at



position six with 19 points from 14 league games means Stars will want to ensure Pirates go back to Soweto empty handed. On the part of the visitors, they are not doing well so far as they have been lacking consistency in their league run.

**BackpageTXT**

## Sundowns host confident Celtic

**P**RETORIA - Mamelodi Sundowns will take on Bloemfontein Celtic in an ABSA Premiership match at the Loftus Versfeld Stadium today.

Kick-off is at 3:30pm. The Brazilians recorded their third consecutive win in the league when they defeated Maritzburg United 1-0 in their previous match in Pretoria on Wednesday.

As a result, Sundowns are placed at the top of the league standings with 25 points from 12 games. They are five points above second-placed Orlando Pirates. Meanwhile, Celtic returned to winning ways in the league when they secured a 3-0 victory over Free State Stars in their previous league game in Bloemfontein last weekend. The win took Phunya Sele Sele to fourth spot on the league standings with 19 points from 12 games. They are a point behind second-placed Pirates.

### Possible starting line-ups

**Mamelodi Sundowns:** Onyango, Hachi, Soumahoro, Morena, Madisha, Manyisa, Kekana, Mabunda, Vilakazi, Zwane, Tau.

### Bloemfontein Celtic:

Tignyemb, Pfumbidzai, Rikhotso, Ndengane, Letsoalo, Lubisi, Motshegwa, Baloyi, Hotto, Mabena, Phalane.

### Mamelodi Sundowns key players

**Oupa Manyisa:** The experienced central midfielder is slowly regaining his old form having established himself in the Sundowns starting line-up. The former Orlando Pirates captain will be looking to use his experience to help Sundowns beat Celtic. **Percy Tau:** The forward is enjoying his football at the

moment having netted three goals in his last three league matches. The South Africa international will be keen to continue his scoring form and help his side record a home victory.

### Bloemfontein Celtic key players

**Patrick Tignyemb:** The experienced goalkeeper has been a pillar of strength for Celtic having kept three clean sheets in his last four league matches. The former Cameroon Under-23 international will be hoping to keep another clean sheet against Sundowns.

**Victor Letsoalo:** The 24-year-old striker is oozing with confidence after scoring a brace against Stars in the Free State Derby last weekend. The former Baroka forward will be eager to inspire his side to victory in Tshwane.

**BackpageTXT**



## The league won't be kind to Chiefs next year - Tshabalala

**J**OHANNESBURG - With Christmas around the corner, Kaizer Chiefs' stalwart Siphwe Tshabalala sounded like the Grinch with his ominous warning that the party at the top of the PSL standings will end soon.

Only five teams have won more matches than they have drawn in a season characterised by a high number of stalemates, thanks to inconsistent displays. This has seen positions at the top swapped willy-nilly as a win can see a team jump from seventh place to the summit. Amakhosi lie in

third place with just one win from their last six matches. A candid Tshabalala admitted that they were lucky to find themselves in the top three with that return.

"Since I started playing professionally in the PSL (in 2004), I don't recall this happening," Tshabalala said.

"I think that the league has been kind to a lot of teams, including us whereby we drop points yet we still aren't far from the log leaders. But that's something that will change soon.

"There are teams that once the heat is on and consistency is demanded

from them, they'll be in danger (and they will fall off). The current log tells you that consistency is key and consistency has been a challenge for most of the teams.

"We just have to focus on ourselves and get as many points as we can. Consistency is something that we need to work on next year.

There's isn't much time to work on that because next year is next month. There are big games coming in January."

Chiefs will not finish 2017 at the top of the table even if they beat Ajax Cape Town this evening at Moses Mabhida



**WARNING: Siphwe Tshabalala.**

Stadium in their last match of the year. A win would only take Chiefs to 22 points, three points behind Mamelodi

Sundowns who will play two games before the end of the year.

**The Star**



## Allardyce believes defensive mettle can help attack

**L**ONDON - Everton's defensive stability in recent games can serve as a platform for the team to express themselves more freely at the other end of the pitch, Manager Sam Allardyce said ahead of Monday's Premier League clash against Swansea City.

Everton are 10th in the league with 22 points after six wins, four draws and seven defeats and are on a four-game unbeaten run in which they have kept three clean sheets.

"We look like we're defensively sound now and now it's about expanding on that," Allardyce told a news conference yesterday.

"We have to be more expansive - not lose that defensive solidarity but be more creative and more accomplished because in the games down the line we'll have to break down teams or we'll have to play the big boys and try and get results."

The experienced Allardyce was faced with what looked like a relegation battle when he replaced Dutchman Ronald Koeman at the Merseyside club.

After a 4-0 win over West Ham United in caretaker boss David Unsworth's final game, Everton beat Huddersfield Town 2-0 in Allardyce's first game before they held local rivals Liverpool to a 1-1 draw and defeated Newcastle United 1-0 on Wednesday. "The credit goes to the players who have achieved so much in a short period of time. 10 points in four games is a miraculous recovery and has put the club in a pretty stable position. "That allows me to think a little bigger than perhaps when I first came in about sustaining our position in the top half and about improving the players." Yannick Bolasie, who has not featured for the club since suffering a knee injury against Manchester United last December, could be in line for a return against Swansea. Swansea are bottom of the league with 12 points and have lost seven of their last nine games this season. *Reuters*

## Maradona lauds 'revelation' Mbappe

**P**ARIS - Argentina great Diego Maradona praised Kylian Mbappe yesterday as "the revelation of football" after the French teenage sensation's spectacular rise to stardom.

Mbappe, who only turns 19 on December 20, finished seventh in last week's Ballon d'Or voting - ahead of the likes of Robert Lewandowski, Harry Kane and Paris Saint-Germain teammate Edinson Cavani.

"For me Mbappe is the revelation of football," Maradona, the star of Argentina's 1986 World Cup triumph, said in an interview with Spanish daily As. "He seems to me that he can be better than lots of players."

It has been a remarkable 2017 for Mbappe. He helped fire Monaco to a first French league title in 17 years and reached the Champions League semi-finals, before joining PSG in a stunning deal worth 180 million euros (\$209 million).

Maradona named the Frenchman as part of a list of players he believes are worthy of challenging Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi's perpetual claim to the Ballon d'Or - an award both have won five times each since 2008.

"Giving it to Cristiano and giving it to Messi has become boring," said Maradona. "There needs to be others getting involved in the fight, like Cavani, Mbappe, (Zlatan) Ibrahimovic. I don't know, there just needs to be some others."

Maradona also recalled advising Real Madrid President Florentino Perez to sign Mbappe prior to him moving to PSG.

"I said that to Florentino, sign Mbappe. I told him that! It was when we saw each other at FIFA," Maradona recounted. "He told me, 'But you know I have Cristiano already.'" *AFP*

# ALEXIS, OZIL WILL NOT BE SOLD - WENGER

**L**ONDON - Arsenal will not sell Alexis Sanchez and Mesut Ozil during the January transfer window, Manager Arsene Wenger has said.

Both players are out of contract at the end of the season and are yet to agree new deals, and there has been speculation that Arsenal could sell the influential pair in January to avoid seeing them leave for free in the summer.

But when asked in a news conference yesterday if Sanchez and Ozil would see out the season at Arsenal, Wenger said: "I can tell you a global answer - yes. They will all stay."

"I will analyse every case individually and separately, but overall I would say my wish and my desire is that everybody stays."

Jack Wilshere is another player whose Arsenal contract expires at the end of the season and Wenger revealed he will begin talks with the 25-year-old midfielder later this month about the possibility of a new deal. Wilshere spent last season on loan at Bournemouth



**GOING NOWHERE:** Mesut Ozil and Alexis Sanchez.

and has made only eight starts so far this campaign, all but one in cup competitions, with his only Premier League start in the 0-0 draw against West Ham United

on Wednesday. "I was impressed," Wenger said. "It was an encouraging performance. He suffered in the last 20, but we had to attack." *Reuters*

## Salah bags second award in as many weeks

**L**ONDON - Manchester City Manager Pep Guardiola was named November's Premier League Manager of the month for his third straight award while red-hot Liverpool forward Mohamed Salah became the first Egyptian to win the player of the month award.

Unbeaten City are top of the table with 49 points and defeated Arsenal, Leicester City, Huddersfield Town and Southampton in November as they stretched their winning streak to a record 15 games.

### Award

Guardiola beat out Chelsea's Antonio Conte, Burnley's Sean Dyche, Liverpool's Jurgen Klopp, Manchester United's Jose Mourinho and Arsenal's Arsene Wenger for the award.

The Premier League's top scorer Salah was voted BBC African Footballer of the Year for 2017 this week and found the net seven times in November to swell his tally to 13 goals. He scored twice in each of the wins against West Ham United, Southampton and Stoke City, and the opener in the 1-1 draw with defending champions Chelsea. Salah edged out Burnley's Robbie Brady, Manchester City duo Kevin De Bruyne and Raheem Sterling, Manchester United's Ashley Young, Chelsea's Eden Hazard and Arsenal's Shkodran Mustafi.

*Reuters*



**THE BEST:** Manchester City Manager Pep Guardiola was named November's Premier League Manager of the month while red-hot Liverpool forward Mohamed Salah was named November's Premier League player of the month.

## Dludlu promises Bantwana won't disappoint in World Cup qualifier

**J**OHANNESBURG - A proud Simphiwe Dludlu has issued a hard-to-refuse invitation to football fans: "come to Dobsonville Stadium and you will not be disappointed".

The women's national Under-17 team host Botswana at 3pm today, with a 5-2 lead from the first leg in the second round of the Under-17 World Cup qualifiers. Bantwana thumped Botswana in their first competitive match as a unit in what was a first taste of international football for a number of players. If they can win 5-2 on the road without much practice, imagine what they can do in front of their home crowd with a lot of confidence. "The South Africans who didn't see the 5-2 win in the first

leg missed out big time," Dludlu said. "They missed out on seeing young girls who are passionate about playing football. They missed out on coaches who are enthusiastic and ready to plough back."

"They must bring their picnic baskets and come through to support the girls at Dobsonville. Don't waste the day sitting at home. Come and enjoy with us. It will mean a lot for the girls to play in front of their home crowd because in Botswana, the two goals they scored was because their own fans pushed them. We need our crowd to be there."

"They must brace themselves for good football. We proved that we are capable of playing as a team in the first leg away." *The Star*



**HIGH HOPES:** Bantwana players.

### FIXTURES

#### TODAY

ABSA PREMIERSHIP		
15:30	Chippa United	v Polokwane City
15:30	Mamelodi Sundowns	v Bloemfontein Celtic
18:00	Free State Stars	v Orlando Pirates
20:15	Kaizer Chiefs	v Ajax Cape Town
20:15	Bidvest Wits	v Platinum Stars

#### BUNDESLIGA

16:30	Stuttgart	v Bayern München
16:30	Eintracht Frankfurt	v Schalke 04
16:30	Augsburg	v Freiburg
16:30	Werder Bremen	v Mainz 05
16:30	Köln	v Wolfsburg
19:30	Borussia Dortmund	v Hoffenheim

#### ENGLISH CHAMPIONSHIP

17:00	Sunderland	v Fulham
17:00	Birmingham City	v Q. Park Rangers
17:00	Bolton Wanderers	v Burton Albion
17:00	Derby County	v Aston Villa
17:00	Preston North End	v Sheffield United
17:00	Leeds United	v Norwich City
17:00	Ipswich Town	v Reading
17:00	Millwall	v Middlesbrough
17:00	Bristol City	v Nottingham Forest
17:00	Brentford	v Barnsley
19:30	Cardiff City	v Hull City

#### FRENCH LIGUE 1

18:00	Rennes	v PSG
21:00	Troyes	v Amiens SC
21:00	Strasbourg	v Toulouse
21:00	Montpellier	v Metz
21:00	Dijon	v Lille
21:00	Caen	v Guingamp

#### ITALIAN SERIE A

16:00	Internazionale	v Udinese
19:00	Torino	v Napoli
21:45	Roma	v Cagliari

#### PREMIER LEAGUE

14:30	Leicester City	v Crystal Palace
17:00	Walford	v Huddersfield Town
17:00	Stoke City	v West Ham United
17:00	B. & Hove Albion	v Burnley
17:00	Arsenal	v Newcastle United
17:00	Chelsea	v Southampton
19:30	Manchester City	v Tottenham Hotspur

#### SPANISH LA LIGA

17:15	Athletic Club	v Real Sociedad
19:30	Eibar	v Valencia
21:45	Atlético Madrid	v Deportivo Alavés

#### TOMORROW

ABSA PREMIERSHIP		
15:30	Golden Arrows	v Maritzburg United
15:30	Baroka FC	v SuperSport United

#### BUNDESLIGA

16:30	Hannover 96	v Bayer Leverkusen
19:00	RB Leipzig	v Hertha BSC

#### FRENCH LIGUE 1

16:00	Nantes	v Angers SCO
18:00	Nice	v B. Allianz Riviera
22:00	Olympique Lyonnais	v Marseille

#### ITALIAN SERIE A

13:30	Hellas Verona	v Milan
16:00	Florentina	v Genoa
16:00	Crotone	v Chievo
16:00	Sampdoria	v Sassuolo
16:00	Bologna	v Juventus
19:00	Benevento	v SPAL
21:45	Atalanta	v Lazio

#### PREMIER LEAGUE

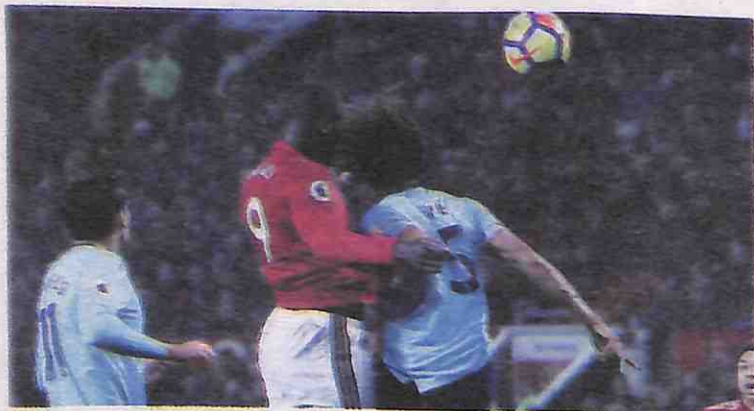
16:15	West Bromwich Albion	v Manchester United
18:30	AFC Bournemouth	v Liverpool

#### SPANISH LA LIGA

13:00	Girona	v Getafe
17:15	Celta de Vigo	v Villarreal
19:30	Las Palmas	v Espanyol
21:45	Barcelona	v Deportivo



# MAN U 1-0 BOURNEMOUTH



**HEADER:** Romelu Lukaku got the better of Bournemouth defender Nathan Ake to give United the lead on 25 minutes. (Daily Mail)

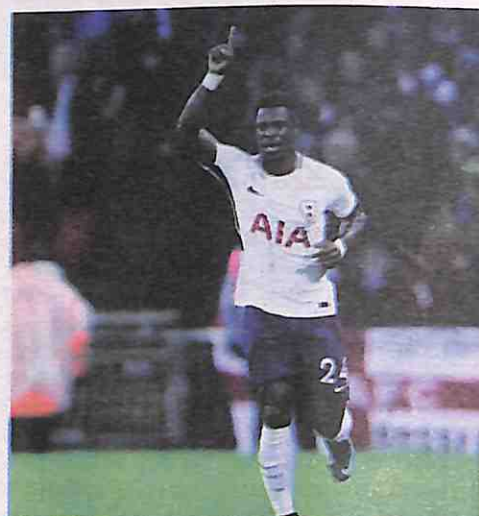


**GOAL:** The powerful Belgian striker watches on as his header flies towards the top corner of Asmir Begovic's goal.



**GOOD GAME:** Manchester United Manager Jose Mourinho embraces Bournemouth counterpart Eddie Howe.

## TOTTENHAM 2-0 BRIGHTON



**GOAL SCORER:** Serge Aurier was Tottenham's unlikely opening goalscorer at Wembley Stadium as he broke the deadlock against Brighton. (Daily Mail)



**CROSS:** The Spurs full back's cross left Brighton's Mat Ryan with no chance as it looped over the helpless goalkeeper's head.



**DENIED:** Lamela also had an effort of his own denied as he fails to pull off a cheeky chip over Ryan.



### SWAZILAND ELECTRICITY COMPANY (SEC)

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Energy for the Future

## PLANNED POWER OUTAGE NOTIFICATION

Kindly note that there will be power interruptions on our electricity lines due to routine maintenance as per the following schedule;

DAY:	DATE:	MAINTAINANCE BY (DEPOT)	AFFECTED AREAS:	DESCRIPTION OF WORK	PERIOD:
Monday	18 Dec	Hluti	Part of Mgamudze	Project Construction	10:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
		Manzini	Bricon, Lwandle, TB Hospital, Lugaganeni High Sites, Manzini Clinic, SPTC Exchange Moneni, Njabuleni, Lugaganeni MTN, Swazi Mobile Lugaganeni, Hhelehhele, Apex Academy, Transworld Radio Stuff Houses and surrounding areas.	MR3 Line Relocation	08:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
		Manzini	Gundwini, Nhlambeni, Lwandle and surrounding areas.	Closing Span	10:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Tuesday	19 Dec	Pigg's Peak	Hhelehhele, Gobolondlo Primary School, Mzimnene	Stinging Dual Line	9:30a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
		Pigg's Peak	Luhlangotsini, Matitila, Luhhumaneni MTN Aerial	Routine Maintenance	9:00a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
		Siteki	Malindza, Malindza Primary and High School, Malindza Hammer Mill	Service Connection	10:00a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
		Mhlume	Phakama Mafucula Farm, Mafucula Hammer Mill, Madraya A, Madraya B, Mhlonweni G/S, Mafucula Business Area, Mafucula Community, Mafucula Primary and High School	Closing Span	9:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
		Manzini	Fairview South, Fairview North, William Pitcher, Sikhunyane, Ntunja, Sichelwini, Makholweni, Tiantfwin, Mpembekati, MTN Makholweni, MTN Hillside, Helemisi Agriculture, Mthunyelelwa and surrounding areas.	Planned Maintenance and Service Connections	10:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday	20 Dec	Hluti	Sitilo, Mvundleni, A-One, Siphambanweni	Project Construction	9:00a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
		Big Bend	Valley Estate, Joziland Pump Stations, Nsoko Railway	Routine Maintenance	9:00a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
		Mhlume	Timambeni	Transformer Relocation	9:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
		Manzini	Bricon, Lwandle, TB Hospital, Lugaganeni High Sites, Manzini Clinic, SPTC Exchange Moneni, Njabuleni, Lugaganeni MTN, Swazi Mobile Lugaganeni, Apex Academy, Transworld Radio Stuff Houses Hhelehhele and surrounding areas.	MR3 Line Relocation	8:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
		Manzini	Mafutseni, Mahhlonwane and surrounding areas.	Closing Span	10:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Thursday	21 Dec	Madlangempisi	Nkambeni MTN, Nkambeni Swazi Mobile, Swaziland Railway	Dismantling and Stringing Wire	9:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
		Hluti	Nkhungwini, KaShiba, Mabhudweni	Project Construction	9:00a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
		Siteki	Moyeni, Police Camp, Two Sticks, Mpumalanga, Mpumalanga Royal Resident, North Cliff, Mahlatsini, SITC, Global Community School	Closing Span and Dual Stringing	9:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
		Manzini	Zakhele Township, Two Sticks, Psychiatric Centre, Nazare ne Quarters, Nhlalakahle and surrounding areas	Planned Maintenance & Service Connections	10:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Friday	22 Dec	Manzini	Bhudla, Mafutseni, Luve Dalcru, Maliyaduma kaNdvuna and surrounding areas.	Closing Span	10:30a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

### MARKETING AND CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

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# SMVAF INGWENYAMA CUP 2017/18



## 'BIRDS' IN TITLE DEFENCE JOURNEY AGAINST TAMBUTI

Tambuti vs Mbabane Swallows  
Mhlume Stadium, 2.30pm

By Sabelo Majola

**S**OCCKER - Good things happen to those who prepare well for them and good things have been happening to Mbabane Swallows in the Ingwenyama Cup tournament since its inception in 2015. The two times winners of the title will be locking horns with Tambuti in what will be

a tough battle for a slot to the next stage of the competition.

Tambuti are no small team nor are they easy to beat but Swallows can undoubtedly attest to it when you label the Lubombo based side as a hard nut to crack.

Even though they were victorious over Tambuti in their first round league meeting, but it was no walk in the park for Swallows.

Tambuti kept knocking on their door and their threat at goal remains a scare for many

a team in the Premier League of Swaziland.

However, Swallows are yet to lose a game not just in the league but in the Ingwenyama Cup tournament as they have played the last 11 games of the competition without tasting defeat and the stats mount pressure on both the defending champions and the opponents.

The venue comes as an advantage to the hosts who are still in their territory despite that it's not their home ground.

### 'BUCS', MAMBA IN A TRICKY AFFAIR

Green Mamba vs Moneni Pirates  
Mhlume Stadium, 4.30pm

**S**ometimes the thrill is not in winning but on what you do on your way to victory and thrilling is the right word to use

in this encounter between Green Mamba and Moneni Pirates.

The action will unfold at Mhlume Stadium after the competition's organisers spread the games across the country, excusing both Somhlolo National Stadium and Mavuso Sports Centre.

It was a 1-all draw in the two side's league meeting late last month but unfortunately there is no such thing as a draw in this competition as one has to progress and the other wait for another shot at it next time.

### 'DOWNS FACE ACID TEST AGAINST TYCOONS

Hlatikulu Tycoons vs Manzini Sundowns  
King Sobhuza II Memorial Stadium, 1.30pm

**H**aving surprised many by eliminating Malanti Chiefs from the tournament in a three goal thriller,

Hlatikulu Tycoons are not in it to add numbers but they mean serious business.

Tycoons will play hosts to Manzini Sundowns in their backyard at King Sobhuza II Memorial Stadium and its sure going to be an epic show that will get spectators on their toes. The 13<sup>th</sup> player will come in

very handy for Tycoons who are in the quest to make history in the richest tournament ever to be launched in the country. Their advancement to the last eight will mean they are already floating in money as they would be in line to win the incentive for National First Division best finisher.

### Battle of the titans as 'Bull' face M. Hotspurs

Milling Hotspurs vs Mbabane Highlanders  
King Sobhuza II Memorial Stadium, 3.30pm

**B**eing an underdog is precious in the sense that it enlightens and permits things that might otherwise have seemed impossible or unthinkable and Milling Hotspurs can attest to that.

The NFD outfit did the unthinkable

when they knocked one of the country's formidable sides in Matsapha United out of the Ingwenyama Cup tournament and they are playing hosts to Highlanders this afternoon at King Sobhuza II Memorial Stadium. The tricky affair is one of the anticipated clashes of the weekend with many predicting an upset, particularly in this encounter. Highlanders were on fire in the last 32 games, netting five past Regional champions City Warriors and conceding none. They will be looking to ride on the same wave against the highly motivated Hotspurs who have former Manzini Sundowns ace Reagan Steenkamp steering the mid-field for the Manzini based side.

The match is set to attract a relatively large crowd and football supporters will be treated to a thrilling episode of 90 minutes in the field of play.





# Sitsebe go six places up in FIFA rankings

By Sabelo Majola

**S**OCCER - Senior women's national team Sitsebe has moved six places up in the latest FIFA women's rankings released yesterday.

The women world rankings are released once in three months and Sitsebe were ranked 119 back in September but are now ranked 113 in the world. Nigeria is at the pinnacle of the CAF standings while Swaziland is ranked 19 in the continent. Sitsebe's last competition was the Council of Southern African Football Association (COSAFA) women 2017 hosted by Zimbabwe in September last year.

Sitsebe kicked off the competition on a positive note with a 3-0 victory over Mauritius but their fantasy was short lived as they lost to their Group B counterparts Kenya and Mozambique to crash out of the tournament. Sitsebe's next



assignment is the 2018 Total Women AFCON which will be held in Ghana from November 17 to December 1 next year. Swaziland will visit Lesotho in the first leg of the tournament on February 26 and the return leg is

scheduled for a week later. The tournament also doubles as the African qualifiers to the 2019 FIFA Women's World Cup and the top three teams will qualify for the World Cup in France.

**Sitsebe's rankings in 2017:**

Rank	Year	Month
113	2017	December
119	2017	September
123	2017	June
116	2017	March

## Nigeria fry for blunder that started at Somhlolo

By Sabelo Majola

**S**OCCER - The world football governing body, FIFA, has punished Nigeria for using an ineligible player in their final World Cup qualifier against Algeria in November.

Nigeria illegally fielded Abdullahi Shehu, who had two yellow cards after attaining the first one against

Swaziland at Somhlolo National Stadium in November 2015.

The defender was cautioned in the Super Eagles 1-0 win over Zambia in October 2017 that sealed Nigeria's spot in Russia, having been shown a yellow card in the first leg of their second-round tie against Swaziland in November 2015.

The World Cup qualifying clash

ended in a barren draw before Sihlangu lost 2-0 away to Nigeria. The World Cup bound Nigeria played to a 1-1 draw against Algeria and Shehu, who should have been suspended for picking yellow cards in two previous qualifiers, played the whole match. The Nigeria Football Federation has been slapped with a fine amounting to over E80 000 for the incident and Algeria

were awarded a 3-0 win.

The sanction does not affect Nigeria's World Cup qualification as they had already clinched a place in Russia before the Algeria tie. It means that Nigeria still finish top of Group B but with 13 points instead of 14 while Algeria's total at the bottom is now four rather than two points.

## Figaredo five sitting on top on MRPA

By Sibusiso Masilela

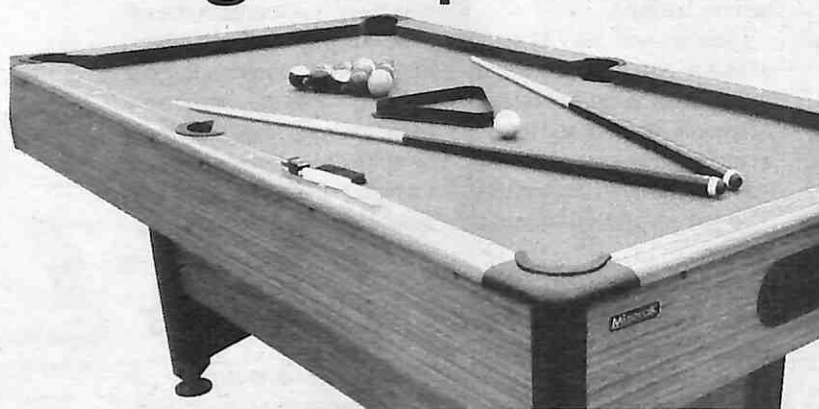
**P**OOL - Figaredo five is currently enjoying a good run in the ongoing Manzini Regional Pool Association (MRPA) new campaign.

The Ludzeludze based side is currently sitting at the summit of the log with seven points after recording a 100 per cent start into the new season.

The team will be looking to maintain winning ways this afternoon at the expense of newcomers Correctional in the week three games.

Coming second is Nicks who are sitting at four points and they will be looking to close the gap on Figaredo Five at the expense of Macembe.

Other interesting fixtures of the day will see Mankayane take on Way Inn



in their own backyard, the Mankayane Pool Club, in their quest to move into the top four bracket. MRPA Secretary Mbongeni Gamedze confirmed the fixtures yesterday and further invited lovers of the game to come and rally behind

their respective teams. "We are happy with the progress of the league since the games started as we haven't heard any incidents of violence. The games will start at 2pm so supporters should come and support their teams," he said.

### The full fixture;

#### Macembe Pool Bar

Macembe vs Nicks Correctional PC  
Correctional vs Figaredo Five

#### Ludzeludze Pool Club

Figaredo vs Mankayane Eagles

#### Mankayane Pool Club

Mankayane vs Way Inn

### Manzini Regional Pool Association Log standings

	P	W	L	FF	FA	FD	PTS
1. Figaredo5	2	2	0	31	19	12	7
2. Nicks	2	1	1	28	22	6	4
3. Way Inn	1	1	0	16	9	7	3
6. Anka Eagles	1	1	0	16	9	7	3
7. Mankayane	1	1	0	13	12	1	3
8. Macembe	2	0	2	20	30	-10	2
9. Correctional	2	0	2	18	32	-14	2
10. Figaredo	1	0	1	8	17	-9	0
11. Uni-K	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12. P.College	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13. France	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14. Bhunya 2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15. Bhunya 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## Fair draw for Correctional in Ulundi Cup

By Sibusiso Masilela

**V**OLLEYBALL - Local giants Correctional have been handed a fair draw in the annual Ulundi Cup, which kicked off last night in South Africa.

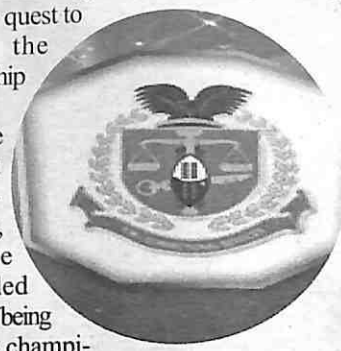
The Matsapha based side was pitted against three teams in their group Hambanathi, Free State giants and Fighters whom they will battle in their quest to defend the championship title.

The Themba Sifundza-led charges, who have been seeded by virtue of being defending champions, began their title defence mission against Free State yesterday afternoon.

Other local envoys taking part in the South African tournament are Lomahasha Customs and Zakhele Ladies. Swaziland National Volleyball Association (SNVA) Vice Secretary Eric Zwane confirmed that the three local teams were part of the tournament.

"We have three clubs representing the country at the Ulundi Cup after we received an invitation from the organisers last week. The games began today (yesterday) and they will end tomorrow.

We wish all our teams the best of luck in the competition," he said. There are 11 teams in both categories taking part in the games and are divided into three groups. The top two teams in each group will proceed to the quarterfinal stages, alongside the two best losers in the tournament.



## Local duo in Cape Town summer series

By Sibusiso Masilela

**A**THLETICS - Two local athletes Thandaza Zwane and Andile Lusenga will compete in the Cape Town summer series slated for the Green Point Stadium today.

The two athletes will both take part in the 200m race to feature South African and other regional athletes. The athletes will be using the annual competition to try and qualify for the Commonwealth Games to be held in Australia next year.

Correctional star Zwane will be aiming to improve his current record of 21.95s while Lusenga will be

looking to make his first international record in the 200m category. Athletics Association of Swaziland (AAS) Secretary Thoba Mazibuko confirmed the developments.

"It is true that two of our athletes will be competing in the Summer Series in Cape Town tomorrow. The main objective is to see the athletes qualify for the Commonwealth Games and this race is a start to achieving that goal." "We are confident that they will do well and wish them the best of luck. As an association we will try and assistance to ensure they ensure they shine at the international stage," he said.





# GOSHEN TAKES 'BULL' TO STATUS COMMITTEE

By Sibusiso Masilela

**S**OCCER – Estranged Nigierian midfielder Gabriel Goshen has taken Mbabane Highlanders to the National Football Association of Swaziland (NFAS) Players Status Committee.

The former Tambuti player is said to have written to the football mother body requesting that they help him acquire his clearance and his October and November salaries following a fall out with the capital city giants.

A source close to the matter asserted that Goshen is allegedly no longer happy at the team and now wants out, four months after completing

his switch from Lubombo based outfit Tambuti.

"Goshen has taken Highlanders to the PSC and is accusing them of failing to pay his salaries and badmouthing him."

## Misconduct

"The matter seems to be taking a twist as Highlanders have also prepared an internal disciplinary hearing for the player for misconduct after he failed to report to training for over a week," the source said.

Highlanders Public Relations Officer Mphumelelo Mnisi

said he was yet to get a briefing on matter when sought for comment yesterday.

"Nothing formal has reached my office on this matter hence am not in a position to comment until I get a formal briefing," he said.

## Summoned

Asked on the internal disciplinary committee lined up for the player, Mnisi could only state that the player was summoned to a meeting on Thursday night. "It is true that the player was called to a meeting

which I didn't attend due to other errands of the team and I am yet to find out what transpired during that meeting," he added.

## Handled

FA Marketing and Communications Officer Muzi Radebe said such matters were handled by the chief executive officer (CEO)'s office.

"I am yet to get a briefing from the CEO's office on the matter you are talking about and it would be folly for me to comment until I see the letter," he said.

The player confirmed the matter when called yesterday and that he was still awaiting a response from the FA.

REQUESTS CLEARANCE: Gabriel Goshen.

## HIGHLANDERS, OTHERS GET SWAZI MOBILE REPLICAS

By Sabelo Majola

...Teams will use Swazi Mobile kits in knockout tournaments

**S**OCCER – Mbabane Highlanders will parade their new Swazi Mobile branded soccer kits when they invade Nhlanguano today.

The 'black Bull' is expected to don their new kit when they take on National First Division side Milling Hotspurs in the Ingwenyama Cup last 16 games at King Sobhuza II Memorial Stadium this afternoon.

The team joins Premier League counterparts Manzini Wanderers who paraded their kit last week against Sikhalo Se-Africa at the Somhlolo National Stadium.

The team's kit was unveiled yesterday at the Swazi Mobile Headquarters in Mbabane and the jersey comes in the traditional black and white 'Bull' colours.

All the other Swazi Mobile sponsored teams in Madlenya, Tinyosi and Manzini Wanderers were presented with their replicas yesterday



**MOBILISED:** Swazi Mobile acting CEO Wandile Mtshali handing over Swazi Mobile replica to Mbabane Highlanders Vice Secretary Maxwell Masuku.

and they are all expected to wear them in their respective games over the weekend.

Swazi Mobile CEO Wandile Mtshali congratulated all four teams for making it to the next stage of the Ingwenyama Cup tournament and wished them the best of luck in their

next fixtures.

"It is tricky because one of the games has two of our teams (Manzini Wanderers and Tinyosi FC) against each other but even then, they both have our full support as a company. We are proud that this weekend all four teams will play with their spon-

sored kits. We are committed to helping all of them perform at their peak. The kits are over and above the company's financial support to the teams. We fully support Swazi soccer, teams, players and fans alike," he said.

Meanwhile Highlanders PRO Mphumelelo Mnisi said they were happy to have received the kit.

## Secondary

When quizzed on how the team would alternate their replicas as they also have G-Fox as a technical sponsor, Mnisi said Swazi Mobile was their principal sponsor.

"Swazi Mobile is our principal and contracted sponsor and they are the main technical sponsor. All other sponsorships are secondary," he said.

A source in the team had, however, hinted that the team would use the Swazi Mobile kits for knockout tournaments while other jerseys branded with different sponsors would be used in the league.

## Thulani, Mbongeni, Leticia get FIFA accreditation

By Qondile Ntshane

**S**OCCER – CAF suspended Referee Thulani Sibandze has received a thumbs up from international football mother body FIFA.

The referee is one of the two local referees that have been accredited by FIFA alongside the seasoned Mbongeni Fakudze.

According to a list released by the National Football Association of Swaziland (NFAS) yesterday others that have made the list are assistant referees Sifiso 'Bingo' Nxumalo, Zamani Simelane, Gcina Mamba and Petros Mbingo who was also suspended by CAF alongside Sibandze.

Also making the list were Premier League lady referee Leticia Viana and women football assistant referees Buyile Mkhaphi and Siphwayinkhosi Nxumalo.

NFAS Marketing and Communications Officer Muzi Radebe congratulated the officials on their achievement.

"NFAS congratulate these referees and assistant referees on their accreditation by the world football governing body and wish them the best of luck as they execute their roles as assigned by FIFA."



**SUSPENDED:** Referee Thulani Sibandze.

## THE LIST

### REFEREES

Sibandze Thulani  
Fakudze Mbongiseni Elliot

### ASSISTANT REFEREES

Nxumalo Sifiso Bingo  
Simelane Zamani Thula  
Mbingo Petros Mzikayifani  
Mamba Gcina Sam

### WOMEN REFEREES

Viana Leticia

### WOMEN ASSISTANT REFEREES

Nxumalo Siphwayinkhosi Cosma  
Mkhaphi Buyile Patricia

## DERBY DELIGHT NEXT SATURDAY

By Qondile Ntshane

**S**OCCER – Football lovers will kick-start the festive season with a Mbabane derby delight next weekend.

According to the fixture released by the Premier League of Swaziland (PLS) yesterday, the two sides Mbabane Swallows and Mbabane Highlanders will meet in an encounter slated for the Somhlolo National Stadium next Saturday starting at 3:30pm.

### MID-WEEK FIXTURES

Tuesday at Mayaluka Stadium			
Tambuti	vs	Highlanders	6:30pm
Green Mamba	vs	Matsapha	8:30pm
Wednesday at Mavuso Sports Centre			
M. Sundowns	vs	Swallows	6:30pm
Leopard vs	Moneni Pirates	8:30pm	
Wednesday at Somhlolo National Stadium			
Buffaloes	vs	Wanderers	6:30pm
Red Lions	vs	Malanti Chiefs	8:30pm
Wednesday at Prince of Wales Sports Ground			
Midas City	vs	Vovovo	4pm

### WEEKEND FIXTURES

On Saturday at King Sobhuza II Memorial			
Leopard	vs	Tambuti	1:30pm
Buffaloes	vs	Red Lions	3:30pm
On Saturday at Mavuso Sports Centre			
Sundowns	vs	Malanti Chiefs	1:30pm
Wanderers	vs	Green Mamba	3:30pm
On Saturday at Somhlolo National Stadium			
Moneni Pirates	vs	Midas City	1:30pm
Swallows	vs	Highlanders	3:30pm
Saturday at Prince of Wales			
Vovovo	vs	Matsapha United	3pm

and Leopard will co-host Mbabane Swallows and Moneni Pirates at the Mavuso Sports Centre while Buffaloes have a date with Manzini Wanderers at the Somhlolo National Stadium starting at 6:30pm.

On another note, PLS Chief Operations Officer (COO) Pat Vilakati stated that their offices will close for the festive season on December 22.

"The office will re-open for the remainder of the 2017/18 football season and resume on the weekend of January 7-8, 2018 for game 13 of the season," he said

## Wanderers vows to avoid heavy fines

By Sibusiso Masilela

**S**OCCER – Hub giants Manzini Wanderers have vowed to avoid the heavy fines that have been recently imposed on local teams by the National Football Association of Swaziland (NFAS) Disciplinary Committee (DC).

This was disclosed by the team's National Supporters Commi-ttee (NSC) Secretary Sandile 'Ntofo' Dlamini who said their focus was to help the team reclaim its glory days. He said they were hopeful that the issue of violence and unruly behaviour was a thing of the past in the team.

"Wanderers is known to have a Christian foundation and we have in the past been caught up in the devil's work, something that has seen unsporting behaviour, insults

and throwing of missiles at stadiums by our supporters."

"We have since agreed to desist from such acts and work towards the betterment of the team. The main goal is to support and encourage the players so that they deliver and win trophies for the team," he said.

## Arranged


Dlamini also announced that they have arranged transport for their Ingwenyama Cup last 16 tie against Tinyosi slated for the Mayaluka Stadium tomorrow.

"Transport has been arranged for our supporters from Mbabane and Mankayane. They can contact Alex at 7603 6103 and prepare a fee of E100. Those from Mankayane can contact Themba at 7608 3158 and should prepare E130. Supporters are urged be punctual time so that they can arrive on





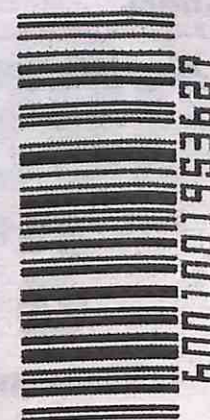
14:30	Leicester City	v	Crystal Palace
17:00	Watford	v	Huddersfield
17:00	Stoke City	v	West Ham
17:00	Brighton	v	Burnley
17:00	Arsenal	v	Newcastle
17:00	Chelsea	v	Southampton
19:30	Manchester City	v	Tottenham



IF SPORT IS YOUR BIBLE, THEN WE'RE YOUR CHURCH

# SPORT

**IF SPORT IS YOUR BIBLE, THEN WE'RE YOUR CHURCH**



December 16, 2017

**...Player runs to Players Status Committee, accuses team of ill-treatment, unpaid salaries and wants his clearance.**

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**MOBILISED:** Swazi Mobile acting CEO Wandile Mtshali displaying the new kit donated to Mbabane Highlanders to the team's Vice Secretary Maxwell Masuku. The team will parade the new kit when they take on Milling Hotspurs at the King Sobhuza II Stadium in Nhlangano today. (Courtesy pic)

## HIGHLIGHTS

## IMPROVEMENT: SITSEBE GO UP IN FIFA RANKINGS

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# BUCKLE UP: INGWENYAMA CUP PREVIEWS

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## FAIR: HMCS GETS FAIR DRAW IN ULUNDI TOURNEY

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MTN LEAGUE  
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## e-GOVERNMENT SISWATI NAME AND SLOGAN COMPETITION



The Private and Cabinet Office (e-Government Unit) in collaboration with Swaziland Post and Telecommunications Corporation (SPTC) invites members of the public to submit entries for the e-Government SiSwati Name and slogan competition. The e-Government programme is aimed at improving public administration through the use of Information and Communication Technologies and transforming the country to an information society and knowledge economy. Please insert appropriately below either one or both;

1. e- Government SiSwati name? .....

2. e- Government Slogan? .....

Name and Surname..... Contact Number.....

ID Number.....

**WINNERS: 1. e-Government SiSwati Name – E 20 000.00**

**2. Slogan - E 30 000.00**

**Stamp**  
**E2.00**

Stamps can be purchased  
at a Post Office near you.

Entries should be submitted on or before 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2017 at any Post Office. Newspaper cut outs and downloadable entry forms from [www.gov.sz](http://www.gov.sz) will be acceptable.

For more information on e – Government please see ([www.gov.sz](http://www.gov.sz)) T&Cs Apply

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