



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

SPORT, ARTS AND CULTURE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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**REMARKS BY KZN MEC FOR SPORT, ARTS AND CULTURE
DR NTUTHUKO MAHLABA ON THE OCCSION OF ETHEKWINI
SUKASAMBE
INANDA, WARD 55, ETHEKWINI**

22 MAY 2024

*Programme director;
The Head of Department; Dr Thobile Sifunda
Ward Councillor
President of KZN Sports Confederation; Mr Thami Mchunu
KZN Chairperson of CCIFSA; Mr Thokozani Zulu
Senior management of DSAC
Abaholi bezenkolo nosomabhizinisi
Members of the media
Ladies and Gentlemen*

Sanibonani nonke.

Siyajabula ukuba nani nonke lapha eNanda

It is an honour to address you today from this historical ground in Inanda, a true melting pot of our struggle and a beacon of our heritage. Inanda is unique, being the only township that has produced not one, but two ANC Presidents: **John Langalibalele Dube** and **Dr Pixley kaSeme**. The very stadium we are gathered in bears the name of John Dube, a tribute to his indelible legacy.

Inanda was also home to the remarkable **Mama Nokutela Dube**, John Langalibalele Dube's wife and an extraordinary pioneer in her own right. Mama Nokutela was the first black woman to establish a



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school - **Ohlange High School** - which she co-founded with her husband. It is fitting that Ohlange High School was the very place where former **State President Nelson Mandela** cast his vote in our first democratic election in 1994.

We remember and honour both uMafukuzela and Mama Nokutela Dube, who have been awarded the Order of Luthuli and the Order of the Golden Baobab, respectively. These honours were bestowed posthumously, with Nokutela's recognition coming 100 years after her passing. Their contributions to our nation's struggle for freedom and education are immeasurable.

Inanda was also the residence and base of operations for **Mahatma Gandhi**, further cementing its role in the global struggle for justice and equality. This township gave us Mama Bertha Mkhize, a tireless advocate for women's rights. It is here, too, that the **Nazareth Baptist Church** was founded, a spiritual haven for many. Can I get an AAAMEEEEEEN?

This is why Inanda is significant. This is why Inanda matters. It has been a cornerstone in the struggle to liberate our people and has brought us the freedom we cherish today. Despite being often adversely highlighted in crime statistics, Inanda is a force to be reckoned with, a powerhouse of resilience and inspiration.

As we gather here for the Sukasambe programme, a ward-based intervention that seeks to unearth talent in both sport and arts, let us remember the greats that Inanda has produced. From actors and comedians like **Ndaba Mhlongo** to his sister the soulful singer **Busi Mhlongo**, and PSL sports talents such as **Sibusiso Khumalo**, a defender with *Black Leopards*, and **Andile Fikizolo**, a midfielder with *Golden Arrows* who turned 30 nine days ago, Inanda continues to shine brightly.

Let us draw inspiration from this remarkable township as we celebrate our heritage, our talent, and our unyielding spirit. Today we are also aware that the township has given us **Mama Zandile**



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Gumede our regional chairperson who celebrated her birthday 10 days ago and fellow parliamentarian and our **Mayor, His Worship, Cllr Mxolisi Kaunda**.

I am mentioning all of these figures to demonstrate to you that your very existence in this township is testament that you were born for greatness among the greats.

Uma ngiqhubeka nenkulumo yami, angiveze ukuthi silapha namuhla kwesakwaMthethwa singuHulumeni kaANC sithunywe uMongameli **uCyril Matamela Ramaphosa** noNdunankulu wethu esiFundazweni **uMama uNomusa Dube** kanye neNhlango ebusayo, iNhlango yabantu *uAfrican National Congress* ukuzonikhumbuza ukuthi kuyini ukuphila ngaphansi **kweNkululeko nobuAfrika**.

Silapha futhi ngohlelo esiluhubayo kuzo zonke izifunda, uhlelo lukaSukasambe njengoba kade sengishilo ukuthi lubhekene ngqo lokuvundula ithalente, sililolonge silithuthukise. Loluhlelo silubamba futhi ngayo lenyanga esithi ngayo eyaseAfrica – AFRICA MONTH elandela i-FREEDOM MONTH iphinde yandulele i-YOUTH MONTH. Nalapha eKing Cetshwayo silethe yona lenkululeko nokuzigqaja ngobu-Afrika.

Inyanga lena yeNkululeko esiphuma kuyona u-April – **FREEDOM MONTH** – isikhumbuza okuningi osekwenziwe uHulumeni kaANC ukubumbanisa abantu. Ukuhlango nje kanjena sizojabula kwakungabakhwekazi ngezikhathi zobandlululo lapho sasingavunyelwe nhlobo ukuhlango sibe abantu abayiqoqo ngaphandle kokuthola imvume ngaphansi **kweGATHERING ACT**. Sasihlukaniswe nawumthetho **weGROUP AREAS ACT**.

Lokhu sikwazi kangcono kulelilokishi ngoba ubandlululo lwenza sehluwane futhi nabomdabu waseNdiya ngenkathi bakhelwa ilokishi lasePhoenix ukuze bahlale bodwa.



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INKULULEKO isho ukuthi siyahlangana senze okungokwethu okuhlenganisa thina kuphinde kujabulise thina. **INKULULEKO** isho ukuthi siyagqoka kanjena imifaniswano yethu ngaphandle kokuqalaza ukuthi ubani uzothini – lokhu esithi phecelezi **FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION.**

ON SUKASAMBE

First and foremost, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for making **SUKASAMBE** a really workable and resoundingly successful government programme.

I really must state from the onset that while **Sukasambe – ward-based intervention programme** has its primary root in the identification, unearthing, developing and promotion of raw talent from a ward level, it is also geared to bringing to the communities a basket of services.

I am pleased that the **ANC GOVERNMENT** uses infrastructure to deliver quality of life to our people. Recently, the department delivered infrastructure projects which include libraries and combo court amounting to millions of rands.

Ladies and gentlemen;

Some of the basket of services brought by **SUKASAMBE** to the communities include e-sport, coaching clinics by sports legends, music masterclasses, mobile recording studios, talent search in a form of music competitions and performances featuring big artists. We want **NO ONE TO BE LEFT BEHIND** including the people of Inanda.

As a collective in the fields of sports, arts, and culture, our mission is to uplift the spirits of our nation's mood through sports and the



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arts. Sports have the remarkable power to unite people from all walks of life, regardless of their circumstances or backgrounds.

Lokhu sikwenza sisebenzisana nezingqalabutho, labo esithi **ama-LEGENDS** abangomakade bebona kwezemidlalo noma ezikaqedisizungu. KuSukasambe sibuye sisebenzisane nama-Clubs asendaweni, izikole nezinhlaka eziningi. Sisebenzisa izindawo ezikhona emakhaya ezakhelwe ukungcebeleka njengezinkundla zezemidlalo, ama-Arts centres, amapaki, amaHholo.

Lokhu ngicela sikuthathe njengohlelo lukaqedindlala ngoba ikhono lomntwana lingamusa kude kakhulu kugcine sekunguyena owondla layikhaya. Ngikusho lokhu ngoba ngifuna nokunikhumbuza ukuthi sisabhekene namanje nezinselelo ezintathu lokhu esithi **TRIPLE CHALLENGES** okungukungaqashwa, ububha nokungalingani kulelizwe elithathwa njengelihamba phambili kakhulu ngokungalingani.

The same unifying effect can be found in the arts, be it performing or visual arts. Let us never lose sight of that fact. I have been in this department for four months now, and upon careful observation, it is clear that despite our efforts to merge our functions, we still do not operate as a cohesive family.

I have recognised the need to initiate something that will unite us and help us move forward purposefully. Hence, I proposed the creation of a Ward-based Intervention Programme that will enable all of us to work together with a clear sense of purpose. We have given this exercise the moniker, **SUKASAMBE** which demonstrate our urgency in hitting the ground running.

EThekwini matter to all of us and Inanda is proof of our existence as a people of this region and metropolitan. Inanda is endowed with



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great schools like Inanda Seminary and Ohlange which have the potential to produce talent in sports and art that will take South Africa by storm.

ON ELECTIONS

Ngithanda ukudlulisa umyalezo kaKhongolose sisaya okhethweni othi sonke masiphume sigqugquzele wonke umuntu nemindeni yethu ukuthi baphume bayovota.

Phambili ngoHulumeni onakekelayo, Phambili!

Phambili ngempilo engcono, Phambili

Siyaya okhethweni, Siyaya!

Thank you.