



SACP

SOUTH AFRICAN COMMUNIST PARTY

PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

BULLETIN

EASTERN CAPE

5th EDITION

Socialism is the Future build it Now!!!

Background

The SACP Eastern Cape PEC Bulletin is a medium of the SACP for propagating its views with the working class in an unmediated fashion.

While it is important to constantly engage and contest ideas within the bourgeoisie commercial media but SACP is alive to the reality that any commercial media is first and foremost inclined to reflect views of its masters (monopoly capital).

It also contains regular features such as letters to the editor, commentary and a variety of other exciting features on working class struggles, the economy, etc.)

Guidelines for Submission of Articles

Style and Length.

The length for feature articles is 1200-1800 words. Letters to the editor must not exceed 300 words and opinion pieces must not exceed 800 words.

Articles must be written in plain and simple English. Articles may contain words in other South African languages, with the English meaning bracketed.

Articles must be relevant to membership of our party and the working class in general, exciting and solicit debate and discussions.

Articles about recent events or contemporary issues in South Africa and the world will be given preference for publication in the SACP Eastern Cape PEC bulletin.

All SACP District Spokespersons, YCLSA Spokesperson and other Spokespersons of the MDM fraternal organisations are encouraged to submit articles about the recent activities; as they might not be covered in the mainstream media.

Due Date

The SACP Eastern Cape PEC Bulletin is published monthly (12 issues per annum). The due date for the submission of articles is the 20th of each month.

Late submissions will not be considered for an edition of such month but for future editions.

Originality

The SACP EC PEC Bulletin publishes original articles. We also publish articles which have appeared elsewhere in whole or in part.

Should you feel that republishing an article would be beneficial to SACP EC PEC Bulletin readership and that the article will reach a broader readership through our medium than the medium that first published it, then you need to bring this to the attention of the Editor.

All sources cited in the articles must be referenced.

Themes

Different editions/ issues of the SACP PEC Bulletin will have specific themes (Joe Slovo Month, Chris Hani Month, Youth Month, Red October, SACP anniversaries, COSATU Anniversaries, ANC anniversary, etc.) therefore some articles must be tailored to suit the specific theme. Each issue/edition of the SACP EC PEC bulletin will indicate the theme of the next edition, so articles should be submitted as such.

Processing of Articles

All articles shall be subjected to scrutiny by the SACP EC PEC bulletin Editorial team.

The SACP EC Bulletin is particularly interested in fostering a culture of reading and writing amongst the leadership and membership of our party.

We will therefore give special consideration to the articles written by the general members of our party.

Articles will go through a review process, after which we will inform the contributor whether the article will be published or not.

The review process largely depends on the adherence to deadlines provided by the Editor and the content of the article as submitted.

Editorial Team:

- Xolile Nqatha – Editor in Chief
- Siyabonga Mdodi – Deputy Editor
- Sisimone Rakaibe
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- Fundile “Blacks” Gade
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- Fezeka Loliwe
- Nonkoliso Ngqongwa
- Andile Mosh

NB: The theme of the next edition will be the youth month.

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By: Ntombizodwa Zothani –
SACP Provincial Deputy
Chairperson

National leadership of
SATAWU
Provincial leadership as led by
the chairperson
Provincial leadership of the
federation, COSATU.
Provincial leaders of the
alliance components.
And most importantly yourselves comrades, the
delegates.

I bring greetings to your profound congress on behalf
of the Provincial Executive committee (PEC) of the South
African Communist Party (SACP). The message we are
bringing as the SACP to this congress is **“Let`s unite and
reclaim our democratic breakthrough from monopoly
capital”**

We are invited here in your provincial congress first and
foremost since we are in an ANC led alliance, which
reminds me of the purpose of the existence of the
alliance in South Africa, The alliance is not as a result of
organizational manoeuvres. Cyril Ramaphosa
underlines, **“It is rooted in the social and economic
realities of South Africa.”** Ours is a society in which
economic oppression of the majority occurs, in a
country in which the working class is not just
strategically placed, but numerically dominant. No
meaningful economic emancipation process is possible
without the working class playing a leading role in every
aspect. No effective liberation is possible, unless
working class interests are central. The leading role of
the working class should be carved within the majority
political project which lies within the ANC, the project
is, National Democratic Revolution (NDR).

The national democratic revolution – the present stage
of struggle in our country is a revolution of the whole
oppressed people. This does not mean that the
oppressed ‘people’ can be regarded as a single or
homogeneous entity. The main revolutionary camp in
the immediate struggle is made up of different classes
and strata (overwhelmingly black) which suffer varying
forms and degrees of national oppression and
economic exploitation. The camp of those who benefit
from, and support, national domination is also divided
into classes.

Some ‘learned theorists’ are continuously warning
workers against talk of a ‘revolution of the whole
oppressed people’, accusing those who use such
formulations of being ‘populists’ rather than
revolutionaries. Let us hear Lenin on this question since



he was also in the habit of
using the same words to
describe the upsurge in
Russia:

**“Yes, the people’s revolution.
Social Democracy ... demands
that this word shall not be
used to cover up failure to
understand class
antagonisms within the
people ... However, it does**

**not divide the “people” into “classes” so that the
advanced class becomes locked up within itself ... the
advanced class ... should fight with all the greater
energy and enthusiasm for the cause of the whole
people, at the head of the whole people”** (*Selected
Works, Volume 1, p.503*).

What we do, we tend to personalize issues, this is not
the case, the reality is, the manner in which we suffered
is not the same, or our interest are not the same, that is
why when we are confronted with such differences, we
can take the advice from Chairman Mao, **“looking upon
the interest of the revolution as his very life and
subordinating his personal interest to those of the
revolution; always and everywhere he should adhere to
principle and wage a tireless struggle against all
incorrect ideas and actions, so as to consolidate the
collective life of the Party and strengthen ties between
the Party and the masses; he should be more concerned
about the Party and the masses than any private person,
and more concerned about others than about himself.”**

We are meeting after the May Day with COSATU facing
challenges of huge divisions within itself which affect
each and every fibre of operations in COSATU from the
CEC to the shop floor which has created an atmosphere
of factionalism. Factionalism stifle proper engagement
and progress in an organization.

How can as this PEC avoid such influences so that we
emerge with proper resolutions that will build SATAWU
moving forward. Surely the current challenges you are
facing as SATAWU emanates from the factional battles
you are waging. There is a verse I like from the Bible
which says **“Nkosi ndifihle phantsi kwephiko lakho kude
kudlule inkxwaleko.”** As the vanguard party, we need to
remind the workers that Our Bible as revolutionaries is
the revolutionary theory.

I will start with Lenin maxim **“Without revolutionary
theory, there can be no real revolutionary movement.”**
Our revolutionary theory will guide us on how to
engage and reach proper decision without being
personal, our personalities destroy the organization.

The problem facing workers today is best described by

Joe Slovo (1988) "A tendency, loosely described as 'workerism', denies that the main content of the immediate conflict is national liberation which it regards as a diversion from the class struggle. Even if it admits the relevance of national domination in the exploitative processes, 'workerism' insists on a perspective of an immediate struggle for socialism.

A transitional stage of struggle, involving inter-class alliances, is alleged to lead to an abandonment of socialist perspectives and to a surrender of working class leadership. The economic struggles between workers and bosses at the point of production (which inevitably spill over into the broader political arena) is claimed to be the 'class struggle'. This is sometimes coupled with a view that the trade union movement is the main political representative of the working class.

A more sophisticated version of the left-workerist position has recently surfaced among union-linked academics. This version concedes the need for inter-class alliances but puts forward a view of working class political organisation more appropriate to a trade union than a revolutionary political vanguard.

- "the national liberation of the African people in particular, and the black people in general, the destruction of the economic and political power of the racist ruling class, and the establishment of one united state of people's power in which the working class will be the dominant force and which will **move uninterruptedly towards social emancipation and the total abolition of exploitation of man by man**".
- If the working class emerges as the dominant social force in a truly democratic post-apartheid state, the possibility is clearly opened up of a peaceful progression towards socialism. Those 'revolutionaries' who may throw up their hands in horror at the suggestion that conditions might open up the possibility of a peaceful transition towards socialism should take note of Lenin's words:

"To become a power the class-conscious workers must win the majority to their side. As long as no violence is used against the people there is no other road to power. We are not Blanquists, we do not stand for the seizure of power by a minority" V.I Lenin (*Selected Works*, Vol.2, p.36).

To eventually win the majority of our people for a socialist South Africa, we must spread socialist awareness and socialist consciousness now, mainly among the workers but also among the rural poor and the middle strata. We must also ensure that the working class emerges as the politically-dominant social class in the post-apartheid state. This can only be achieved if the working class wins a place now as the leading social force in the inter-class liberation alliance.

He further asks the following questions: Does the immediate emphasis on the national democratic revolution imply that the working class should abandon class struggle in favour of national struggle?

Are socialist objectives being shelved in favour of a struggle for so-called bourgeois democracy?
Which class must play the vanguard role in our democratic revolution?

Above all, how can the **independent class role of the working class** be safeguarded in a period demanding inter-class alliances?

The answer to these questions and the key to a correct determination of strategy and tactics in our present situation requires a correct grasp of the **relationship** between **class** and national struggle.



If we pose the question by asking only whether our struggle is a national struggle or a class struggle, we will inevitably get a wrong answer. The right question is: what is the relationship between these two categories. A failure to understand the class content of the national struggle and the national content of the class struggle in existing conditions can hold back the advance of both the democratic and socialist transformations which we seek.

The immediate primacy of the struggle against race tyranny flows from the concrete realities of our existing situation. The concept of national domination is not a mystification to divert us from class approaches; it infects every level of class exploitation. Indeed, it divides our working class into colour compartments. Therefore, unusual categories such as 'white working class' and 'black working class' are not 'unscientific' but simply describe the facts.

National domination is maintained by a ruling class whose state apparatus protects the economic interests and social privileges of all classes among the white minority. It denies the aspiration of the African people towards a single nationhood and, in its place, attempts to perpetuate tribalism and ethnicity. These, and a host of related practices, are the visible daily manifestations of national domination. These practices affect the status and life of every black in every class. It is, however, the black working class which, in practice, suffers the most

intense form of national domination. And those who dismiss the fight against national domination as the key immediate mobilising factor of our working class are living in an unreal world of their own. It is encouraging to observe the recent spread of an understanding of the link between national domination and class exploitation among organised sectors of the working class. This spread is due primarily to the heightened experiences of the struggle against race domination in the recent period.

Socialist ideas take root not just through book knowledge but through struggle around day-to-day issues. And, for those who have to live the hourly realities and humiliations of race tyranny (at the point of production, in the townships, in the street, etc.) there is no issue more immediate and relevant than the experience of national oppression. This is certainly the starting point of political consciousness for every black worker. It is mainly in the actual struggle against national oppression that its class roots can be grasped most effectively. It is that struggle which illuminates most brightly the underlying relationship in our country between capitalism and national domination.

Those who would like to restrict the meaning of class struggle to a trade union struggle against the bosses, and who see political struggle only through narrow economic spectacles, would do well to heed Lenin's words on these questions:

'Is it true that, in general, the economic struggle is "the most widely applicable means" of drawing the masses in to political struggle? It is entirely untrue. Any and every manifestation of police tyranny and autocratic outrage, not only in connection with the economic struggle, is not one whit less "widely applicable" as a means of drawing in the masses ... Of the sum total of cases in which the workers suffer (either on their own account or on account of those closely connected with them) from tyranny, violence and lack of rights, undoubtedly only a small minority represent cases of police tyranny in the trade union struggle as such' (Selected Works, Volume 1, p.136).

Class struggle in a period of capitalist hegemony is, in the long run, a political struggle for the ultimate winning of power by the working people. But the content of this class struggle does not remain fixed for all time; it is dictated by the concrete situation at a given historical moment. We cannot confine the meaning of class struggle to those rare moments when the immediate winning of socialist power is on the agenda. When workers engage in the national struggle to destroy race domination they are surely, at the same time, engaging in class struggle.

Class struggle does not fade into the background when

workers forge alliances with other class forces on commonly agreed minimum programmes. The history of all struggles consists mainly of such interim phases. What is the essence of conflict during such phases if not class struggle? There is no such thing as 'pure' class struggle and those who seek it can only do so from the isolating comfort of a library arm-chair. The idea that social revolutions involve two neatly-labelled armies was dealt with by Lenin with bitter irony:

So one army lines up in one place and says "we are for socialism" and another, somewhere else and says, "We are for imperialism", and that will be a social revolution! ... Whoever expects a "pure" social revolution will never live to see it. Such a person pays lip-service to revolution without understanding what revolution is'. (*Collected Works, Volume 22, pp. 355-*

Before I sit down comrades, I will quote what was said in the alliance strategy meeting 1993, "We need to admit openly that, regardless of our intentions or traditions, the break-up of our alliance would carry serious risks for each of the components.

- An ANC without the alliance would be an ANC in which the confusion and sense of betrayal amongst its grass-roots membership would be increased.
- A trade union movement that withdraws from the national liberation movement runs the danger of declining into a narrow, economic unionism
- An SACP that goes alone, risks becoming a defensive, grievance party, cut adrift from the mainstream of positive transformation.

It is no accident that our antagonists spend a great deal of energy attempting to undermine our unity." We cannot as workers sell the hard won freedom because our selfish interests, we need to be united in the struggle to achieve the objectives set in the National Democratic Revolution which is our path towards socialism. Unity of the alliance is needed now more than ever before. We cannot help the agenda of the enemy of the regime change.

Opening address to the NUMYF NGC



By: Vuyisa Konzani – NUMYF National Chairperson & YCLSA NC member.

“Accelerate the implementation of freedom charter for the benefit of working class and the poor”

The National Executive Committee members of the National Union of Mine workers as led by the acting President of our glorious union Comrade Tamsanqa Piet Matosa uFaku.

The COSATU CEC members amongst us here.
The Central Committee members of our party the South African Communist Party (SACP), amongst us here.
The ANC, the leader of our alliance,
The leadership of our Progressive Youth Alliance, ANCYL, YCLSA and its national Committee, SASCO AND COSAS,

All invited youth leaders from our sister unions and other progressive youth formation that are here today,
Invited guest international and local,
Lastly, the delegates from all our regions please receive revolutionary greetings and warm welcome from the National Committee members of the National Union of Mineworkers Youth Forum (NUMYF).

Comrades, in opening this important gathering of the young shop stewards and the future leaders of the organization of JB Marks, Elijah Barayi, Motlatsi, Kgalema Motlanthe, Sam Ntambane, Selby Mayise, Gwede Mantashe, Crosby Moni and many others, allow me to quote from one of the heroes of our struggle, **“Tell my people that I love them and they must continue with the struggle, my blood will nourish the tree that will bear the fruits of freedom, Aluta Continua.”** Comrades, those words were said by the youthful Solomon Mahlangu, the then cadre of UMKhonto Wesizwe (The people’s army). Comrades, I start with this quote with only one revolutionary aim of reminding the youth of today that the freedom that they are enjoying today did not come on a silver platter, many people died and were prosecuted for our freedom, the wise words by Solomon Kalusha Mahlangu must be a constant reminder to us that even today, *aluta continua*.

Comrades and fellow trade unionist, we are meeting here today during the important month in our revolution, the month of April which has been hailed as the heroes’ month. This month marks different anniversaries of the falling of our heroes who were in the forefront of our revolution. They are heroes not on the basis of being members of our MDM structures but because of their unwavering commitment to the liberation of our people. On the 06 April 1979 Solomon Mahlangu was hanged by the then apartheid regime, Solomon Mahlangu a fighter for democratic South Africa.

On the same month, on the 10 of April 1993, the SACP general secretary, the commander in chief of MK Cde Chris Hani was brutally killed by the right wing

conservatives in his home here in Boksburg. As the NUM youth forum we salute Hani for his contribution in the fight against the apartheid and his commitments to the attainment of freedom and socialism. We are saying we want to be like Chris Hani. The discipline that Hani had cannot be measured with any method than the one of a communist discipline. Imagine if Cde Chris had rebelled against the disbandment of MK, the decision that was taken by the NEC of the ANC in his absence, what would have happened. Today’s leaders’ lack the discipline Hani had, instead our leaders are excelling in defying organizational principles. Today’s leaders choose when to apply democratic centralism; today’s leaders are more comfortable to engage on twitter, Facebook and press conferences than sitting in constitutional meetings of the organizations. As the second layer of leadership we must guard against that and condemn that behaviour in our ranks with highest degree it deserves. As your revolutionaries we must continue to strive to be like Chris Hani, on the same wavelength we align ourselves with our ally’s the YCLSA in calling for the re-opening inquest docket about the killing of comrade Chris Hani.



Comrades and fellow Africans allow me to borrow wise words from the longest serving president of the African national congress, OR Tambo, in his closing address to the ANC’s critical 1969 Morogoro ANC congress; Tambo said to a standing ovation “ Beware the wedge driver, wage a relentless war against disrupters and defend the ANC. Be vigilant comrades. Beware of the wedge driver. The man who creeps from ear to ear, carrying a bag full of wedges, driving them in between you and the next, between the group and another, a man who goes around creating splits and divisions, beware of the wedge driver comrades, watch his poisonous tongue.”

Comrades, as we celebrate heroes’ month, we also acknowledge the falling of OR Tambo on the 21 of April 1993; let us not forget his wise words. Today we are having so many challenges in our organization that are being caused by individuals; with current challenges facing our federation of which we are not happy about but the elements of wedge driver from certain leader, who advocate splits within our beloved federation, the

man that Tambo spoke about the man who goes around carrying bag full of hatred for our federation, our Party and our Movement; today I want to warn Cosatu members that they must be vigilant against this wedge driver, the lesson is that we must guard against becoming members of members but instead be members of our organization.

Comrades, another issue that we must guard against is tribalism which seems to be creeping in in our organizations. In talking about tribalism, allow me to quote from President of Mozambique President Samora Machel, "The fighter must distinguish friend from foe even if the latter is concealed under the same colour, language, family ties or tribal markings as their own, even if he raises his flag with us."

Comrades, our organizations are being infiltrated through tribal lines, nowadays leaders are not being elected on challenges of organizations or commitments to organization and quality of leaders but on tribal lines. As young revolutionaries we must stand firm and fight against tribalism. The challenges we are facing in COSATU in many instances has been reduced to tribal lines; in the Eastern Cape the counter revolutionary forces has been going around campaigning against the suspension of the former General Secretary of COSATU on the basis that the Federation does not want him because he is Xhosa, also after SADTU suspended and subsequently fired their former President, tribal and regionalism politics surfaced and again they said he was side-lined on the basis of him being of Xhosa descendant. Comrades, it is high time that these lumpens and counter revolutionary forces understand that this is not a Xhosa struggle or a tribal struggle but a class struggle, we do not have kings and queens here in the revolution but elected leaders by the collective, our organizations are democratic, non-sexist, non-racial and non-tribal, so tribalism has no space in the struggle.

Comrades, we hold this council during the most challenging times in our communities, especially in the peoples Province of Moses Mabhida (KZN) and Gauteng where we see Afriphobic attacks on our African brothers, as the NUM youth forum we condemn the attack and further view it as an element of criminality. As young revolutionaries we must take up a leading role in our communities in defence of our fellow African brother's. Young people in our communities must not allow themselves to be used for wrong reason, if you can see in the recent attacks you will find out that the attacks are being done by young people which tell us that there is a vacuum in organizing young people in our communities. I call upon YCLSA and the ANCYL to close the ranks by organizing young people to join the revolution. I strongly believe that there is no conscious youth can attack and steal from our people of the continent.

Comrades, few weeks ago, we woke up to the news of the attack of university student in Kenya by the Al-Shaabab terrorist group. The attack on youth students in Kenya cannot be taken for granted; what happened to Kenya can happen in our country, we urge the Africa

Union to find a way to deal with the terrorist grouping that continue to attack African states, even today the young girls who were taken from Nigeria have not been brought back, we still support the call to "bring back our girls."

Comrades and fellow trade unionist, while talking and condemning the attack on students in Kenya as the NUM Youth Forum, we call upon the workers in all our sectors to make education fashionable. As the NUM Youth Forum we clearly understand that we all come from different backgrounds, especially from the working class background. Many of us were pushed to enter the working industry without realizing our own dreams, the dream of attaining education.

We are saying it is not late, let us all go and further our studies in the public FET colleges, Universities and even ABET so that we can enjoy the opportunities that our own government present to us as young workers and young people in this country. As leaders in training, we really have to up our game on education. Comrade Mandela once said, "If you cannot read you cannot lead." Comrades allow me to congratulate many young people across the country who graduated from different institutions over the month and especially the leadership from all our PYA structures. I saw some posting their pictures in Facebook, I saw the Western Cape NUM youth forum regional secretary Cde Soso Fisa smiling in his graduation gown, I also saw the secretary general of Sasco Cde Jazz with his great smile. I said to myself, these leaders are leading by example. Comrades, I was inspired indeed the list is endless; Dibolelo Matlatsi from YCLSA also graduated this past month, the branch secretary of Beatrix in Free State, Cde TT also graduated. I congratulate all of them and indeed, you are the future of this country.

Comrades, the NUM through its bursary trust fund the JB marks education trust funded which was established in 1997 and named after the former President of Mine workers union...over the years have been consistent in awarding bursaries to the deserving student from the children of the mine workers, construction workers and energy workers, the workers in these sectors are also the beneficiaries of the bursary fund. Through this fund, NUM over the years produced many graduates from different fields of study i.e. doctors, lawyers, engineers and administrators. This month one of the beneficiaries of the programme by the name of Zikhona baby gal Ziko Bomvana who just graduated posted on Facebook, "I would like to take this opportunity to say thanks to JB Marks education trust fund, thanks for all your support, for your kindness, for always caring, for your love you never got tired, always willing to assist. God bless." Comrades, indeed NUM is the caring union and the union of choice in the mining, energy and construction industries.

Comrades, Chairman Mao has to say about youth "The world is yours, as well as ours, but in the last analysis, it is yours, you young people, full of vigour and vitality, you are in the bloom of life, like the sun at eight or nine

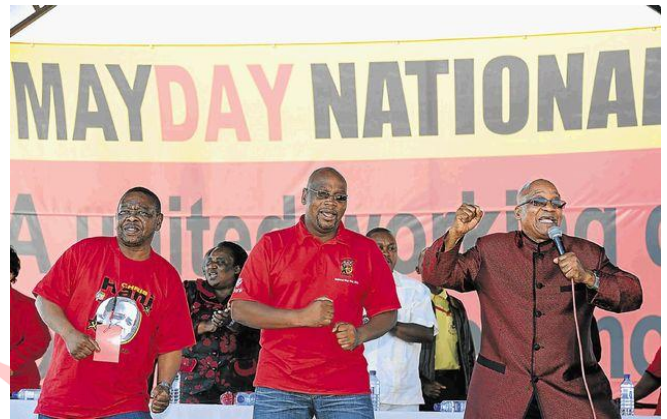
in the morning, our hope is placed on you". Chairman Mao emphasise the importance and the role youth they have to play due to the fact that there is no society or an organization that can have a future without investing in their youth, as the NUM Youth Forum say we thank you to the NUM for the formation of this structure. This platform allows the smooth nurturing of our youth political and readies us to be better leaders. We have seen in other countries where there are revolts, it is youth that is being used wrongly.

As the NUM Youth Forum we are proud to say that Mining industry has improved on many aspects, today mine workers have houses, black mine workers can be certified as miners, there are so many rights that our members are enjoying across all our sectors Energy and Construction, though in Eskom our members are still being denied their constitutional right of going on strike. Comrades, these achievements did not come on a silver platter but through the radical fight that was led by the National Union of mine workers. As young revolutionaries we must continue with this fight and make sure that we close the ranks at the shop floor. We can only do that if we mobilise workers to join NUM and by making sure that we give quality service to our members.

Comrades, In June the NUM will hold its National Congress here in Birchwood conference centre As the NUM Youth Forum we call upon all branches of the NUM to be vigilant in coming to this congress, We must remember the wedge driver that Tambo spoke about just because not only members of the NUM have an interest in our congress. The big businesses and those who have been chased by our federation might try by all means to divide our glorious union. We call upon our youth not allow themselves to be used to divide our union, lastly on this one we call upon all branches and regions of NUM to engage on leadership and reach a democratic consensus in electing leadership in the coming congress and reduce leadership debate and accelerate in building the union in the next coming congress.

In landing comrades, allow me again to welcome you in this council and further plead with all of you to dedicate your energies in the next two days in building the NUM of President Motlatsi, Zokwana and Tamsanqa Piet Matosa.

Thank you! ■



By: Blade Nzimande – SACP General Secretary

Let`s unite and reclaim our democratic breakthrough from monopoly capital

May Day 2015 is being marked in a South Africa and in a world in which the working class is under attack. We also remember that seventy years ago on 2nd of May 1945 the victorious Red Army defeated fascism.

Yet today we live in a world in which capitalism`s unceasing war against the proletariat is being waged with intensified aggression.

Here in South Africa the triple crisis of poverty, inequality and unemployment for millions still persists.

On this May Day it is absolutely critical that South Africa`s working class - and particularly its best organised sectors within COSATU - understand with absolute clarity what the nature of the problem is, and therefore what needs to be done.

In the capitalist controlled media endless attempts are launched to confuse us, to misdirect us, to turn us against each other, to divide the working class, to fragment our organisations, to separate shop-floor struggles from community struggles.

It is important that together we open our eyes, that we close ranks, and that we advance, deepen and defend our democratic revolution.

Monopoly capital has hijacked our democratic breakthrough.

This past Monday we once again marked South Africa`s national Freedom Day.

Twenty one years ago we finally abolished white minority state-rule in our country. But we DIDN`T abolish the capitalist economic system that had been incubated within that white minority rule.

Twenty one years ago, on April 27 1994, millions of South Africans exercised one of the most fundamental democratic rights - the right to vote as equal citizens in the country of their birth. This democratic breakthrough also brought many important constitutional and

legislative rights to the working class - a constitutionally entrenched right to organise and to strike, the Basic Conditions of Employment Act, the Labour Relations Act, and the Employment Equity Act.

However, the defeat of the apartheid state didn't represent the defeat of monopoly capital in our country. It didn't mean the defeat of an especially oppressive capitalist system. It still left Anglo American, De Beers, SASOL, SA Breweries (now SA Breweries Miller), Naspers (which today is threatening to take over and privatize the SABC), Old Mutual, and the big banks dominating our economy.

For monopoly capital - the 1994 democratic breakthrough represented a threat, but also an opportunity.

The threat for South African monopoly capital was that they were now having to deal with a new political reality, with majority rule under the leadership of the ANC and its alliance. They were taking a risk.



For over a century South African monopoly capital had enjoyed the support of white minority regimes. It was the big mining houses and white commercial farms (and not so much, other than being agents, Verwoerd, or Vorster, or PW Botha) that invented the cornerstones of what became apartheid - migrant labour, pass laws and influx control, racial curfews, native reserves (later called Bantustans), mining compounds and the terrible hostel system. You won't find this story being told in most of the anti-majoritarian liberal media, owned still today by the mining houses. Until this year, even in a new democratic South Africa, a statue to one of the pioneers of this barbarous system, Cecil John Rhodes, could still occupy pride of place on a university campus.

Monopoly capital and white minority rule worked hand-in-glove for over a century. Together they oppressed the majority of South Africans. Together they amassed super-profits for themselves, through the racialised super-exploitation of black workers.

But by the 1980s this system had become dysfunctional. The national liberation struggle had grown in strength. The apartheid regime could no longer assure monopoly

capital that its private property and profits were secure. The repression of national liberation and working class struggles in South Africa led to a powerful world-wide, anti-apartheid movement. Financial sanctions, economic sanctions, oil sanctions were applied. The profits of South African monopoly capital suffered.

Monopoly capitalists began timidly to test the idea of a negotiated settlement. It was not because they liked the ANC, but because our collective struggle, and their growing isolation forced them in this direction.

Twenty one years ago our struggle finally defeated white minority rule in our country. That was the moment when we should have immediately embarked on a second radical phase of the National Democratic Revolution. In 1994 we should have moved decisively to roll back the monopoly power of the white bourgeoisie. They were off balance at that time.

But for several reasons there was a failure to move decisively at that point. South African monopoly capital was given a breathing space. It was given the time to re-group.

And monopoly capital has not been idle. In response to progressive labour legislation they have actively undercut our gains through casualization, through labour brokers, through mass retrenchments, through the employment of desperate illegal immigrants. In response to our new majority-rule ANC-led government's attempts to advance reconstruction and development - South African monopoly capital has launched an investment strike.

Monopoly capital has used the ending of anti-apartheid economic and financial sanctions to run away from our country, disinvesting billions of Rands of surplus created by South African workers. SASOL was once a publicly owned South African company. It is still a company subsidised by all of us every time we buy petrol at the pump. But SASOL is now busy making its biggest investment by far not here in SA - but in Louisiana, in the United States. Most of the major South African monopolies have dual listed - Old Mutual, Investec, Anglo, De Beers, etc. This means that they pay millions of Rands ever year in dividends to foreign investors. ABSA bank is 68 percent owned by foreigners. Monopoly capital has run away from non-racial democracy in South Africa.

Over the past twenty one years there has been massive capital flight - reaching some 20% of our GDP in some years. All kinds of tricks are used to maximise monopoly profits and to minimise any responsibility for developing South Africa.

There is transfer pricing and mis-invoicing. There is tax evasion, there is the use of tax havens, and there is collusion. Thanks to the work of our democratic government's Competition Commission, we now know

that all of the major construction companies in SA colluded to rip-off South Africa of billions of Rands in the run-up to the 2010 World Cup. Most of them have paid admission of guilt fines.

We say: This is not enough. A heavy reparations package must be exacted from the colluders. Individual senior executives involved must go to jail.

But why has monopoly capital been so successful in regrouping, in recovering its balance, in hijacking so much of the promise of our 1994 breakthrough?

Part of the explanation is that monopoly capital has often succeeded in infiltrating into our own organisations.

They have used narrow BEE. They have used bribes and all manner of fronting to find entry-points into government departments. They have fostered a class of vultures, the tenderpreneurs.

Monopoly capital - in the shape of the old apartheid, broeder-bond, media giant Naspers and its off-shoot Multi-Choice have even swallowed up what was supposed to be democratic South Africa's public broadcaster - the SABC. They have done this with the connivance, of course, of their bought lackeys in Auckland Park.

We say that those in senior positions in the SABC who have lied to parliament, who have lied about their qualifications, who have sold the public broadcaster's archives to Multi-choice, they must be dealt with!

Trade unions control (in theory) vast retirement funds and these have been used to leverage union investment arms. In principle these union financial resources could be used to fund useful things for the working class - like public transport, affordable housing, and improved training opportunities for your children.

There are some inspiring examples of union funds being used in this way. However, all too often, these retirement funds and investment arms have been the entry-point for a capitalist agenda to strike into the very heart of the union movement itself.

This is why on this May Day 2015, as the SACP we say:

Defend worker democracy and worker control within our unions!

Defend the unity of COSATU. Defend the unity of the working class!

Let us never under-estimate the global offensive that is being waged by the bosses against trade unions. Here in South Africa the bosses have smelt blood. The difficulties and divisions within COSATU are being deliberately stirred up.

It is important that the organised working class closes ranks. We cannot allow different political agendas to fragment our unions. We can see very clearly how the bosses and the commercial media are happy to promote anyone who causes splits and divisions. They don't care if it's a right-wing vigilante union like AMCU, or pseudo-ultra-leftists like the current NUMSA leadership clique. They all become over-night heroes in the commercial media.

Opportunism is everywhere. The DA has announced that it is in talks with NUMSA's so-called United Front in Nelson Mandela Bay metro in order to unseat the ANC in next year's local government elections. The Numsa leadership clique is also now talking to the EFF on electoral collaboration, proving what we have long said, that this faction and the EFF are part of the same agenda against our movement.



Those who remain committed to the unity of COSATU are portrayed as uncritical government supporters who want to turn the federation into a so-called "labour desk". So let us all be very clear. As all alliance partners have made it very clear, a "labour desk" COSATU is no good for any of us. The ANC can set up a labour desk if it wants to. But what's the point? What our alliance needs, what the ANC-led government needs, what our country needs is a powerful, militant, independent and progressive trade union movement under the umbrella of COSATU.

A tame, conveyor belt COSATU will simply be outflanked and out-organised by all manner of demagogic pseudo-unionists, left and right.

The conditions for re-building COSATU and its affiliates are:

- daily service to members on the shop-floor;
- re-building worker control and worker democracy;
- transparency and clear worker-mandated approaches to union investment funds;

- the defence of the founding principles of COSATU, and especially the principle of one-industry, one-union. The NUMSA leadership clique's free-market approach to recruitment, encouraging competition and rivalry is a recipe for worker division. It feeds worker-on-worker violence as is now happening in a reign of terror at Medupi.

Also critical for re-building COSATU and its affiliates is a close working relationship with alliance partners. Large numbers of South Africa's working class are casualised and informalised. Capitalism has always sought to weaken the power of the working class by creating a large pool of surplus labour.

And this is where our Alliance becomes important. It is absolutely critical that we COMBINE work-place and community-based struggles of the broad working class. It is very hard for unions to reach the mass of casualised and informalised workers through shop-floor organisation alone.

But this means that our Alliance must be much more than just an Alliance for election purposes. It must be an active alliance with a common, campaigning program of action that takes up the broader issues of the working class and of working class households and communities-

- The struggles for affordable housing, decent public transport, access to land.
- The struggles against the mashonisa and the Credit Bureaux.
- The struggle against the exorbitant charges of the cell-phone companies.
- The struggle for access to quality education and health-care for our families.
- The struggle against corruption in the public and private sectors.
- The struggle to transform and capacitate the police to ensure that our communities are safe.

All of these struggles need to be COMBINED with struggles at the work-place for better wages and working conditions. We need to re-build our alliance on this kind of active engagement.

Let us work together and combat xenophobic criminality!

In the past weeks in Durban and in parts of Gauteng xenophobic violence once again reared its ugly head. The overwhelming majority of South Africans have spoken. In marches, in social media, in radio phone-in programs we have condemned xenophobic violence. COSATU, the SACP and the ANC in joint statements

have spoken loudly and clearly against violence directed against foreign nationals.

Government under the leadership of President Zuma has immediately set in motion a wide array of initiatives. These initiatives seem to have halted the turn to violence for the moment. There have been seven reported deaths (of which three were South Africans) and several thousands have been temporarily displaced.

It is good that the majority of South Africans have condemned xenophobic violence. Unlike in many parts of Europe, for instance, here in SA every political party in parliament condemned xenophobic violence. By contrast, in Greece, for instance, the third largest party in the Greek Parliament, New Dawn, currently has some of its leadership on trial for inciting anti-migrant murders. In Germany, in France, in Belgium there are powerful anti-migrant political movements. We don't find that here in SA. The idea - that is promoted in some middle class circles here in SA - that the majority of South Africans (and particularly black South Africans) are prone to xenophobic violence is a lie.

We should be glad that there is an overwhelming majority in our country that has come out to condemn the xenophobic violence. But to condemn it is one thing. To provide a clear understanding of what lies behind it, and therefore what needs to be done - that is another matter.

And here we find all manner of opportunisms.

That arch-opportunist and demagogue - Julius Malema - lost no time in blaming xenophobic violence on the ANC, and on President Zuma in particular. He told a refugee camp in Durban that foreign nationals are not "stealing jobs from South Africans" because "there are no jobs to steal". Government, he says, has failed to create any jobs.

Let's be very clear. It is not foreign nationals who are "stealing" jobs from South Africans. It is profit-maximising bosses who are exploiting the desperation of immigrants fleeing poverty and civil war in their own countries. Foreign nationals, especially those who are here illegally, are prepared to work for a pittance, and to work for long hours.

It isn't foreign nationals who are "stealing" jobs. They are not the criminals. It is the bosses who employ them who are the thieves.

Malema and the neo-liberal South African Institute of Race Relations sing the same tune.

Asked on SABC who or what was to blame for the xenophobic violence, the Institute of Race Relations Mienke Steytler said: "People must blame government".

"Why?" the interviewer asked. "Because government creates unemployment by failing to implement a flexible labour market", she replied.

This stupid Steytler was too ideologically blind to see that the latest flare-up of xenophobia was directly related to concerns that there was the employment of desperate (that is flexible) foreign nationals as strike-breakers in an industrial dispute in Isipingo in Durban just days before the violence. The community of Isipingo was wrong to blame the foreign nationals. They should have blamed the flexible labour market and those who profit from it.

We must condemn xenophobia and ALL forms of chauvinism - xenophobic chauvinism, racial chauvinism, royal chauvinism, ethnic chauvinism, sexist chauvinism.

But we must also deal with the underlying causes that create a fertile soil for xenophobia.

First we need to understand that in South Africa we are not alone.

Capitalist globalisation over the past forty years has produced massive waves of migration by desperate work-seekers. Every year now, over one billion migrants are crossing national boundaries, many of them are illegal. In the week that 7 people were killed in South Africa in the latest xenophobic violence - 400 and then another 700 desperate illegal immigrants drowned in the Mediterranean Sea as they tried to reach Europe.

It wasn't an okapi in the hands of a criminal tsotsi in Alexandra, but they died just the same and in their hundreds. And in the end it was the same criminal system that caused their deaths - the crime of capitalism, the crime of imperialist globalisation.

What were they fleeing those eleven hundred who drowned in one week? They were fleeing poverty and unemployment in their home countries. It was poverty caused by IMF and World Bank structural adjustment programmes.

They were fleeing from civil war caused by imperialist regime-change agendas in Syria, in Libya, in Somalia.

They were fleeing the same evils that have brought millions of desperate migrants into our own 21-year old, new democracy here in South Africa.

In some of our public hospitals today, over 60 percent of patients are foreign nationals many of them without legal status. But they are human beings and we must treat them as fellow human beings. They are not the enemy.

In hotels and restaurants, on the farms in South Africa, many workers are now foreign nationals, many of them illegals. The bosses say that South Africans are not prepared to do this work. Actually, because South Africans have hard-won citizenship rights they should

not be prepared to work for below the minimum wage, they should not be prepared to work illegally for 18 hour shifts in the security sector.

Some foreign nationals (not the majority) become involved in criminal activities. But let's also be honest, foreign nationals don't have a monopoly over criminal activities like drug smuggling or child trafficking. Criminal syndicates - whether they are South African or non-South African must be dealt with decisively.

This is the message that government sent last week with the combined police and army raid on Jeppe Hostel in Johannesburg.

The bosses say South African workers are lazy. We are not lazy, we have rights and we will defend them.

The middle classes, the chattering classes in South Africa think that it is the poor who are xenophobic and prone to violence. They are embarrassed on our behalf. We say that the great majority of working class South Africans have shown amazing tolerance and patience in the face of huge challenges.

But the root of these challenges must also be addressed. We cannot just preach morality to the poor, and forget the immorality of the rich and their capitalist system.

This means:

- Government must greatly improve its border control systems, not to turn back desperate and genuine refugees, but in order to properly document and process them. We need to know who is in our country - we don't even know this basic fact.
- The exploitation of vulnerable immigrants - whether by bosses or by corrupt officials - must be dealt with severely.
- But abuses don't happen only or mainly at the border. The Department of Labour must greatly increase its labour inspectorate capacity. The Department of Labour must have the capacity to visit farms, hotels, restaurants, factory workshops, security companies. The trade union movement has an important supportive role to play in this regard.
- Hostels and inner-city buildings that have been taken over by criminal syndicates - whether they are South African or non-South African must be cleared out. Criminals must go to jail.
- And, finally, on this May Day 2015, International Workers Day, let us also understand that we cannot solve these challenges within South Africa alone. As long as imperialism wreaks havoc in our continent, as long as corrupt anti-democratic regimes

oppress their peoples - there will be streams of migrants flowing into countries like SA where there are democratic rights and relative social peace and stability.

- The beneficiation of our minerals, the re-industrialisation of our economy, the building of economic and social infrastructure - these are not just South African revolutionary tasks. A radical national democratic revolution is required throughout our sub-Saharan region, throughout our African continent, throughout the Third World.

Let us build our organisations to serve our people!

Today the SACP is making a clarion call to the workers and trade union leaders to ensure that we revitalise service to workers in all workplaces.

Let the President of Cosatu and all affiliates' Presidents lead a campaign to intensify service to workers in the workplaces.

Let us not allow our unions to be used to pursue business unionism and individual egos of leaders.

Let us build trade unions that truly serve the workers!

Let us strengthen the SACP to serve and unite the working class as a whole - employed, unemployed or under-employed.

Let our Party structures intensify political education amongst workers, especially at this time when political and opportunistic vultures are encircling and seeking to divide COSATU.

Let the SACP also intensify its important campaign to transform the financial sector, fight "omashonisa" and exploitative practices of the credit bureaux and against the ease with which banks are evicting people from houses.

Let us build an SACP that serves the people and working class communities, an SACP that does not allow its structures to be used to fight personalised battles in the ANC and the Alliance.

Let us also build ANC branches that truly serve their communities.

Let us not allow ANC branches to be captured by tenderpreneurs who use them to win conferences in order to capture and dispense patronage. Our ANC branches must not hide corrupt people who are serving their own selfish interests. ANC branches must selflessly serve their communities.

Let us build a SANCO that is rooted in real and live civic and other residential organisations. Let us not allow SANCO to be held hostage by individuals whose sole focus is to become local government councillors in

every local election. Let this progressive civic movement serve our people and attend to their many local needs.

Workers have an important role to play in all this, as they are found in all the structures of our Alliance and liberation movement as a whole.

Which is why we say:

An Injury to One, is an Injury to All!

Let us intensify solidarity for the freedom of the oppressed the world over!

The SACP has always cherished and advanced the spirit of international solidarity. The past year we have seen the Cuban struggle being advanced. We are not apologetic for being in solidarity with the people of Cuba!

We are not apologetic for being in solidarity with the oppressed people of the world, Swaziland, Western Sahara, Kurdistan, Palestine, among others.

We are not apologetic for being in solidarity with all the people of the world who are facing imperialist aggression which is manifested in various violent and non-violent forms.

We will continue to advance the struggle for international solidarity, peace and justice; for without victory in this struggle there can never be freedom to any of the world's people.

In the Middle East, the Israeli Foreign Minister recently accused the SACP of supporting the Palestinian people because "like attracts like". He was negative regarding our relationship with the Palestinian people. However, we must agree, "like attracts like". We stand in solidarity with the heroic people of Palestine because they are facing a genocidal, apartheid Israeli oppression; they are facing Zionist racism and occupation - a similar oppression that we suffered in our country under colonial and apartheid oppression.

The SACP will intensify the solidarity struggle for the freedom of the Palestinian people. Israel must vacate Occupied Palestinian Territories. The people of Palestine must have their own co-existing state, based on the June 1967 borders in terms of international law with East Jerusalem as the capital.

Which is why we say:

Workers of the World Unite to
Fight our Common Enemy -
Monopoly Capitalism and its
Imperialist Agenda!

Amandla! ■

**By: Mawethu Rune – SACP PEC
Member**

The recent attacks and killing of
foreign national made us as South Africans hang our
heads in shame, but it did prompt large section of the
society to stand up and condemn these senseless
attacks and loudly proclaim that not in our name. There
have been various views on why these killings and what
could have prompt such cruelty.

While refusing to accept that Africans are xenophobic
one consulted by Oxford dictionary which says
xenophobia is *"intense or irrational dislike or fear of
people from other countries"*

I hold a long stubborn view that simply refuse to accept
this over-simplified explanation that there could be
spontaneous sense of hate.

For starts, we must never make any excuses for
criminality and or lumpen proletariat tendencies. In this
country there is never excuses for stealing, looting,
injuring worse killing. All criminals are prosecuted and
jailed regardless of how much anger they can profess.
What we witnessed was criminality and perpetrators
must be undue the full mighty of the law, a culture of
not tolerating criminality and taking action where
someone regardless of nationality have clearly done
wrong must be embedded in South Africa fiber and
values.

Secondly as black Africans in South Africa we must
appreciate that we are too migrants in this part of the
continent having settled here in pursuance of better
opportunities, our forebears came from other parts of
this continent. With specific reference of Nguni tribe
which consist of (Xhosa's, Zulu's and Swati's) coming
from central Africa and only settled in South of Africa as
migrants. It is argued somewhere that the word Nguni
was Ngoni of Africa where now tribe called Nguni's
emerge from. Who are we then to attack, kill and injure
fellow African migrants?



These boundaries which we kill for,
are in fact creation of our colonizers
having been set in process of
scrupling for Africa, with imperialist
agreeing to break Africa into pieces so
that each colonizers can have her
piece or pieces to violate without her
without disturbance, now we should
be integrating than killing for artificial
boundaries.

Where is our compassion as for years
unending South Africans were hosted
and assisted by these African bother and sisters, as we
fought bitter struggle for liberation, self-determination
and political emancipating and now when our African
brothers and sisters only want to reproduce themselves
must be hated to death, very few individuals must never
define and spoil the whole of loving South Africans.

How is possible that for years we live side by side with
your foreign African brother and or sister then suddenly
on particular day hate them to an extent of being willing
to kill him and the whole township is in flames but a
week later hate disappears and again live side by side. I
refuse to accept this social phenomenon as only fear or
hate of the unknown, outsider or from other country.

We may have to be told as to why as it relate to
xenophobia, this hate only applies to African brothers
and sisters and not English and Dutch, are they not from
other countries, one may even argue if this hate had
foreign country content then for they violently and
forcefully took our fore-fathers land, wealth and
displaced our families then they must be the one hated.
Is it accidentally that this hate only exist in locations and
townships and never in suburbs, is it accidental that
those who are attacked are black and never any white,
it is accidental that shops which are looted are owned
by black foreign nationals and big monopoly
transnational conglomerates even when they are in
townships are never attacked, it is accidental that only
corner and spaza shops are looted and never
established white owned shops even when they stand
right opposite those shops which are looted, definite
answer is that it's not accidental but explains a
phenomenon.

My little contribution is that at the core of this is
economic participation in that existing production
economic system of capitalism leaves millions in poverty,
unemployment and massive inequality while in same
territory few lives lavishly and dies out of over feeding is
failing humanity across the world. I argue that even in
this country food and resources are sufficient for all but

fundamental problem it's in the redistribution which is biased against the poor in pursuance of the profit at all cost.

Working class and the poor as necessitated by the conditions whether one originates from Burundi, Ghana, Mamelodi or Motherwell must in every day struggle for substance means of living to reproduce itself. While the working class knows no boundaries, capitalism has been effective in creating artificial boundaries and fragmented the working class in ensuring its collectivism is weakening and promote hostilities among its communities as product of competing for crumbs of what is falling from big bosses table.

At the same time with capitalism limping from crisis to another in its desperation going forward multi – national companies are more resolute for inter connecting the world market to an extent that beyond loyalty to countries of their origin they ensured that they expand to underdeveloped countries as monopolies. Only to chase where it cheapest to do business by applying atomized industries, imported capital goods and raw material with the few that gets lucky to be employed being ruthlessly exploited and under-employed only for the big corporate once they finished the goods or deposits of that country to stride along to the next country consuming much that lies in their path, leaving behind great trails of destruction and systematic poverty.

As desperate situation is more pronounced, artificial intra – class competition intensifies leads to false struggle as groupings are formed on artificial stratification based on nationality, regionalism even ethnicity. This then lead to those who view themselves for one reason or another as indigenous or insiders believing that are entitled to greater piece of scam than those from viewed as outsiders.

Providing lasting solutions to these phenomenon should be multi-pronged and consider among others: Deliberate program making South Africans to be conscious of meaning to be Africans and essence of solidarity, invest on skilling and education of youth, decisive in resolving youth unemployment, government deliberate introducing stimulus to the economy promoting industrialization, economic transformation, support local value addition, local production. Furth more regional economic integration and connectivity is essential as prospects already show that global capital share of Africa stand to be more than that of Europe by end of this century and promote sound governance in Africa.

South African regulatory framework must implemented to the latter persons who are not supposed to trade on certain categories must not trade, all business to be compliant to regulatory dispensation. Big business must be disciplined and held accountable to invest where it's doing business and compelled to allow local players. ■

Rembering Chris Hani



By; Mzoleli Mrara – SACP Provincial Chairperson

"Socialism is not about big concepts and heavy theory. Socialism is about decent shelter for those who are homeless. It is about water for those who have no safe drinking water. It is about health care, it is about a life of dignity for the old. It is about overcoming the huge divide between urban and rural areas. It is about education for all our people. Socialism is about rolling back the tyranny of the market. As long as the economy is dominated by an un-elected, privileged few, the case for socialism will exist." -Chris Hani

10th April 2015 marks exactly 22 years since Cde Chris Hani was brutally murdered by right wing cowards and his sin was to devote his life in dethroning oppressive and unjust system and loyalty to the cause of realizing a better life for all. Cde Chris Hani was an embodiment of rounded cadre, leading in balancing theory with action lived meaning of sacrifice, boldness, passion, loyalty and most importantly carried his political tasks of the alliance with precise understanding of national content of class struggle and class content of national struggle and appreciated what needed to be done, both in the immediate and at strategic level.

To amplify the point words of Cde Chris just eight days before his assassination in 1993 are so relevant today as if they were when they were said as if Cde Chris knew that this were his departing will, therefore had to leave us with profound vision and foresight that demonstrate that he saw way beyond his time, he said *"I think, finally, the ANC will have to fight a new enemy. That enemy*

would be another struggle to make freedom and democracy worthwhile to ordinary South Africans. Our biggest enemy would be what we do in the field of socio-economic restructuring. Creation of jobs. Building of houses, schools, medical facilities, overhauling our education, eliminating illiteracy, building a society which cares, and fighting corruption and moving into the gravy train of using power, government position to enrich individuals. We must build a different culture in this country, different from Africa, different from the Nationalist Party. And that culture should be one of service to people."

It suffices to say Cde Chris was born on the 28th June 1942, Cofimvaba, Transkei and (now Eastern Cape), in rural part of these country. He was introduced to the politics of social inequality early in his life, when his father had to leave their rural home in search of work in the urban areas of South Africa. One raises this issue so that we appreciate that Cde Chris was ordinary person who grew up in similar conditions like many people of this region and further we invite a discussion on the historical economic structural underpinnings of our country which is monopolised by mineral energy complex and appreciate that it was human engineered for people of Chris Hani to be trapped in cycle of structural poverty and unemployment owing spatial political set-up of the South African economy, and that for it to change require that we deepen our struggle consistent with second phase of economic transformation.

This then left a young Cde Chris had to be exposed to his mother struggles in providing for them. This time was to later prove to have serious implications in grounding Chris Hani's humility, passion and charisma to being a fearlessly champion of the interest of the poor.

The desire for change in Cde Chris is best captured in words of Karl Marx when he says *"It is not the consciousness of men that determines their existence, but their social existence that determines their consciousness."*•

It is therefore safe to say Cde Chris, the revolutionary was born by the conditions of the people he was part of, with courage and fearless attitude born by

determination to abolish domination of one by another. For him poverty and unemployment was not abstract or a statistics but hard day to day reality that burnt inside him.

The economic characterization of the South African economy remained the one wherein few largely white male monopolise means of production and subsequent wealth, while majority whom are largely blacks and African, and only contributes to be reserves of labour, which is sold at exploitative conditions to the bosses. Having been born within these conditions of subjugation, oppression and poverty, Cde Chris convicted himself to fundamentally alter this absurd human engineered scenario.

We learn that Cde Chris matriculated at age of 16 years and graduated at tender age of 20 years. This is surely profound for a rural black boy considering the heightened state of repression in South Africa at the time (i.e. early 1960s).

Rhodes University was largely a white institution. Of crucial relevance in Cde Chris Hani's life is that Cde Chris became exposed to the Marxist ideology while within institution of higher learning. Of further interest is the choice of degree that Cde Chris enrolled at university, which was a BA degree in Latin and English.

One interpretation of Cde Hani's enthusiasm in language is that it was informed by comprehension that language is instrumental in shaping ones thinking, values, culture, outlook and developing one's content.

But more importantly we have to trace and confirm that education remains at the core developmental issues if we are to ever succeed with radical phase of second transition as resolved in Mangaung ANC conference.

History bears testimony that students have played a critical role in propelling revolution forward. It was as early as 1921 that students attempted the idea of forming one student's organisation transcending race lines. It was young graduates whom formed ANCYL and revolutionised ANC in the 1940's.



Having graduated as a bright young star from one of most renowned universities in South Africa, Cde Chris could have easily gone to live a comfortable and pleasant life anywhere in the world.

However his passion and devotion to his people's cause made him sacrifice the possibility to comfortable life for that of a selfless servant of people's revolution.

He would later remark about this in these modest but yet profound words: *"What right do I have to hold back, to rest, to preserve my health, to have time with my family, when there are other people who are no longer alive – when they have sacrificed what is precious, namely life itself?"*

Cde Chris Hani was a loyal member of ANC and loyal member of the SACP. He understood the national content of class struggle and class content of class struggle. Cde Chris appreciated that NDR is the shortest route to socialism.

Cde Chris knew that any self-respecting communist in South Africa had to support and be actively member of ANC, and contrary actions would not only be reactionary but plain selling out of people's camp.

Cde Chris was open, frank and courageous leader, unswerving and with conviction of his views, he subscribed to borrowings from Mao Zedong, for example he never would let: *"Things slide for the sake of peace and friendship when a person has clearly gone wrong, and refrain from principled argument because he is an old acquaintance, a fellow townsman, a schoolmate, a close friend, a loved one, an old colleague or old subordinate."*

To indulge in irresponsible criticism in private instead of actively putting forward one's suggestions to the organization. To say nothing to people to their faces but to gossip behind their backs, or to say nothing at a meeting but to gossip afterwards. To show no regard at all for the principles of collective life but to follow one's own inclination. This is a second type"

Cde Chris was courageous and fearless if not daring and he appreciated that there is no contradiction between being disciplined and militant.

He was thus a disciplined revolutionary and militant, whose militancy arose from the material conditions that he and his people experienced.

Cde Chris belonged to a rare breed that comes few and very far in between and that was fearless and driven by great desire to change lives of the people for the better, this is demonstrated in what is famously known as Hani Memorandum which compelled leadership to convene ground breaking watershed Morogoro Conference. This Memorandum led to Cde Hani and six others expelled by the ANC NEC in exile in 1969 (and almost executed) but later reinstated.

Here are some of its quotes

"We are disturbed by the careerism of the ANC Leadership Abroad who have, in every sense, become professional politicians rather than professional revolutionaries. We have been forced to draw the conclusion that the payment of salaries to people working in offices is very detrimental to the revolutionary outlook of those who receive such monies"

Even the President of the ANC was not spared

"All this has brought about a situation where the ANC is run single-handedly by the Commander-in-Chief who appoints and dismisses arbitrarily – as a result there is a tendency among members of the Headquarters to owe allegiance to the individual who appoints and dismisses them and it takes a genuine revolutionary to challenge him. We are compelled to blame the National Executive for this anomalous situation".

It concluded by chatting a wayforward, because they were to take responsibility for the revolution and not lament

"In conclusion all these problems must be resolved by a conference between the ANC Leadership and members of M.K. and not just handpicked individuals".

As he demonstrated during difficult moments that democratic centralism is central to organisational discipline and therefore once a collective and or higher organ has taken a decision it is binding to all without exception or special treatment.



This martyr while learned but was holistic revolutionary and never action shy, he internalized Lenin words that *"Practice without theory is blind, theory without practice is sterile and theory becomes a material force as soon as it is absorbed by the masses"*. These are some of the reasons as to why he was at the forefront of battles, and yet led from the front again when the Communist Party was called into discussion table or thrashing theoretical strategic questions.


On the role of trade union, Cde Chris comprehended sentiments shared by Cde Slovo when he states: *"It is however, vital to maintain the distinction between trade union politics and an overall revolutionary leadership."*

A trade union cannot carry out this dual role. If it attempted to do so it would have to change its basic character and risk committing suicide as a mass legal force. In addition, the very nature and purpose of the trade union disqualifies it from carrying out tasks of a revolutionary vanguard."

Comrade Slovo would go further to say trade union *"A trade union is the prime mass organization of the working class. To fulfil its purpose, it must be as broad as possible and fight to maintain its legal status."*

It must attempt, in the first place, to unite, on an industrial basis, all workers (at whatever level of political consciousness) who understand the elementary need to come together and defend and advance their economic conditions. It cannot demand more as a condition of membership. But because the state and its apparatus is an instrument of the dominant economic classes, it is impossible for trade unions in any part of the world to keep out of the broader political front."

Equally in slogans, COSATU would declare: *"no worker is a good member of congress unless he is also a trade unionist. No trade unionist is a good trade unionist unless he is also a member of Congress" • .*

Let me close by motivate us all to action by borrowing into wise words of James Baldwin, that: *'I am what time, circumstance, history, have made of me, certainly, but I am also, much more than that. So are we all.'* 



South African Communist Party Eastern Cape, 17 May 2015

Press statement:

"Deepen, advance and defend the NDR towards socialism"

The South African Communist Party (SACP) in the Eastern Cape convened its Provincial Working Committee on the 16-17 May 2015 at the NEHAWU Boardroom in Kokstad. The meeting was held as part of the responsibilities of the PWC to carry out organisational work in-between the PEC meetings and to prepare for the SACP 3rd Special Congress.

The PWC spent the first day interacting with the SACP structures in Alfred Nzo District through a well-attended district council. The district council was held for the PWC to assess the state of the organisation in the district. We have since satisfied ourselves with the state of the organisation in the district that the SACP District Leadership of Alfred Nzo is building an active, independent and campaigning SACP despite the ongoing communist onslaught in the district.

The passing of Mme Ruth Mompoti.

The meeting observed a moment of silence paying our communist last respect to Cde Ruth Mompoti, African National Congress (ANC) stalwart and Umkhonto weSizwe (MK) veteran, Isithwalandwe. "We join scores of our people in sending our heartfelt condolences to the entire family and relatives of Comrade Ruth Mompoti. We also extend our condolences to our long standing historical ally the ANC, MK Veterans' Association, our liberation Alliance and the democratic movement of our country as a whole, for this loss" said Xolile Nqatha, SACP Provincial Secretary.

Nationally:

As the SACP in the Eastern Cape we are reiterating the call by our national leadership in saying NO to the privatisation of Eskom as the move seeks to enrich a greedy elite at the expense of our people. We will mobilise the people to oppose this proposed move as it will leave them in dire suffering.

We are calling upon the Public Service Bargaining Commission (PSBC) and the National Treasury to quickly heed to the salary demands of the public servants. The offer by the PSBC to the public servants is tantamount to an insult as it does not even come close to the realisation of the decent wage as professed in the ANC manifesto. The rising prices of basic foods, petrol, transport, etc. means that our government should be realistic in meeting worker demands.

We are calling upon the COSATU affiliated trade unions organising in the public service to remain firm in demanding a decent and living wage for the workers. As the SACP, we are of the firm view that a developmental state needs a professionalized civil servants that are not in business and workers that are loyal to the democratic government not the private banks and "omatshonisa". This can only be achieved through bettering their conditions of service including housing allowance, medical aid and decent income.

Provincially:

Our province should make use of the Provincial Planning Commission to set the province in a new growth path; a more redistributive economy which will mostly benefit the workers and the poor. This should be used as concrete planning towards re-industrialization of our province and to build sustainable cooperatives for our people.

There is an undisputed need for the skills development in line with our developmental agenda, we should produce more engineers, artisans, etc. The nurturing of such skills would require the lessening of the usage of consultants by our government and hiring of skilled young people at an acceptable remuneration rate.

We reiterate our call for Eastern Cape governance curb the challenge of unemployment, poverty and inequality through amongst other measures, the radical agrarian reform and food production, massive infrastructure rollout and many other means. The provincial planning and action should be centred on these and a great need to maintain the infrastructure we have in the communities, like fixing of appalling roads, etc. We are quite concerned about the centre that appears not to be holding in the province given some of the persisting challenges in the province including the two Metros and other areas in the local state and provincial departments.

We commit ourselves as the SACP to work with our allies in ensuring that the alliance revolutionary centre holds.

Xholobeni mining:

The PWC meeting expressed concern on the flawed handling of the Xholobeni proposed mining, which by and large seeks to side-line the community. We believe that there exist an alliance of the elite that seeks to

highjack the project for selfish interests that will leave the community poor with no meaning participation in term of ownership and control. We support a balanced view for development and environmental protection and will to work with all interested parties from this perspective. The people of Xholobeni should be the ones deciding on what should happen in their land, any mining that should take place there should benefit the community at large.

We are calling upon the people of Xholobeni, Traditional leadership, people's organs to unite and reject any form of exploitation of their natural resources. The SACP commits itself in working with the community in defending what is rightfully theirs against the greedy few.

We condemn the killings in Xholobeni and convey our heartfelt condolences to all the families who lost their loved ones.

Local state:

We are concerned about the crumbling of the local state in the province, at the core of this crises is political infighting and deep seated corruption. Most of the municipalities in the Eastern Cape, in particular the bigger ones have no sense of service delivery focus but on peripheral issues.

As the party we have been participating in the meetings of alliance in attempt to quell the situation in all municipalities, which subsequently identified hot spot areas and agreed on an alliance approach. It is in this context that we are taken aback by the unilateral approach taken by the ANC in attending to the identified hot spots. No alliance meeting had ever agreed on the removal of mayoral committee members in the Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality (BCMM).

We reiterate our call for leadership to take decisive action in the BCMM situation as it is getting uglier. We believe that leadership should not be triumphalistic on the court outcomes but attend to the root of the problem in the BCMM, because as leaders of the people we have failed to attend to the challenges in BCMM as far back as 2013. At the core of the conflict and inability to resolve the current challenges represent pockets of both the organization and municipality that have been captured by tenderpreneurs. All actions are nothing else that designed to protect individual interests and the people.

Alleged plans of the Daily Dispatch:

The meeting expressed shock on the alleged plans of the Daily Dispatch newspaper to pursue the Eastern Cape Premier, Cde Phumulo Masualle. This has confirmed our long held view that over the years the Daily Dispatch has positioned itself as an opposition to the ANC led alliance and the South African government. The Daily Dispatch has for a long time behaved as a newsletter of the opposition, in particular the DA as the

leader of the Anti-majoritarian offensive and the shopsteward of those in control of the economy of our country, who remain dominantly white.

The newspaper has been very malicious in covering the stories such that you would conclude that there is no other voice in the province. The Daily Dispatch has always been bias in its reporting that it would run stories about our organisation(s) without soliciting comments from the organisation, and claim that “not reached by the time of going to print”.

This confirms our assertion on the DA activism in the newsrooms of many of the bourgeoisie print media. We have said this about the former editor Brandon Boyle, Helga Van Staden (DA Councillor) and many others who pretended to be journalists whilst they were DA activists who appeared in the DA list on the previous general elections.

We find this as a direct insult to the former editor of the Daily Dispatch, Donald Woods, who we fondly remember as one of the progressive journalists.

We have an undisputed history as the South African Communists of having fought for freedom of press and progressive journalism, it is in this context that we are severely concerned by what is happening in these media houses and support the independent regulation of the media as opposed to self-regulations.

University of Fort Hare SRC Elections:

The PWC raised its concern on the loss of SASCO to the liberal DA student organization at the University of Fort Hare SRC elections. We are of the view that this is not only a loss of SASCO as an organisation but that of all progressive forces. This therefore requires a more scientific analysis of the root causes and strategic response to arrest this revolutionary setback and its re-occurrence elsewhere.

One of the challenges in the Higher Education sector is the NSFAS delays and corruption in the scheme. It is in this context that we are calling for a review of the NSFAS funding model to focus on funding institutions relative to needs than individual students.

Part of the issues to be confronted by the movement is the financialization of our formations including SASCO, where private business interests seek to capture parts of our formations as instruments to hunt tenders for certain individuals within and outside the movement.

The SACP provincial leadership will be engaging with cadres in the University of Fort Hare through our Progressive Youth Alliance (PYA) in seeking to find a sustainable solution to all the challenges there.

Conclusion:

We recommit ourselves as the South African communist to work tirelessly with and for the people in carrying forward their struggles towards a classless society.

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