

Monthly journal of the SACP Eastern Cape



RED



INK

Ed 26: March 2017

Special Edition

**“SACP SPEAKS:
The Coming conferences;
Where does the SACP stand”**



Background

The Red Ink is the SACP Eastern Cape monthly journal. The Red Ink 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).

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 Red Ink.

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 Red Ink 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 Red Ink 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 Red Ink 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 Red Ink 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 Red Ink 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 Red Ink editorial team. The Red Ink 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.

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Next Edition: Kindly forward your contributions to simdodi@gmail.com on Monday, 20 February 2016.

In this Special Edition



"Where does the party stand today" - Page 3

"Where does the party stand today?"

By: Xolile Nqatha, SACP Provincial Secretary

"There are decades where nothing happens and there are days where decades happen." Vladimir Lenin

This year, 2017, we are marking the centenary of the longest serving President of the ANC, the late Oliver Reginald Tambo who would have been 100 years if he was alive today. This occasioned the ANC in the NEC January 8th Statement to declare this year as the year of O R Tambo and Unity in Action.

Remember O.R Tambo in action:

Comrade Oliver Reginald Tambo is remembered by many within and outside our movement for his commitment to the unity of our people and our movement, he was not a factionalist and he was not corrupt and represented the glue that was capable of holding the movement together through his exemplary leadership. He always placed the people and movement first and was the one to approach for intervention with confidence for he was not part of the problem or a problem.

Marking his centenary represents an opportunity for both collective reflection and personal reflection and also makes society to cast eyes on us and scrutinise our conduct as it relate to the Tambo we are celebrating.

Are we worthy to be associated with the man?

Unfortunately, developments are indicating that there is very little if any commitment to the declaration on the side of the top leadership of our movement. Some of our leaders act in a way not befitting O R Tambo. Inkokheli zihamba ngecala oko nonkala, zithi amalungu noluntu maluhambe ekhondweni lika Bawo uTambo zibe zisenza konke okuphikisana naye. *[Leadership is walking leaning to the side like a crab but tell the membership and society to follow the*

footsteps of Tambo, whilst they leadership themselves are doing everything contrary to what he stood for]

As a result our country and the entire South African Revolution stand at the cross roads. We are at the eye of the storm! As we are preparing to convene the ANC Regional & Provincial conferences, SACP 8th Provincial Congress in October and SACP 14th National Congress in July and the ANC 54th National Conference in December of this year. Developments that will come out of these events will have positive or negative implications for our movement and our country for decades to come depending on what we collectively do to save the movement of Tambo

Xolile Nqatha, SACP Provincial Secretary

Developments are likely to give concrete meaning to the words of Lenin that in human society there are years when nothing happens but there are days where things take place that will have a lasting impact to be felt for generations to come. Our revolution is facing challenges of which at the heart of these challenges include factionalism, money politics, corruption and divisions affecting all our formations with the ANC being the mostly affected of our formations.

The SACP as the vanguard party of the South African working class, we are deeply interested in the outcomes

of all these conferences including those of the ANC. Whilst we respect each other's independence and right to discuss its programs and decide on its leadership, it is our deepest interest as

the SACP that such outcomes are in favour of the working class.

We will not be compelled to make choices of individuals or characters within the ANC but those who want to lead the movement must demonstrate both in content and form that they are committed to serve the people and the ANC to be bias towards the working class and act as a disciplined force of the left.

"We will not be compelled to make choices of individuals or characters..."

The working class is the core constituency of the African National Congress. It is in this context that the ANC must always strive not to only be biased towards the working class, but act to serve the working class. The ANC won and controlled by a faction, we mean any faction cannot serve the interests of the people. We see now, not in the future how the so called Premier League faction has racked havoc in our movement and key state institutions with utter disdain for the people and our movement.

We have seen how they have taken power away from the ANC and the alliance. The Brian Molefe case being an instructive example where the faction pronounces

In whose benefit are they doing all this? At least we know it is not in the benefit of the people nor helping to restore the dignity of our movement.

These selfish acts by those at the helm of the Premier League serving in government, is against that which is clearly pronounced in the strategy and tactics of the African National Congress – *“Wherever they are to be found, ANC cadres should act as the custodians of the principles of fundamental social change; winning respect among their peers and society at large through exemplary conduct. They must be informed by values of honesty, hard work, humility, service to the people and respect for the laws of the land.”*



that Brian Molefe will be deployed to the National Assembly and the ANC Secretary General, Cde Gwede Mantashe dismisses the pronouncement but few days it happens to be true. We have seen what they have done at Eskom, Denel, SABC, SAA and Transnet, just to mention few state owned enterprises, they have milked those institutions dry in milking state resources in a mafia style of parasitic accumulation.

We see now how they (premier league as the dominant faction in the ANC) put at risk incomes of 17 million beneficiaries of social grants by failing to plan as directed by the constitutional court 3 years ago. They want to remain with the current service provider, the Cash Paymaster Services (CPS) in an illegal manner. The South African realities forces most of the social grant beneficiaries to spend their social grants on food. This mean this deliberately planned crisis by the Department of Social Development and South Africa Social Security Agency (SASSA) could be catastrophic and life threatening.

In this crisis we see the same faces of individual business people and same leaders with their families involved in this looting of public resources. It is indeed a smash and grab conduct at its best. We believe that no divided Eastern Cape Province that can help the movement to defeat these negative tendencies. Put differently, factions can only succeed with their agenda only if the organization is divided and weak. Our stand is clear as the South African Communist Party.

In light of these self-inflicted wounds to our glorious movement, we are reminded of what Comrade Oliver Tambo said in 1977 in Angola

“Comrades, you might think it is very difficult to wage a liberation struggle. Wait until you are in power. I might be dead by then. At that stage you will realize that it is actually more difficult to keep the power than to wage a liberation war. People will be expecting a lot of services from you. You will have to satisfy the various demands of the masses of our people. In the process, be prepared to learn from other people’s revolutions.

Learn from the enemy also. The enemy is not necessarily doing everything wrongly. You may take his right tactics and use them to your advantage. At the same time, avoid repeating the enemy's mistakes."

We would like to see a unified province going to all these national events as divisions will deny the province the opportunity to save and shape the future of the movement in a way that places interests of the people first. When we are divided all sorts of people descend to our province like vultures to grab a piece of the province as to feed into their own personal and factional interests. Let us deny them this opportunity for the sake of the province, its people and the entire movement. It is in the interest of the whole movement that the province is unified.

This is our stand as the SACP and we call upon the working class and all genuine cadres of our broad movement to support this stand point. As the SACP, we stand on the side of the people and wish to be part of all forces that are committed in defeating factionalism and money politics in the interests of the workers and the poor. We would like to see an ANC through its conference program and leadership outcomes that the interests of the working class and its representation are demonstrated. And the dominant trend of self-serving leadership at the expense of those who have voted us into power is decisively reversed.

The leadership that is committed to building the strategic capacity of the ANC to be the tool of the socio-economic change and unity at the hands of the people, and take the ANC back to its leadership position in society.

We would like to see an ANC that is committed to the unity of the alliance and act in a consultative manner in all major decisions that affects all of us. An ANC with a leadership that is loyal to its decisions and help to unite and building a strong alliance from all levels.

A leadership that is committed to radical economic transformation that must address the structural features underpinning the triple crises of unemployment, poverty and inequality. We don't want a replacement of white monopoly capital with black monopoly capital as they are both self-serving and are

driven by greed irrespective of the colour of skin. At the heart of any genuine radical economic transformation must be about transformation of social relations of production as part of confronting inequality.

We would like have an ANC and its leadership that is focusing among other things:

Job creation for many unemployed people in the province that include youth and unemployed graduates through acceleration of skills training opportunities, internship, small business enterprises and co-operatives that are positioned to provide the many services in government.

Use co-operatives and small business enterprises to change the structure of the economy of the province and ignite reindustrialization to address poverty, inequality and unemployment.

Accelerate land and agrarian reform to ensure land access for food productions and sustainable livelihoods. To provide support to small farmers and ensure tenure security to farm workers.

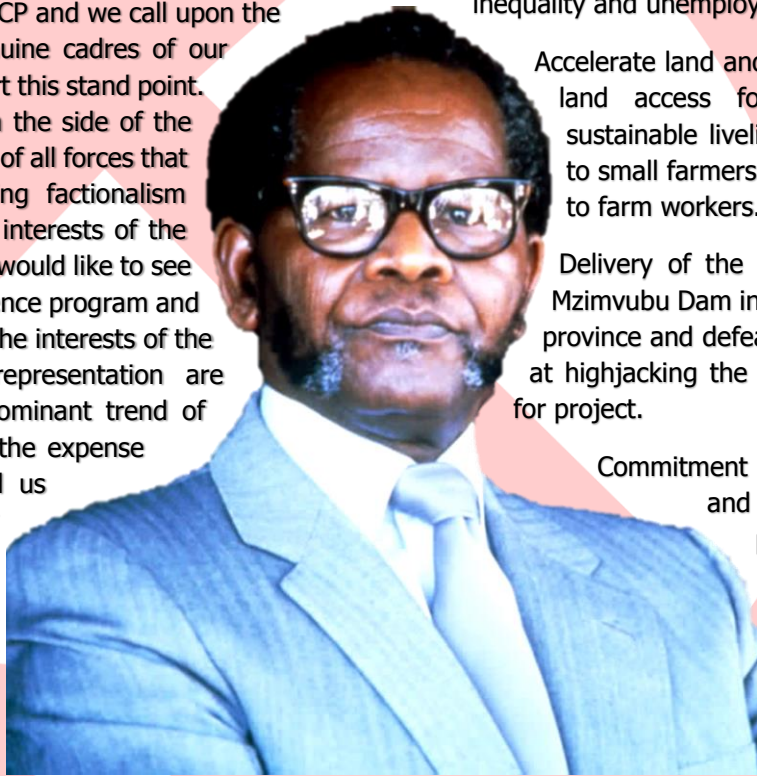
Delivery of the long overdue projects like Mzimvubu Dam in a manner that benefits the province and defeat the agenda that is aimed at highjacking the millions earmarked for the for project.

Commitment to fight against corruption and dismantle networks of both politicians and business people that are involved in unethical business practises in a manner that loot public resources and deny genuine business people opportunities.

Commitment to urgently construct a provincial government precinct and free our province from the few white business property cartels dominating the province with suspicious political links.

As the SACP, we stand on the side of the people; we choose our people, for any individual or collective to deserve our support in leadership they will have to commit in meeting the above as these represent some of the many our people's demands.

Xolile Nqatha is the Eastern Cape Provincial Secretary and ANC Eastern Cape PEC member.



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