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PRESIDENT CYRIL RAMAPHOSA ENCOURAGES SOUTH AFRICANS TO LEARN THEIR LANGUAGES TO UNDERSTAND THEIR IDENTITIES.

President Cyril Ramaphosa encouraged South Africans to learn their languages in order to understand their identities. The President was addressing multitudes during the National Heritage Day celebrations at Mxolisi Jacobs stadium in Upington on Tuesday, 24 September 2019.

He was accompanied by the Northern Cape Premier Dr. Zamani Saul together with the MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture Ms. Bernice Sinxeve, Deputy Minister for Sport, Arts and Culture Ms. Nocawe Noncedo Mafu and other dignitaries. The President opened a library in Upington earlier in the day where he took time to read to school children.

The 2019 National Heritage Day kicked off on a higher note. President Cyril Matamela Ramaphosa joined school children from Upington area to officially open the Sandile Present Community Library.



He went on to deliver a keynote address at the Mxolisi Jacobs Stadium. He told thousands of people gathered at the stadium that they are the inheritors of the country's political heritage. He encouraged them to always remember the sacrifices that were made for freedom, and never forget it is the duty of all to guard this freedom and to ensure that it is passed on to those who are yet to come.

"May you wear with pride the honour that comes with being a South African.

It is always a privilege to visit this beautiful

province that is home to two UNESCO World Heritage Sites. These sites were once home to ancient populations, the ancestors of the entire human race. We have the beautiful and remote expanses of the Richtersveld Transfrontier Park, which has become an international tourist attraction."

President Ramaphosa payed tribute to all South Africans, young and old, who have kept the country's rich and diverse cultural and linguistic traditions alive. He says the country has just two months ago, celebrated the 98th birthday of a great resident of the Northern Cape, Baba Credo Vusamazulu Mutwa. "We are fortunate to still have among us such great champions of heritage preservation and who have dedicated their lives to fighting ignorance of African customs. We wish Baba Credo well and pray that we will continue to enjoy the benefits of his wisdom and knowledge."

President further payed tribute to a Khoisan language activist Katrina Esau who has been at the forefront of the preservation of an indiginous N|uu language.

"For many years now, Mama Katrina has been teaching the endangered N|uu language to the people of the Rosedale community from a school in front of her home. She tells me that she is even moving with the times and wants to make educational CDs and DVDs so that everyone can learn this language, even me."

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President Ramaphosa says his administration will be doing everything in its power to promote and preserve all languages, but most especially the languages of the people of the Northern Cape that are dying out such as N|uu, Nama, !Xun and Khwe.

The United Nations has declared 2019 to be the Year of Indigenous Languages. President says under colonialism and apartheid African languages were degraded and denigrated, and the languages of the Khoi and San people were marginalised.

The President says next year five students from the Northern Cape Province will be trained as Nama educators at the University of Namibia.

He has encouraged all South Africans to visit their public libraries and pick up a book in their native language. The president also praised DSAC for its role in language development through its involvement in the Northern Cape Writer's Festival. " Through these efforts, we hope to see all indigenous languages occupying their rightful place in our society. Soon we will be reading more novels and textbooks in the indigenous languages of the Northern Cape. We will be seeing TV shows and listening to radio dramas in Nama, in N|uu and in many other such languages."

The President has called on community cultural organisations and those custodians to transfer their knowledge to the younger generations. He has encouraged a greater partnerships between communities and youth organisations around cultural heritage, such as through cultural camps and retreats. "It is the greatest tragedy that our elders often pass away without handing on their knowledge of our customs and traditions. I call upon our young people: reach out to the elders in your communities, listen to them, learn from them. What they tell you and teach you has value".

PRESIDENT RAMAPHOSA OPENS THE SANDILE PRESENT STUDY LIBRARY AS PART OF HERITAGE MONTH IN UPINGTON.

President Cyril Ramaphosa has officially opened the Sandile Present Study Library in Upington in the ZF Mgcawu District on Tuesday, 24 September 2019. The opening of the facility formed part of the 2019 Heritage Day celebrations under the theme “25 Years of Democracy: Celebrating South Africa’s literary classics in the year of Indigenous languages”. President Ramaphosa was accompanied by Northern Cape Premier Dr. Zamani Saul, MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture Ms. Bernice Sinxeve and other dignitaries.

The opening ceremony was attended by kids from Upington and surrounding areas. A small number of dignitaries were allowed to form part of the proceedings. After spending some time under a stretch tent for a briefing, President Ramaphosa was walked up to the newly built facility to unveil the plaque. He was then taken through a guided tour of the new facility. He was joined by a Khoisan language activist Ouma Katrina Esau who had poured her heart about lack of attention given to her indigenous language. Ouma Esau expressed to the president how her language is slowly fading away and how her and her four siblings are the only four people who are left that are able to speak the language.



She further pleaded with the president to assist her to preserve her beloved language that is sure to parish. Alongside Ouma Esau was her student Jamila Mathuis (14) who read a passage and translated it in the Nxu! language, Waldra (35) read in the Nama language. The two learners from Velalanga Primary School in Pabalelo, Alulutho Zoni (13) read a passage in isiXhosa and Naledi Mnigeni read a passage in Setswana. It was truly a celebration of various indigenous languages, as President Ramaphosa was being taught the Nxu! and Nama language.

The Upington Study library is a one thousand five hundred square meter Library that composes of three main area's the Study Library, District Library Depot and Offices. The Study Library further accommodates the following functions:

- A well resourced public service area which include a referencing area, collection area and circulation desk
- Separate study area which can accommodate 40 users at a time
- Library for the blind,
- Children's area
- An Activity Room which can host activities such as Training, Workshops and other library functions with 24/7 access.
- A fully resourced Computer area
- Gaming room for the mind stimulation active ties.

The construction of the Upington Study Library is one of the biggest capital projects that the Northern Cape Department of Sport, Arts and Culture undertook over the past five years. This was a multiyear project which started in 2017/2018 financial year and was completed in May 2019. The total development cost amounted to R37.4m. The amount included construction costs, professional fees and purchasing of land from the local municipality.

Whilst the District Library Depot has huge area which will house 25 000 books at a time, a strong room, processing area, office for the district librarian, kitchen and ablution facilities. The first floor will be accommodating the district offices, boardroom and kitchen.

The naming process for the library was concluded with the municipality as Sandile Present.



Premier Saul Addresses Provincial Women's Day event in Kuruman

Northern Cape Premier Dr. Zamani Saul has reiterated the importance of women empowerment and emancipation. Premier Saul was delivering a keynote address during the Provincial Women's Day celebrations at Mothibistad in the John Taolo Gaetsewe District on Saturday 10 August 2019. The commemorations were held under the theme "25 Years of Democracy: Growing South Africa Together for Women's Emancipation"

The 2019 Provincial Women's Day commemorations were held at Thabo Moorosi multi-purpose center in Kuruman in the John Taolo Gaetsewe District. Multitudes of women showed up dressed in various regalia to support the event. Upon his arrival in Mothibistad, Premier Saul and his entourage were ushered to Thabo Moorosi multipurpose centre by drum majorettes made up of learners from local schools. Outside Thabo Moorosi centre, the venue was decorated by various government departments rendering government to the patriots attending the event.

Premier Saul stated during his address that although strides have been made in the inclusion of women in the government and private sector, more still needs to be done in order to include women in more prominent positions in the society.

He pointed out that while his executive comprises of more women than men, local municipalities should also improve.



Premier further added that the empowerment of women is not only an issue for government, but also a great societal matter.

The promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment is part of our tireless efforts to eradicate poverty and stimulate sustainable development. It should, however, be noted that the empowerment of women is everyone's business and needs the support of government, business, labour and civil society alike, says the Premier.

He urged the province that together they must work smarter and faster to ensure that they drastically improve the lives of women, especially marginalized and poor women, who are in the majority. He also encouraged women to take the reins in business opportunities and empower themselves.

In light of the recent scourge of femicide Premier Saul condemned violence against women and urged all sectors of society to play an active role

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in the eradication of women and child abuse. “It is therefore very disheartening that we had to learn of the rape of a five-year-old girl here in Mothibistad. The alleged rapist, a 28-year-old male, is currently in custody.

“Towards the end of last month, we were approached by parents, friends and family members of victims of violence, requesting the provincial government to assist them in ensuring that the justice system is sped up to finalise all cases of violence against women and children.” he says.

Lastly Premier Saul touched on how it is the responsibility of all to create a non-racial, non-sexist,

democratic and prosperous country in which all people live in peace and safety and with equal opportunities.



Northern Cape Premier Bids Farewell to Provincial Gymnaestrada teams going to Austria.

Northern Cape Premier Dr. Zamani Saul pledged 140-thousand rand towards assisting the provincial Gymnaestrada teams that will be representing Northern Cape at the World Championships in Austria. Premier Saul made the announcement during a breakfast send off function at Horseshoe Motel in Kimberley earlier this morning, Tuesday 02 July 2019. He was accompanied by Head of Department for Sport, Arts and Culture Ms. Ruth Palm and Chief Director for Service Delivery Programmes David Mduyana. The Northern Cape Gymnaestrada teams are set to leave for Austria on Friday, 05 July 2019.



The two Northern Cape Gymnaestics teams will be joining over 20 000 Gymnaests from 60 Nations. They will be taking part in the 16th World Gymnaestrada to be hosted from Sunday, 07 to Saturday, 13th of July 2019 in Dornbirn in Austria. The festival which is hosted every four years is regarded as one of the largest sports events in the World. The South African Gymnastics Federation will be represented by 6 teams from 20 different clubs of 5 Provinces. Northern Cape will have 43 participants coming from Floors and Rythmia Gymnaestic Clubs.

Dr. Zamani Saul gives his State of the Province Address

Northern Cape Premier Dr. Zamani Saul delivered his state of the province address on Friday, 5 July 2019 at Mittah Seperepere in the Frances Baard District. The Premier posed a question before his address that stated “what is our struggle all about, our struggle is eradicating the humiliation of poverty and unemployment in the province” he said boldly.

The province is set to be turning over a new leaf as its premier is committed in crafting a modern, growing and successful province. This mandate will be achieved as the province will fast-track internet connectivity to all 223 provincial libraries, starting with the connectivity of 185 and increasing to 200 in 2021 a process undertaken by the department of Sport, Arts and Culture.

In his SOPA the premier mentioned that 2019 is the year of indigenous languages and government will use this opportunity to celebrate diversity. He goes on to state that government will dedicate September to host conversations and the protection Nama, Xhu, Khwe and Xhu languages, which will culminate in the celebration of Heritage Month.

The premier further mentions that government will engage over 9 000 participants over the next three years, to ensure increased and sustained participation in Sport and Recreation, through activities and recreational events. These will serve as a platform for social cohesion and youth development he said.

MEC Reaches out to Women at Phillipstown.

The Department of Sport, Arts and Culture embarked on a social outreach programme in Phillipstown in the Pixley ka Seme district on Monday, 19 August 2019. The department has given back to the elderly women as part of the commemoration of 2019 Women’s Month.

The MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture Ms. Bernice Sinxeve came bearing gifts for women in attendance. The MEC provided a goodie bags consisting of maize meal , cooking oil, and toiletry bag filled with essential cosmetics. A hearty cooked meal was also served to those in attendance.

During her address, MEC Sinxeve spoke to the women as a mother herself, encouraging to continue with excellent work they are doing and commending them for always being providers and standing firm where men are lacking, “Men are important in society but nothing beats a mothers love”.

MEC Sinxeve identified this town when the department visited the town on Mandela Day. It is an impoverished community and she promised she would come back. Sinxeve said, “As a woman, even if u drive the latest cars and have your children in prestigious schools, if you look down on other women who are not soaring financially, then you have dismally failed as a woman”. An elderly community member, Nontsikelelo Masibule explained, “I feel so important, I never knew that our government understands our impoverished situations. I wish they could visit us more often as we are grateful not just for the parcels they give but also for their presence in the community, it shows that we are surely not forgotten”.

The children in the community were also included in the festivities. They were treated on jumping castles outside the Lukhanyisweni Community Hall. They also got to enjoy popcorn and slush puppies prepared for them by officials from the department.

DSAC Officials digs deep for Nelson Mandela Day.

Patients at the Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe Hospital in Kimberley were served a warm meal by officials from Department of Sport, Arts and Culture. This was during the commemoration of Nelson Mandela Day on Thursday, 18 July 2019. The meal was prepared at the hospital premises where outpatients were served on their way home.

The 10th Nelson Mandela Day celebrations kicked off and millions around the world were eager to inspire change. Officials from the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture were deployed to various areas to impact on the lives of less fortunate individuals. They cooked and served a warm meal to patients at the Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe Hospital in Kimberley. Beneficiaries were impoverished out patients who were at the hospital from various corners of the province for medical treatments. They often have less or no food to eat.

Little Angels crèche:

Children at the Little Angels crèche in Colville also received blankets, mattresses, party and food packs. DSAC's Mr. Martin Le Grange led a departmental team and spent their time playing with the kids and distributing presents.



MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture Ms. B Sinxeve Spends her Mandela Day with Children in Phillipstown

MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture Ms. Bernice Sinxeve headed to a call to inspire change during the 2019 International Nelson Mandela Day. The MEC visited Phillipstown in the Pixley Ka Seme District where she had spent her time and interacted with the local community. In line with her departmental mandate of building a reading nation, MEC Sinxeve started off at Imizamoyethu crèche where she to read the young ones a short story, handed out sweet packs and recreational toys. The principal of the centre Ms. Maggie Dikela shared her heartfelt gratitude to the MEC for the joy that she has brought to her young ones. MEC Sinxeve encouraged Mme Dikela to continue her good work, as she has been teaching at the creche over 30 years.

The festivities for the community of Phillipstown continued at the Phillipstown Community Centre. This is where DSAC officials had set up recreational games, play areas.

They also served the kids with popcorns and slush puppies. A team from Kimberley skate Plaza Club was also on site to provide skateboarding demonstrations to the young ones.



MEC Sinxeve Extends Her Mandela Day Programme to Platfontein

The Northern Cape Department for Sport, Arts and Culture went above and beyond the call for 67 minutes for International Nelson Mandela Day. The MEC for the Department Ms. Bernice Sinxeve visited the San settlement in Platfontein on Tuesday 23 July 2019 to continue the goodwill. MEC Sinxeve handed out winter necessities to community members to keep warm in the cold conditions.



The MEC was also extremely honoured and blessed to meet 105 year old Oupa Kaye.

Her visit to the Platfontein area was to promote social cohesion and nation building amongst the !Xhu and Khwe communities.

Departmental officials were on standby in the area where they have been preparing and dishing out some warm meal for the locals. Every local who passed by was given a hot plate.

MEC Meets Female Soccer Team

MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture Ms. Bernice Sinxeve received a joyous welcome by the Richmond United Ladies Soccer team at the Nonzwakazi Community Hall on Wednesday 11th September 2019 in De Aar, Northern Cape. The Richmond based soccer team will be participating in the first division of the National Women's Soccer League. This is the provinces first women's soccer team to make it into the inaugural National Women's League and is set to faced off against Mamelodi Sundowns which ended with 2-ALL at the Nike Centre on the 7th of September of this year.

MEC Bernice Sinxeve donated sporting equipment to the value of R 250 000 to the Richmond United Ladies Soccer team. The Department committed to providing High Performance assistance where the team will be travelling to Kimberley for a couple of days.

During the handover of the event the MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture Ms Bernice Sinxeve stated that "Government is serious about women's

participation in sport, this is why we give you all the support we can. We therefore support the vision and goals of the National Women's League"

The MEC also encouraged the players to remain focused and reminded them that it is a given fact that no one can stop women that is committed, dedicated and driven to achieve their dreams.



MEC Bernice Sinxeve officially opens the 11th Annual Northern Cape Writers Festival.

MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture Ms. Bernice Sinxeve has encouraged authors at the 11th Northern Cape Writer's Festival to write in their mother tongue. MEC Sinxeve was addressing festival delegates at the Sol Plaatje University during its official opening in Kimberley on Wednesday, 09 October 2019. She was accompanied by the university's Vice Chancellor Professor Yunus Ballim, Head of Department Ms. Ruth Palm and other dignitaries.

The 11th Northern Cape Writer's Festival kicked off with a round table discussion at the Sol Plaatje University's central campus on Wednesday, 09 October 2019. Although the opening ceremony was meant to be addressed by former UNISA's Vice Chancellor

Professor Barney Pityana, the keynote speaker could not make it to Kimberley due to unforeseen circumstances. However those in attendance were not deterred but rather focused their attention to discussing "Responding to Global Rage through Literature".

During her opening remarks MEC Sinxeve emphasised the use of indigenous languages. She described authors as critical role players and opinion shapers. **"Without the written word, life would be a very dull place"**. She expressed how writers have a critical role in all facets of our daily lives. She further said that writers mould our thought patterns and opinions, they are the creators of ideas and they make audiences think attractively.

Ms Sinxeve believes that the Festival will provide an excellent opportunity for writers to speak about their work, for the audience to hear from their very utterances and constructively engage with the many authors during the course of the festival on a number of levels.

Festival goers expressed varying views on the role that literature plays in responding to global rage. The session had Professor Ballim, author and a poet Sabata Mpho Mokae as well as a poet Ms. Diana Ferrus on the panel.



ArtLit (Art and Literature) Exhibition brings the US and SA Artists under the same roof.

The Art and Literature (ArtLit exhibition) exhibition which recently opened its doors at the William Humphreys Art Gallery in Kimberley has bridged a cultural divide between the US based and South African artists. The exhibition was unveiled by the MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture Ms. Bernice Sinxeve on Tuesday, 08 October 2019 as part of the Provincial Writer's Festival.

The ArtLit (Art and Literature) is pinned down on the history of collaboration across art forms. ***"There are many such examples where poetry and music find a common outlet, or novels and film, theatre and poetry, music and dance and so forth. In this case the artists are showing us a conversation between literature, in particular African literature or literature by writers and poets of African origin, and visual art. Both art forms are telling human stories."*** said Sabata Mpho Mokae from the Sol Plaatje University's Human Sciences Department.

The exhibition is intended to have artists from two continents sharing the exhibition space and therefore seeing and beginning to treat each other as peers.

The platform presented the Namakwa born artist, Ulrich Roberts an opportunity to showcase his painting about township sufferings. His work of art depicts his own experience of everyday hardships coupled with the silent screams that often goes unnoticed. The painting tells the story of a mother that lost her child in a fire and the only sound is the silence. ***"For me this platform is very significant as a Northern Cape artist sitting in a small town of Concordia to be able to speak to the world, speak to international media about our country, about our pain and about what we are able to achieve through art and through being communicating literature like my fellow artists."***

Born in Cincinnati, Ohio in the United States of America, Derrick Bell's craft is painting and making furniture. Like in any art, storytelling and advocating behavioural change is an important part of his practice. ***"This collaboration means so much to me since it's my first time in Africa, South Africa I have never been outside of the US, so it means a lot to me, I have learned so much about the culture, made new friends and am thankful to just being a part of the show, I have never thought in a million years that I will be over here"***.

The selected works include that of Northern Cape-born poets Ingrid Jonker and Sandile Dikeni. There are also excerpts of the works of Chinua Achebe (Nigeria), Langston Hughes (USA), Don Mattera (South Africa), Ellen Khuzwayo (South Africa), Bessie Head (Botswana), Jamaica Kinkaid (Antigua) and Sol Plaatje (South Africa).

Participating artists from the Northern Cape include the legendary Rochester “Rocky” Mafafo, Xolani Kitsi and Pierre Cloete. Their counterparts from the states of Texas and California in the United States of America include, Clara Johnson and Isaac Alexander.

The exhibition has two legs; the first is in Kimberley (William Humphreys Art Gallery) and will be on until the beginning of summer (December) 2019 and the second leg is planned to be in Oakland, California in spring (March/April) 2020.



Derrick Bell

Joke of the Week

Colleagues: How do you keep fit?

Me :I get plenty of exercise – jumping to conclusions, pushing my luck, and dodging deadlines.

Inspirational Quote

Ben Opperman: Word of the week



When Convenient

You might be feeling down, You might be feeling dismayed, You might be feeling discouraged, You might be feeling pain, You might be feeling broken, You might be feeling distance, You might be feeling disappointed, You might be feeling left out, You might be feeling useless, worthless, emotionless, You even might feel that it's time to give up and let go of life as the circumstances, trials and tribulations you are facing now seems impossible to handle or to endure and all that seems possible at this point is to give up and give in. you are probably ready to tell the world that you've tried and failed and that you are no ready to give up. It is at this exact moment when you feeling at the lowest of the low that you need to be reminded that through all this God has, will and shall never give up on you even if you willing to give up on Him. He will carry you through all never loose faith, keep on praying, because one thing is for certain God answers prayers.

May you have a blessed week.

Amen

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DSAC

Department of Sport, Arts and Culture

A Child in Sport is a Child out of Court

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