



**OPENING REMARKS AT THE SIYABAKHUMBULA LEGACY PROGRAMME  
27 APRIL 2017**

**AT HAMBANATHI LIBRARY, DURBAN**

Delivered by Cllr Zandile Gumede, Mayor of eThekweni Municipality (Cllr Mpume Ntshangase)

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- Programme director, Mr Philani Brian Zondo
- MEC - Dr Sbongiseni Dlomo
- The Head of PRC-
- Ward Councillor, Miss Zanele Khumalo
- Cllr Zama Sokhabase
- Senior Manager of Libraries and Heritage, Ms Tebogo Mzizi
- Honoured Guests,
- Ladies and Gentlemen,

Sanibonani nonke!

Kuyintokozo kithina njengomkhandlu weTheku ukuba sihlanganyele kunye nani kulolusuku abalubiza nge-Freedom Day. Lolusuku lubungazwa Iningi zimu Afrika yonke, sizo khumbula amaqahwe namaQhawekazi Alwela inkululeko yethu.

Under the theme “The Year of OR Tambo”. This year’s celebrations concur with the centenary of the late President and National Chairperson of the ANC and our hero, Oliver Reginald Tambo.

This Freedom Day, we make a call to recognise and celebrate our countries freedom, the freedom to speak many different languages, freedom to be different, freedom to have different beliefs and more.

*The Constitutional Principles for a Democratic South Africa* state that, “Every South African, irrespective of race, colour, language, gender, status, sexual orientation or creed should know that his or her basic rights and freedoms are guaranteed by the Constitution and enforced by law.

Programme director,

As we celebrate the 20 years of our constitution, we must be aware that there are those who want to project this government as an illegitimate government. They continue to challenge and attack decisions taken by leadership. Also there are elements that seek to unseat government using courts – when they have failed in the ballot. We need to ask ourselves if this what our hero’s fought for.

Every five years the masses of our people go to the elections to choose their government as dictated to by our constitution. People chose President Zuma and the ANC to lead them until 2019.

We pay a special homage to the heroines who led the struggles against colonialism and apartheid. I’m talking about, Oliver Tambo, Nelson Mandela, Joe Slovo, Lillian Ngoyi, the newly deceased Ahmed Kathrada and many more. They all fought for our freedom.

Siphinde sibonge futhi singubaze ohulumeni Kanye nabantu basemazwini onke aseAfrica abasebenzisane nathi emzabalazweni – We will never forget their strength and solidarity.

Bantu base Hambanathi,

We have come a long way, kubalulekile ukuba sibambisane njengomphakathi. Singavumeli iziphula mthemtho zenze umathanda bebulala amalunga omphakathi yethu. Akekho ongaphezu komthetho, siyalingana sonke.

In closing, I would like to thank all of you for your attendance today, we all know that there are celebrations underway in Umhlaba uyalingana Municipality

where thousands of people have joined the President, Mr Jacob Zuma to celebrate this day.

Sisahlanguke sonke to celebrate what we as South Africa have achieved together, I would like to wish you all a Happy Freedom Day!

I thank you.