

THE MANDELA & SISULU *Centenary*



NEWSLETTER

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Foreword

By Nomvula Mokonyane

On 9 August 1956, about 20 000 South African women marched to the Union Buildings in Pretoria to demand that the apartheid government repeal pass laws that restricted their movement and violated their human rights. This historic march was organised by women under the banner of the Federation of South African Women (FEDSAW).

The women marched in the knowledge that they would in all probability be met by brutal and unrelenting force of the security police; but they marched nonetheless and chanted “*Wathint’ Abafazi Wathint’ imbokodo*” (“You strike women, you strike a rock”).

These powerful words gave them courage and strength to continue with their march because they knew their actions would benefit generations to come.

The courageous acts of these women were not in vain as the protest was one of the turning points in the history of our country. This successful march propelled women to

the forefront of the struggle, and sent a clear message that the women’s role was everywhere. It inspired generations of women to join and lead the struggle as equal partners.



This year marks the 62nd anniversary of the Women’s March and coincides with the centenary celebrations of both Mama Albertina Nontsikelelo Sisulu and former President Nelson Mandela. Mama Sisulu and other brave women of her generation helped to ensure that the 1956 Women’s March was a success. One of the key roles of organisers at the time was helping women bypass police roadblocks that were meant to prevent them from attending the march.

Mama Sisulu, who was married to Struggle icon Walter Sisulu, was herself actively involved in politics. For instance, she was one of the first women to be arrested under the General Laws Amendment Act of 1956, which empowered police to detain suspects for 90 days without charge, for refusing to give information about her husband,



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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



who had gone underground as part of the resistance movement activities.

Despite her numerous banning orders, MaSisulu formed an integral part of the ANC's underground network. She helped many students to cross the borders to join the uMkhonto We Sizwe.

In the late 1970s and 1980s, she recruited young women to join the FEDSAW in an attempt to revive it.

Our country will always be indebted to these women whose actions have set the tone for gender equality and empowerment in a democratic South Africa. In recognition of the important role women played in our march to democracy, our government has since 1995 commemorated this historic day, 9 August, as Women's Day.

Even though the main event is annually held on 9 August, our government has dedicated August as Women's Month to reflect on the bravery of the women who marched for freedom and democracy. We honour women who gave their lives to liberate us and to remind the younger generation that the freedom we enjoy today was not free, and women were integral part of that struggle.

It is also an opportunity to reflect on the achievements we have made towards gender equality since the dawn of democracy. While we have made huge strides as a country towards gender equality, statistics show women continue

to face disturbing levels of gender-based violence. It is unacceptable that 24 years into democracy, according to the Medical Research Council, about three women are killed by an intimate partner every single day.

This high level of violence against women cannot be solved by government alone. We should translate our anger into action and create platforms in our communities that will ensure no woman suffers from the scourge of abuse and violence again. For instance, we can join or establish structures such as street committees that work alongside

community police forums and the South African Police Service.

We should use these structures to address issues or circumstances that may make women and children more susceptible to crime in our communities. By regularly patrolling our areas and knowing your

neighbours, we can be able to identify and also intervene promptly if women and children report that they are being abused.

This is one way we can honour the women and many others who fought for us to be free today. It is now in the hands of our generation to carry the legacy of Mama Sisulu and move our country forward. As a country, we shall always be indebted to the women of 1956 and remain inspired to make our country better as they envisioned.

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Women stand on the shoulders of giants

By Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, Minister in The Presidency: Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation

The end of August should not mark the end of women activism. We are not women sometimes. We are women all the time. Women must continue to fight discrimination, patriarchy and gender-based violence beyond Women's Month.

The struggle for the emancipation of women in South Africa has a very long history and will continue for as long as women remain at the bottom of the social, cultural and economic hierarchical structures. We should derive inspiration from our forebears in women's struggle like Charlotte Maxeke, Lilian Ngoyi, Helen Joseph, Dorothy Nyembe and many others who stood firm against oppression. They raised their fists in the face of persecution, banishment and even death.

As we celebrate women in South Africa, let us take a moment to reflect on the legacy of the formidable women who have led from the front. One of the towering figures in the liberation struggle and the struggle for the emancipation of women in particular, is Mama Charlotte Makgomo Maxeke, who formed the Bantu Women's League (BWL) in 1918. Mama Maxeke knew as far back as 100 years ago that our history of colonial domination, dispossession and discrimination disadvantaged women more than men. She also knew that women were their own liberators.

She was courageous enough to confront patriarchy when it was not fashionable to do so. Mama Maxeke inspired generations of women who continue with the struggle against patriarchy and the collective struggle of black women in particular. While both black and white women were both victims of patriarchy, black women had the additional burden of being oppressed by their white counterparts. They had to contend with the ordeal of being women and being black in a patriarchal and racially stratified society.

While we commemorate the 100th anniversary of the BWL, this year also recognises the centenary of Mama Albertina Sisulu, a liberation struggle stalwart and fearless champion of human rights. Mama Sisulu spent the largest part of her life as an anti-apartheid and human rights activist. Her activism dates back to the 1940s, when she was the only woman to have attended the ANC Youth League's conference.

The occasion to celebrate the life of Mama Sisulu offers us an opportunity to take a retrospective view on the road we have travelled in pursuit of a democratic and non-sexist



society. One of the key landmarks that epitomise women's struggle in South Africa is the historic anti-pass march of 1956, when about 20 000 women across the colour bar objected to the extension of pass laws.

Mama Sisulu was one of the key organisers of this historic march. They found innovative ways of mobilising women from different parts of the country and ensured that they made means to travel to Pretoria. They marched to the Union Buildings chanting, "*Wathint' abafazi, Wathint' imbokodo!*" (You strike women, you strike a rock) and prevented the draconian apartheid laws from reducing women's lives into a small booklet. This recorded a major victory in the struggle against apartheid.

It marked the falling of one of the most tenacious bastions of apartheid, and gave an early indication that the nationalist regime was not invincible. Most importantly, it demonstrated the formidable power that women possess when united.

This is the power that must be transferred to generations of South African women. Mama Sisulu's tenacity and fortitude epitomises the power of women.

Since the dawn of democracy in 1994, the government of the Republic of South Africa embarked on a transformation agenda, which includes the empowerment of women as well as promotion of gender equality. These interventions have recorded some pockets of success, but the women's struggle continues. If it were up to us, everyday would be Women's Day.

It is no coincidence that Mama Sisulu's centenary is observed throughout the year, just like her male counterpart in the Struggle – former President Nelson Mandela. Mama Sisulu and Madiba are joined to the hip by their common histories. Apart from the fact that they were both born in 1918, which is why we are celebrating their anniversary this year, they also became active in the liberation struggle at a very young age when the prospects of jettisoning apartheid seemed like a mirage.

In 1994, Mama Sisulu uttered the simple yet evocative words that would be entrenched in the annals of history. I still have a vivid memory of her rising in Parliament and her saying, "Mister Chairman, I nominate Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela for election as President. Thank you." These words still reverberate up to this day and I am quite confident that this momentous occasion is still etched in our collective memory as a nation. She changed the course of history when she ushered in Madiba as the first democratically elected President of South Africa.

Conversely, Madiba held Mama Sisulu in high esteem. He aptly described her as the "mother of all our people." At the time of Mama Sisulu's passing in June 2011, Madiba delivered a poignant eulogy that touched many of us: "You provided leadership and exercised power with quiet dignity. Through your selflessness and dedication, through your moral authority and sincere humanity, during and after the Struggle, you rightly earned to be the mother of all our people."

The mutual respect and admiration that radiated between Madiba and Mama Sisulu is indicative of the humility and the selflessness of these giants of our liberation struggle. It is such a fortunate coincidence that while this year marks the 100th anniversary of the formation of the BWL, it also marks the centenaries of both Mama Sisulu and Madiba.

Mama Sisulu straddles two crucial eras in the history of socio-political developments in South Africa. She was championing the cause of freedom and the agenda of women empowerment alongside other Struggle icons such as Lilian Ngoyi, Charlotte Maxeke, Helen Joseph, Dorothy Nyembe and many other stalwarts. Women of my generation looked up to Mama Sisulu and her contemporaries as exemplary women activists.

I still have a vivid memory of her rising in Parliament and her saying, "Mister Chairman, I nominate Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela for election as President. Thank you."

These women were in the coalface of everyday struggles. The late scholar, Prof Mbulelo Mzamane, eloquently captures the essence of the crudities and brutalities that women were exposed to when he says: "they have known the agony and the ecstasy.

They have known treachery, rejection and betrayal." Mama Sisulu faced these dire circumstances and more. She strove and rose above the social, political and economic pressures placed upon her and other women. She was also a towering figure in South Africa's transformation from the racially stratified apartheid state to the democratic order.

The celebration of Mama Sisulu's life serves as a salient reminder that women were an integral part of the Struggle. Their role was not limited to preparing lunchboxes and raising children while their partners went to war. They were in the frontline trenches of the liberation struggle alongside their male counterparts. It also poses a challenge to future generations of women to continue with their efforts to empower themselves and redefine their role in society.

Mama Sisulu and all other pioneers of women's struggle are the giants on whose shoulders we must stand. Let us take the baton from Mama Sisulu, Mama Winnie Mandela and Mama Sobukwe, and continue with the race towards the emancipation of women. *Igama lamakhosikazi malibongwe!*

President Cyril Ramaphosa launches sanitation project

By Balosang Sanki Lerefolo



On Tuesday, 14 August 2018 President Cyril Ramaphosa launched the Sanitation Appropriate for Education (SAFE) Initiative at the Sheraton Hotel in Pretoria. The SAFE Initiative – led by the Department of Basic Education in partnership with the National Education Collaboration Trust, Nelson Mandela Foundation and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) – is a direct response school sanitation challenges facing some of the country's poorest schools.

Basic Education Minister Angie Motshekga was humbled by the immense support and interest in the SAFE Initiative, which raised over R45 million and a number of pledges in the form of professional services.

Some of those who contributed on the day included Avbob, Intsika, Anglo American, Lonmin, Unilever, UNICEF, Sasol, Industrial Development Corporation, Indigo Kulani Group, South African Institute of Architects, Tile Africa and Amalooloo. It is anticipated that many others will fund this initiative in the future.

"This is an initiative that will save lives and restore the dignity of tens of thousands of our nation's children, as our Constitution demands."

In the spirit of former President Nelson Mandela, President Ramaphosa implored the business community to partner with government through their Corporate Social Investment to assist in restoring the dignity to children by eradicating pit latrines in schools. This will ensure that children are able to relieve themselves safely and in a dignified space in schools.

President Ramaphosa explained that through direct contributions to the SAFE Initiative, companies would be supporting the construction of models of new technology toilets as a core component of the plan for each school. Secondly, companies can adopt a group of schools as model schools for joint sanitation-water-energy off-grid solutions. Thirdly, companies can be part of building a South African base for the industrialisation of these new technologies for local and global markets.

Currently, 3 898 schools require appropriate sanitation interventions and in many of these, there is no reticulated water available. A portion of these will be dealt with in the

current financial year through provincial education budgets. However, to fast-track the complete eradication of pit latrines in schools requires more than what government coffers can provide.

"This is an initiative that will save lives and restore the dignity of tens of thousands of our nation's children, as our Constitution demands. The SAFE Initiative will spare generations of young South Africans the indignity, discomfort and danger of using pit latrines and other unsafe facilities in our schools," said President Ramaphosa, adding that schools should be places where children can be safe, supported, nurtured and empowered.

The President dedicated the SAFE Initiative to the memories of the two young children, Michael Komape and Lumka Mkhethwa, who died after drowning in unsafe pit latrines at schools. He has called on all sectors of our society to work together to ensure that such a deplorable and tragic incident does not occur again.

"We have heard the cries of anguished families, we have felt the outrage of a society that cannot bear to witness another needless death. It is our responsibility – as government, business, civil society, parents, teachers and communities – to act with purpose, urgency and unity," said President Ramaphosa.

The President is confident that through the SAFE Initiative, all can work together to help restore the dignity of learners, mostly in rural and township schools, by providing age-appropriate sanitation facilities.



Performance awards for road transport agency employees

By Mmenyane Seoposengwe

The Cross-Border Road Transport Agency (C-BRTA) held its annual Staff Performance Awards to recognise exemplary employees who demonstrated a commitment to the pursuit of excellence, and a level of performance that exceeds the values and standards of the agency. Established in 1998, the C-BRTA marks the 20th anniversary in 2018, which is the same year as the centenary of former President Nelson Mandela and liberation stalwart Mama Albertina Sisulu.

In her keynote address, the Deputy Minister of Transport, Ms Sindisiwe Chikunga, encouraged participants to emulate the noble values of service by these two Struggle icons and commit to giving themselves in mobilising all sectors of society to act against gender-based violence and discrimination in all its forms.

The Deputy Minister further emphasised the principle observed by Madiba, that “what counts in life is not the mere fact that we lived, but it is what difference we have made to the lives of others that determines the significance of the life we lead”.

In honour of the Mama Sisulu’s theme of “A woman of fortitude”, the Albertina Sisulu Award was presented to two employees who demonstrated a high level of strength, power, audacity and resilience in overcoming their personal challenges.

C-BRTA CEO Sipho Khumalo noted that Mama Sisulu’s selfless sacrifice should never be forgotten and the C-BRTA should pledge to ease the burdens carried by women in the establishment of cross-border road transport businesses.

“We should in her name ensure that financial institutions across the region are geared towards lowering the costs of funds for women businesses in road transport. In the name of this leader and stalwart, let us commit to reducing taxes and tariffs for women-run cross-border transport businesses in both freight and passenger transportation.”

A donation of R10 000 was made to the Albertina Sisulu Foundation, in recognition of its strides.



Mama Albertina Sisulu – A woman of fortitude

By Nomaxabiso Tata

On 26 July 2018, the Sisulu family, members of the public, students and dignitaries gathered at the Walter Sisulu University (WSU) in the Eastern Cape for a Memorial Lecture to celebrate the life and times of liberation stalwart, Mama Albertina Nontsikelelo Sisulu. Ironically, not only was she the wife of her fellow activist husband Walter Sisulu, whom the institution is named after, but their daughter, Ambassador Sheila Sisulu, is the Chancellor of the WSU.



Acting Director-General (ADG) of Government Communication and Information System accounts and reflects on the values of Mama Sisulu with UCRFM.

The Memorial Lecture, which was delivered by retired Constitutional Court Judge Yvonne Mokgoro, formed part of the centenary celebration for Mama Sisulu and was a forerunner to Women's Month in August.



CEO of Nelson Mandela Museum, Mr Bonke Tyhulu, shares his expectations of the lecture live on UCRFM.

In her prelude, Judge Mokgoro mentioned that in her own life, she makes a conscious effort to emulate the life of Mama Sisulu in excellence, decorum, humility, stewardship and most importantly, serving with love.

She said these were notable characteristics of Mama Sisulu; a bright leader who yearned each day to better the lives of the people around her and beyond.



Top: MEC for Sports Arts and Culture, Ms Bulelwa Tunyiswa, celebrates with Judge Mokgoro and Prof Rob Midgley enjoy the music.

Bottom: The youth share a traditional dance segment.



A praise poet renders an item to celebrate Judge Yvonne Mokgoro.

“Mama Sisulu held forthright a beacon of hope for women living in the Struggle, never negating her own family and own struggles, but ensured to lead from every centre of life she found herself in,” Judge Mokgoro said.



Top: ADG of the GCIS, Ms Phumla Williams, sitting in the audience as the lecture commences.

Bottom left: Judge Yvonne Mokgoro shares the life and times of Mama Sisulu.

Bottom right: Zama Nako receives the lecture and responds accordingly.



She said Mama Sisulu, who assumed political leadership in the 1950s, not only found herself in tumultuous circumstances of her own life, but should be applauded for going the extra mile to create a better society for other women.

Judge Mokgoro urged the audience to take the baton left by forebearers like Mama Sisulu and confront social disparities such as abject poverty; and also strive for social cohesion. WSU Student Representative Council member Zama Nako



Top: In conversation, from left: Judge Yvonne Mokgoro, Ms Zama Nako and Dr Chue Serote.

Bottom left: Judge Mokgoro receives gifts from the WSU.

Bottom right: WSU gives the Sisulu Family artwork designed by fine arts student, Wonga.



also reflected on the many gains made for women since the advent of democracy. She said that despite the strides, patriarchy still exists. According to her, the gender dimension is crucial given the texture of Mama Sisulu's life story as an African liberal feminist.

The lecture holistically sampled some of the values that are conspicuously evident of Mama Sisulu's life story, as a foothold for inspiration and a further Call-to-Action in safeguarding her legacy. This Call-to-Action happens in a context of a country that is increasingly becoming unsafe for women and children, with unacceptably high incidences of violence against women and children.



Mama Sisulu celebrated during Women's Month 2018

By Thandiwe Maimane

Joining the nation in dedicating Woman's Month 2018 to Mama Albertina Nontsikelelo Sisulu, the Department of Energy (DoE) organised two events for women from the energy sector. The first event brought together women from the sector to engage in a Women's Dialogue that was also addressed by the Minister of Energy, Mr Jeff Radebe.

Themed "100 years of Albertina Sisulu: Women United in Moving South Africa Forward," the dialogue set out to challenge women to share their experiences of the sector.

Participants and panel speakers comprised women from the industry, business, entrepreneurs, academia and youth who deliberated on the similarities of women's struggles across the ages. They recognised and paid homage to the incredible sacrifices made by women like Mama Sisulu, who laid the foundation for today's women to be able to stand alongside men working towards accelerating South Africa's growth and development among the world's nations.

Mama Sisulu's granddaughter, Ms Nontsikelelo Sisulu-Singapi, spoke about her namesake's personal strength, dedication to her broader community and her sense of comradeship with her peers. She spoke of how her grandmother always acknowledged that her achievements were shared with many other women with whom she fought in the struggle for liberation.

Recognising the importance of women's participation in the workplace, Minister Radebe referred to studies that showed the positive impact that women make on company boards, and how equity for women in the economy could significantly impact on the global annual gross domestic product by between US\$12 and US\$28 trillion.

He said based on this kind of evidence, investing in the advancement and participation of women in the energy sector was not only the right thing to do but, a smart economic decision.

In the second event, about 300 women from the nuclear sector met at the Women in Nuclear South Africa (WiNSA) conference. The women also chose to celebrate the life of Mama Sisulu, whose training as a nurse makes her an ally, as medicine is one of the many fields which use nuclear technology.

The auditorium was packed with highly qualified women from the myriad areas of nuclear science. They listened to acclaimed researcher and head of Nuclear Medicine at the University of Pretoria, Prof Mike Sathekge – one of the few men who speak at this conference – outlining the high numbers and positions held by women in the area of nuclear medicine. The intriguing question is: if there are so many well qualified women in the sector, why is it that they are not visible in the public spaces? The quick answer would be around institutionalised patriarchy, as well as the need for women to appreciate that there is strength in numbers and unity.

In her address, the Deputy Minister of Energy, Ambassador Thembi Majola, encouraged the women to work hard towards building WiNSA's profile and influence not only within the nuclear and energy sectors but to collaborate across related business sectors. Women from various areas of the nuclear and energy value chain spoke of their own experiences in setting up enterprises within the sector, as well as paving their own path to overcome corporate prejudice towards women's growth and development.



Noting the supportive role played by the South African Young Nuclear Professions Society and Nuclear Industry Association of South Africa, and the active involvement of the DoE, including its state-owned entities – the South African Nuclear Energy Corporation, National Nuclear Regulator and National Radioactive Waste Disposal Institute – WiNSA is assured of the necessary collaborations that will serve them well in taking the organisation forward. This involves working towards empowering women in the nuclear sector as well as playing a pivotal role in educating the public, including South African women and the youth, on all nuclear-related matters.

Above all, WiNSA must advocate for the transformation of South Africa's nuclear industry supply chain, promotion of women and youth skills development, and the preservation of Nuclear Knowledge and Expertise, while emphasising the importance and benefits of Nuclear Science and Technology Applications in everyday life.

Adding her voice of encouragement to WiNSA members, Dr Gabriele Voight, President of WiN-Global, a worldwide non-

profit making association of women working professionally in various fields of nuclear energy and radiation applications, shared her experiences of the amount of work, self-dedication and sacrifice it takes for the organisation to be effective at an international level.



She reminded WiNSA of the international recognition bestowed upon them when they hosted one of the most successful conferences in 2013, and also assured them of WiN-Global's support into the future.

South Africa's leading and emerging women scientists honoured

By Hlengiwe Nhlabathi



It was a night of glitz and glamour as women doing great work in the fields of science, technology and innovation were honoured at an awards ceremony dedicated to remembering the sacrifices made by extraordinary women such as Struggle icon Mama Albertina Sisulu.

The 15th edition of the South African Women in Science Awards (SAWiSA) was hosted by the Minister of Science and Technology, Ms Mmamoloko Kubayi-Ngubane, on 23 August under the theme “100 years of Mama Albertina Sisulu: Women united in moving South Africa forward”.



The theme evoked Mama Sisulu's courage as a unifying leader during the apartheid era. In 1965, Mama Sisulu was instrumental in leading about 20 000 women from across South Africa to march on the Union Buildings in Pretoria in protest against the law requiring black women to carry passes.

Minister Kubayi-Ngubane described Mama Sisulu as someone who was passionate about women's emancipation, their role in shaping society for the future and the importance of good education. Presenting the awards to 29 women scientists and researchers, she said it was befitting that

this year's SAWiSA was dedicated to remembering the sacrifices Mama Sisulu made towards building a society that recognises the crucial role that women play in all fields of human endeavour.

Since their inception in 2003, the awards have showcased outstanding work by South African women scientists and encouraged more young women to pursue careers in research – and in the process have become symbolic of the country's celebration of Women's Month. The awards were previously known as the Women in Science Awards; their name change, to the SAWiSA, was announced by Minister Kubayi-Ngubane to over 200 invited guests at The Ranch Hotel in Polokwane.

This was the first time that the prestigious event was held in Limpopo, a province rich in archaeological and historical sites. The event also took place a month after the Department of Science and Technology (DST) launched the 64-antenna MeerKAT radio telescope. To celebrate this milestone for science and astronomy in the country, the Commemorative MeerKAT Award was introduced as a new category.

The inaugural MeerKAT Award went to Prof Renée Kraan-Korteweg from the University of Cape Town. Prof Kraan-Korteweg is the Chair of the South African Astronomy Advisory Council, Vice-President of the International Astronomical Union (IAU), and incoming Chair of the Steering Committee of the IAU's Office of Astronomy for Development. Her main research interests are in the distribution and flows of galaxies in the nearby Universe, and she is playing a leading role in studies aimed at mapping galaxies hidden by the Milky Way.

In paying homage to Mama Sisulu's legacy, Minister Kubayi-Ngubane also announced the establishment of a new research chair in nursing care that will form part of the DST's South African Research Chairs Initiative (SARChI). The SARChI chair in nursing care will be awarded to a university linked to a relevant health facility such as a hospital.

“It should be remembered that Mama Sisulu trained as a nurse and encouraged graduates to use their education to improve people's lives. The new chair will deepen research in nursing policy and/or practice and contribute to the advancement of healthcare and the betterment of society,” the Minister said.

The department, in partnership with its entity the National Research Foundation (NRF), established SARCHI in 2006 to attract and retain excellence in research and innovation at South African public universities. The chairs are expected to produce high-quality postgraduate students, research and innovation outputs. Minister Kubayi-Ngubane committed the department to initiating the process of making the new chair active as soon as possible, adding that it would be subject to an authoritative peer-review process run by the NRF.

To help keep Mama Sisulu's legacy alive for future generations, the Minister also announced the renaming of the DST Fellowships to the DST-Albertina Sisulu Fellowships. This awards category not only recognises outstanding ability but also helps to boost women's research experience and outputs by providing funds to support activities such as conference attendance and the acquisition of specialised research skills or materials. Recipients are currently working full-time towards a master's or doctoral degree. One of the awards is specifically in the area of indigenous knowledge systems.

The SAWiSA 2018 winners

The winners of the 2018 DST-Albertina Sisulu Master's Fellowships – now worth R50 000, increased from R35 000 – were Innocensia Mangoato, a pharmacology student at the University of the Free State, who is researching the use of traditional medicines in treating cancer; Kgothatso Tlhapi, a food technology student at Tshwane University of Technology, who is conducting the first South African study on the use of mango kernel oil in food applications; and Kelly Schwarz, a biochemistry student at Rhodes University, who aims to open new avenues for the development of improved anti-cancer therapies.

The value of the DST-Albertina Sisulu Doctoral Fellowships was also increased this year, from R45 000 to R60 000. Among the recipients was Zakeera Docrat from Rhodes University, whose research supports the incorporation of African languages into South Africa's court system and law curriculums at universities. This is in line with a proposal by a parliamentary portfolio committee chairperson that all LLB students be required to learn an African language.

Isa Lambrechts, a medical plant sciences student at the University of Pretoria, joined the Doctoral Fellowship winners with her ground-breaking research on the use of an

indigenous local plant for the treatment of acne, while crop sciences student, Tiisetso Mpai from Tshwane University of Technology, hopes to solve the problem of native-plant extinction and low soil fertility in the Cape fynbos. Lastly, University of Pretoria genetics student Danielle Roodt is looking to pave the way for new products and applications in the forestry industry with her research into the genetics of wood.



The Tata Africa Scholarships, now increased from R60 000 to R75 000, were awarded to doctoral students Edith Phalane from North-West University, Tshwane University of Technology's Mapula Razwinani, and the University of KwaZulu-Natal's Precious Sikhosana. The master's scholarship winners were Olayile Ejekwu from Wits University, and Sonia Kiangala and Sikelelwa Ndiweni, both from Unisa.



Four women took top honours in the Distinguished Women Scientists categories: Prof Keolebogile Motaung and Dr Lucia Steenkamp (in the category of Research and Innovation), Prof Nokuthula Sibiyi (Humanities and Social Sciences), and Dr Mathabatha Setati (Natural and Engineering Sciences).

In the Distinguished Young Women Scientists categories, the winners were Prof Ilani Loubser (Astronomy), Prof Nicolene Barkhuizen (Humanities and Social Sciences), and Prof Adrienne Edkins (Natural and Engineering Sciences).

Mandela Day Marathon organising committee congratulates winners of 2018 race

By Lennox Mabaso



The Mandela Day Marathon Organising Committee has applauded the winners and supporters of this year's race, whose main 42.2 km distance once again covered the iconic route between Edendale and the Mandela Capture Site outside Howick in KwaZulu-Natal for the seventh time.

The Mandela Day Marathon Organising Committee comprises representatives of the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (Cogta) and uMgungundlovu District Municipality, who have jointly co-organised the race since its inception in 2012.

"Some 24 000 registered runners have 'run the legacy' in various disciplines during Nelson Mandela's centenary year, creating a unique, once-in-a-lifetime experience for everyone present. The human spirit has once again triumphed," said KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Cogta, Ms Nomusa Dube-Ncube.



The winners of the main 42.2 km race were Sintayehu Legese Yinesu (Ethiopia) in the men's category and Loice Jebet (Kenya) in the women's category. The winners of the

21.1 km race are Bernard Bii (Kenya) in the men's category and Mamorallo Tjoka (Lesotho) in the women's category.

The second and third winners in the main 42.2 km race were Mabuthile Lebopo (Lesotho) and Mark Oyugu (Kenya), respectively, in the men's race and Selam Abere Alebachew (Ethiopia) and Tsega Galani Reta (South Africa), respectively, in the women's race.



"The Mandela Day Marathon has again demonstrated our capacity to organise world-class sporting events that not only bring people together for a common purpose but also provide much-needed economic opportunities for our communities and municipalities in KwaZulu-Natal," said Ms Dube-Ncube.

The annual Mandela Day Marathon aims to celebrate and preserve the legacy of former President Nelson Mandela but also provide business and jobs for the local communities in the uMgungundlovu district. The marathon is also helping to market KwaZulu-Natal as a tourist and investment destination.

"Our cheers go to all winners and participants of this year's marathon. As exciting as it is to win a sporting event of this nature, the best experience is to participate. We also applaud all visitors who have come to cheer these athletes," said uMgungundlovu District Mayor, Cllr Thobekile Maphumulo.

The seventh edition of the Mandela Day Marathon exceeded all expectations in terms of participants' numbers and facilities available to athletes and observers. The 2018 marathon has also benefited from the multi-year R6-million sponsorship deal with ABSA, which was entered into last year.

Results of other races are available at:
www.mandelamarathon.co.za

Gauteng Sports Awards in honour of Albertina Sisulu

By Kenetswe Mosenogi



In the spirit of highest respect in memory of one of the nation's foremost women Struggle icons, represented on the night by Zoya Sisulu (third from right in main group), South Africa's first woman Sport and Recreation Minister, Ms Tokozile Xasa MP, (second from left in main group) bestowed Albertina Sisulu Special Recognition Awards on Anrune Liebenberg (far left), Zanele Situ (in wheelchair), Louzanne Coetzee, Natalie du Toit and Kgothatso Montjane (represented by Anthony Moruthane) in a fitting occasion to mark Sport and Recreation South Africa's celebration of the Albertina Sisulu Centenary, at the 2018 Gsport Awards, hosted at the Wanderers Club in Illovo, Johannesburg, on 31 August 2018. Photo: Gsport

The Gsport Awards, the country's longest running women's sport event, was hosted at the Wanderers Club in Johannesburg on Friday, 31 August 2018 by the Minister of Sport and Recreation, Ms Tokozile Xasa. The awards were hosted in partnership with the Gsport for Girls Trust and Sport and Recreation South Africa (SRSA). Importantly, the awards became the dusking curtain for a month-long programme of SRSA, with special dedication to Mama Albertina Sisulu. Befitting to Mama Sisulu's honour, five outstanding South African sportswomen with disabilities, who have overcome all odds to achieve on the global sporting stage, were conferred with the Albertina Special Recognition Award. They are international swimming icon Natalie du Toit, South Africa's first black Paralympic gold medallist Zanele Situ, Rio Paralympic silver medallist Anrune Liebenberg, South Africa's number one wheelchair tennis star Kg Montjane and visually impaired 5 000 metre world champion Louzanne Coetzee.

Mama Sisulu's granddaughter, Ms Zoya Sisulu, speaking on behalf of the family, indicated the following about her grandmother: "I think she is in great company amongst you all; amongst trailblazers. It is great to have her recognised, and to have women uplifted and recognised for their contribution to the Struggle.

"Being Women's Month, I think it is important to recognise the Women's March and what can be achieved by women when they act collectively, when they are moving with purpose towards a goal. This platform shows the power of collaboration and coordination."

The event concluded with Minister Xasa honouring formidable women in sport and awarding them with five Ministerial Recognition Awards: The recipients were Rikenette Steenkamp, Saray Khumalo, Palesa Manaleng, Mbali Zantsi and Blanche Moila.

During her opening remarks, the Minister said: "Tonight's Gsport Awards are in honour of Mama Sisulu. Mama Sisulu's political struggles resonate well with sport women, who continue to face difficult choices, to choose to be an athlete or to be a mother, to be an athlete or to be a wife.

"Tonight, we celebrate women of fortitude who succeeded against all odds inspired by the generation of Mama Sisulu when they spoke truth to power. That generation that told Prime Minister Hans Strydom, *Wathint' bafazi wathint' imbokodo*, those women who refused to carry passbooks and engraved their names in the history of the Struggle. Therefore, tonight we are here to engrave your names in the history books of sport that future generations can look back with pride that they are what they are because of you," Minister Xasa said.

The evening started off in the best possible fashion when South African greats, Natalie du Toit and Blanche Moila, presented Minister Xasa with a commemorative plaque in celebration of her becoming the first woman Minister of Sport in South Africa.



2018 Gsport Awards winners take in the moment at the conclusion of the night's broadcast in which champions of women's sport in South Africa were recognised for outstanding work driving the movement forward. Photo: Gsport

Winners at the 2018 Gsport Awards:

| Award | Winner |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1. Volunteer of the Year | Mpho Makhoba |
| 2. Sports Federation of the Year | Golf RSA |
| 3. Supporter of the Year | Shannon Landman-Kriel |
| 4. Sponsor of the Year | Private Property |
| 5. Woman of the Year | Caster Semenya |
| 6. Albertina Sisulu Special Recognition Awards | Zanele Situ |
| 7. Albertina Sisulu Special Recognition Awards | Anrune Liebenberg |
| 8. Albertina Sisulu Special Recognition Awards | Kgothatso Montjane |
| 9. Albertina Sisulu Special Recognition Awards | Louzanne Coetzee |
| 10. Albertina Sisulu Special Recognition Awards | Natalie du Toit |
| 11. Woman in PR & Sponsorship | Lali Stander |
| 12. Woman in Print | Frennie Shivambu |
| 13. Woman in Social Media | Cheryl Roberts |
| 14. Woman in Radio | Rachel Makhura |
| 15. Woman in TV | Lebo Motsoeli |
| 16. Style Star | Vaylen Kirtley |
| 17. Special Recognition Award | Mpho Makhoba |
| 18. School Sports Star | Gontse Morake |
| 19. Coach of the Year | Karin le Roux |
| 20. Sasol Emerging Athlete | Tatjana Schoenmaker |
| 21. Athlete with Disability | Zanele Situ |
| 22. Team of the Year | Momentum Proteas |
| 23. Public Choice Award | Kesa Molotsane |
| 24. Gsport Athlete of the Year | Caster Semenya |
| 25. Hall of Fame Award | Thelma Achilles |
| 26. Minister's Recognition of Excellence | Rikenette Steenkamp |
| 27. Minister's Recognition of Excellence | Saray Khumalo |
| 28. Minister's Recognition of Excellence | Palesa Manaleng |
| 29. Minister's Recognition of Excellence | Mbali Zantsi |
| 30. Minister's Recognition of Excellence | Blanche Moila |

Kisua launches the Centenary T-shirts collection to raise funds for the Albertina Sisulu Nursing Bursary Fund

By Ayanda Sisulu



Ahead of the auction of historic photographs and artefacts from the Sisulu Family Archives, there was a brief speech by the CEO of the Charities Aid Foundation SA, Gill Bates, who announced that they would be assisting the Sisulu family to establish a Walter and Albertina Sisulu Foundation, and further provided details on how the funds raised during this initiative would be administered.

As the evening progressed, Ntsiki Sisulu, the eldest Sisulu granddaughter and active promoter of Mama Sisulu's legacy, shared with guests a message of gratitude on behalf of the family, and urged attendees to participate in the auction.

Yirha Sisulu, a great-granddaughter of Mama Sisulu, provided guests with an impromptu rendition of Alicia Keys as guests danced the night away.

The event raised more than R100 000 for the Nursing Bursary Fund through the auction and sales of merchandise, and was facilitated by the popular talk show host, Phemelo Motene, who was fully decked out in Kisua clothing.

The launch of the centenary T-shirts collection occurred on 23 August 2018 at the Kisua store in Sandton City. The partnership between Kisua and the Sisulu family aims to raise funds for the Albertina Sisulu Nursing Bursary Fund, which supports two of her value pillars: Health – Leadership and Service with Integrity and Dignity and Education and Youth – Educating the Youth to Awaken to their Greatness.

The event was not only held to unveil the centenary T-shirt collection, but also to auction historic photographs of Mama Sisulu and put on display copies of the Albertina Sisulu books to raise funds for the bursary fund initiative.



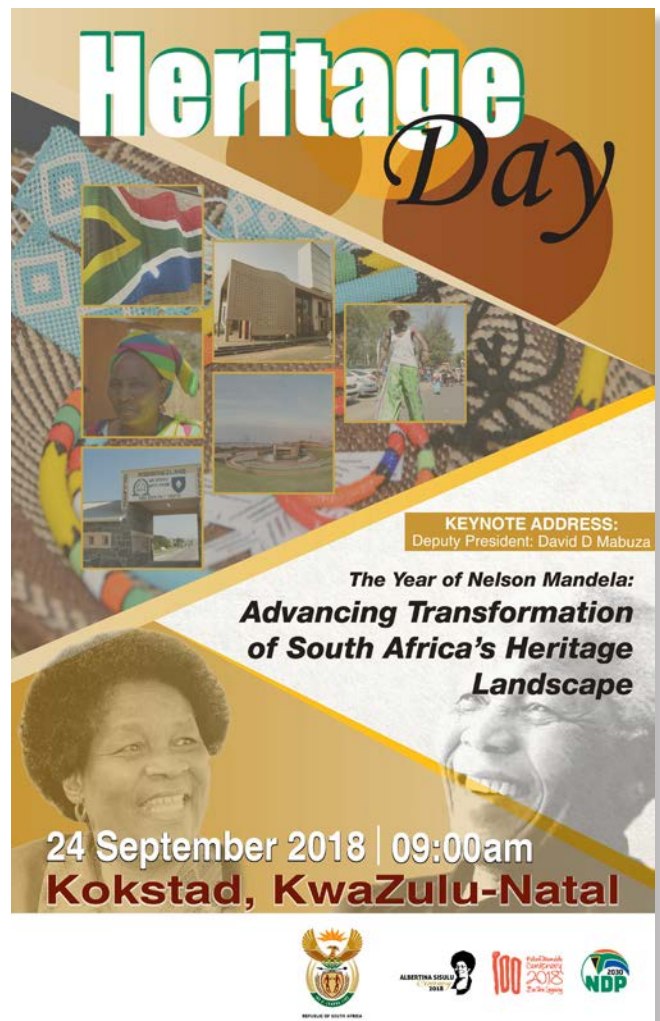
UPCOMING EVENTS



21 September: Will mark 30 days countdown to the centenary day celebration of Mama Sisulu. Follow the hashtag #MaSisulu100 on different social media platforms for more information.



23-28 September: Sport and Recreation South Africa, in partnership with the Limpopo Provincial Government, will host the Indigenous Games Festival at Seshego Stadium. Different provinces across South Africa are expected to send their teams to participate in a number of traditional games such as *Dibeke*, *Intonga*, *Drie Stokkies*, *Kho-Kho*, *Ncuva* and *Morabaraba*.



27 September: President Cyril Ramaphosa will address the National Heritage Day main event in Kokstad, KwaZulu-Natal on 27 September 2018, under the theme: "The Year of Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela: Advancing Transformation of South Africa's Heritage Landscape".

CONTACT US

We welcome your inputs and contributions.

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