



## Communist Party of Swaziland

### Swazi police assault and arrest community activist in Mkhitsini community

**Monday, 6 December 2021:-** The royal police of Swaziland today, Monday 6 December 2021 at around 13:00, invaded the rural Mkhitsini community, intending to arrest community members fighting for justice in a land dispute.

Mkhitsini is a rural community in southern Swaziland in the Shiselweni region.

The fully armed police who imposed their wrath on the community with about nine vehicles, assaulted and detained one community member, Bongani Ngwenya, known as "Fisherman", at around 16:00.

He is held at the Nhlngano police station though the police have remained secretive about his whereabouts and whether they intend to charge him with any crime.

It is feared that the police will torture him overnight, as they have been doing to other detainees these days.

The land dispute in the area has already seen the killing of one community member by the local chief, the burning of the chief's property and killing of the chief's headman.

The police hunt for more community members continues into the night, however. More community members are still on the run, in fear of their lives.

The Communist Party of Swaziland calls for the unconditional and safe release of Bongani Ngwenya and calls upon more justice and peace loving people to fight for his release.

The continued police violence in Swaziland is in the context of a paranoid monarchist regime which is aware that its days are numbered.

The land in Swaziland remains under the absolute control of the monarch, through the chiefs at local level. Chiefs retain absolute powers in granting land or evicting community members without compensation, and this is often without access to court relief.

The CPS makes the further call for intensification of the **Democracy Now** campaign for the total overthrow of the ruling regime, for democracy.

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