



LICINISO

TRIBUTE TO AN INTERNATIONALIST PAR EXCELLENCE

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to border gates. I am not free
yet if my fellow brothers and
sisters are still oppressed.
The route of liberation chose me.
I will fight for my people selflessly."***



**Comrade
Amos "Messiah" Mbedzi
(18 August 1964 - 7 June 2022)**

EDITORIAL

My view of freedom is not limited to border gates. I am not free yet if my fellow brothers and sisters are still oppressed.

The route of liberation chose me.

I will fight for my people selflessly.



On the morning of Tuesday 7 June 2022, the Communist Party of Swaziland (CPS) learned of the sad news that South African internationalist Comrade Amos Mbulaheni “Messiah” Mbedzi (57) had died that morning.

Comrade Amos died in Polokwane Provincial Hospital, South Africa, while serving an 85-year sentence after conviction by the Mswati autocracy’s courts in 2012, following arrest on 20 September 2008.

Comrade Amos Mbedzi gave his life serving the people of Swaziland. He was charged under Swaziland’s draconian Terrorism Act. When the regime failed to prove terrorism, it ridiculously changed the charge to the murder of his two comrades, Musa “MJ” Dlamini and Jack Govender, who tragically lost their lives in September 2008 in a bomb blast. Comrade Amos survived the blast but was heavily injured. The regime also charged him with sedition, violation of Swaziland’s immigration law and unlawful possession of explosives.

Comrade Amos was convicted by the high court in Swaziland on 29 August 2012. On 17 September 2012, the court sentenced him to 85 years imprisonment. His conviction and sentence were confirmed by Swaziland’s highest court, the Supreme Court, on 9 December 2015.

Comrade Amos fell sick while serving his 85-year sentence. After long neglect by the Mswati autocracy collaborated with the South African state to secretly transfer him to South Africa in March this year, in a futile attempt to cleanse its bloodied hands, fearing that he might die while jailed in Swaziland.

The main thrust of the CPS’s message during the memorial and funeral services, held in Makonde village

in Limpopo, was based on the need to reflect on the life of Comrade Amos, particularly on what the progressive movement had done and what it had not done during the period when Comrade Amos was in jail. Additionally, the CPS General Secretary also pointed out the reality that there was still so much more work that needed to be done.

During the memorial service held on Saturday 11 June 2022, the CPS General Secretary conveyed the Party’s message of solidarity to Comrade Amos’ family. He stated that the reality that his family had endured years of hardship and agony while Comrade Amos was incarcerated.

He also added:

“I had the chance to meet him personally. I visited his office, related and discussed with him several times, including being a witness to some of his work and commitment. I also interacted with some of the members of his family while he was in jail in Swaziland.

“His situation was complicated. There are two conditions which I would speak about. There were things to be done and things not done. There were few things done and many not done. We should learn from what the children said here earlier. Through their words, they have exposed the complication of the institution of a state. If the majority felt, correctly so, that the incarceration of Comrade Amos was wrong, but the state had cooperated with another state to incarcerate Comrade Amos, then those lessons were very clear.

“We also came and also made our efforts on the calls for the release of Comrade Amos. We came here and organised a campaign for Comrade Amos Mbedzi’s release – the *Break the Chains Campaign*. Comrade Farisani supported the campaign through his resources and time, sometimes even compromising his health. But we also learned new complications about how that campaign was

attacked and undermined. At one point we learned that we were not wanted in South Africa as exiles. And that is how the campaign suffered.

“The reason the Swazi regime released Comrade Amos was to show how they had vandalised him. It was not a gesture of goodwill. They wanted to continue showing their brutality on him, proving to his children and family that they continued to wantonly harass him even in his death. As the children have said, even in Swaziland Comrade Amos still continues to inspire the youth. The young people of Swaziland still honour him. They keep calling for freedom in Swaziland, and Comrade Amos is an inspiration to them.

“As the CPS, we believe that we still owe him a proper obituary by fighting in the country against the Mswati autocracy. Some Swazis who were incarcerated have also been inspired by him to continue organising in the struggle. We must complete the obituary of this great man of our society.

“In some quarters in South Africa, Comrade Amos was castigated as someone who had acted in violation of the laws of South Africa. If that is the case, then South African law would be in conflict with the universal law that the people of Swaziland must be free from dictatorship. The people of Swaziland are not yet free, and we must continue the fight!”

CPS General Secretary also made an input during the funeral held the next day, Sunday 12 June 2022. Coincidentally, his funeral fell on the exact third anniversary of the funeral of Comrade Njabulo “Njefire” Dlamini who was buried on 12 June 2019. Comrade Njabulo was the International Organiser of the CPS and was highly respected across the working-class movement for his revolutionary work.

In his address during the funeral service, the General Secretary pointed the lessons to be learned from Comrade Amos’ life, particularly in understanding the correct line of march in the revolution, combining theory and practice.

He added:

“Comrade Amos Mbedzi died under difficult conditions. But his life and contribution to our struggle helped us to develop clarity on complicated problems of society, in particular issues of power and governance.

“As the CPS, we think that Comrade Amos is an important catalyst in the of comprehension, and combining, of theory and practice in struggle. He will remain that important catalyst, that in pursuit of our mission to free our country we will never ignore this important catalyst. The aspect of this catalyst is that once you have resolved through your consciousness that you are oppressed, your duty is to stand up and temper with the comfort of the dictator.

“We are also grateful that the family to this last hour can still stand up and speak very strongly and help us understand that Comrade Amos was one who always stood and never betrayed his consciousness.

“We must reflect on the situation of our country.



CPS General Secretary, Thokozane Kenneth Kunene, speaking at the memorial service. 11 June 2022

When we are free, our democratic state must remember Comrade Amos. Comrade Amos’ contribution to our struggle must never be forgotten!”

The CPS joined the SACP and the Swaziland Solidarity Network in launching the “Save Amos Mbedzi” campaign in Johannesburg, calling for his release and that of other political prisoners. The campaign was [launched](#) on 27 September 2012

To intensify the demand for the release of political parties in Swaziland, the CPS also participated in 2013 to launch the *Break the Chains Campaign*.

The *Break the Chains Campaign* was launched in Limpopo on 23 March 2013 at the campus of the University of Venda (as reported by SACP Alpheus Malivha 6th District Congress on 30 June 2014).

The campaign meant to advocate for the release of all political prisoners in Swaziland. The campaign was centred around Comrade Amos Mbedzi as its face and had Dr Tshenuwani Farisani as its convener. Dr Farisani is a former political prisoner, a politician who occupied several Cabinet posts in the Limpopo government including as a speaker of the Legislature and was a dean of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa and an author of several books.

The launch was hosted by the SACP in Limpopo Province.

The *Break the Chains Campaign* quickly gained ground. In June 2014, a rally calling for the release of Comrade Amos Mbedzi at Makonde stadium was a huge success. The event, hosted by the SACP Alpheus



Malivha District, was attended by over 1,500 people of the village and representatives from over 20 organisations who presented messages of support, all calling for a heightened action in support of the freedom struggle in Swaziland and the immediate release of Comrade Amos Mbedzi and all political prisoners and detainees in Swaziland.

In the Makonde rally, the ANC, represented by the Vhembe Regional Chairperson, Comrade Tshitereke Matibe who was also the Executive Mayor of Vhembe District Municipality, affirmed the ANC support to the *Break the Chains Campaign*.

The General Secretary of the CPS gave an analysis of the situation in Swaziland and how it connects with South Africa and the world at large. He stated that the Mswati autocracy is not only a dreadful condition to the working-class people of Swaziland, but also to South Africans and humanity at large. He called for the political, economic and social isolation of Mswati until he submits to the noble demands of the majority people of Swaziland.

The National Chairperson of the *Break the Chains Campaign*, Dr TF Farisani, appreciated the support the village of Makonde gave to the campaign. He outlined the positive developments of the campaign since its launch in March 2013. Dr Farisani assured the rally that freedom in Swaziland will come because the Mswati autocracy is using tactics that are not different from other dictatorships. He assured the rally that the Mswati autocracy will also crumble the same way the others were overcome.

Comrade Solly Mapaila, who was SACP 2nd Deputy General Secretary at the time, presented the message of the SACP during the rally. He emphasised the importance of community mobilisation to bring about real change to the working class. His input helped the community to understand the importance of international solidarity and to live to the true values of the congress movement that Africa will never be free until every part of its square meter achieves democracy; that the struggle of the African people was not yet over.



The struggle of the people of Swaziland continues to intensify. On the other hand, the regime's methods of brutality have likewise intensified. As the CPS has remained consistent in the call for the total overthrow of the monarchy, the people's consciousness has also increased the level where they are now demanding a democratic republic, in line with the CPS's "Democracy Now" campaign which the Party launched in 2019.

In this 16th issue of *Liciniso (Truth)*, we pay tribute to Comrade Amos Mbulaheni "Messiah" Mbedzi, an internationalist par excellence. A few pages alone are not enough, however, to describe the sterling contribution that Comrade Amos Mbedzi members made to our struggle for the total emancipation of humanity, including the emancipation of the people of Swaziland from absolute monarchy rule. More practical revolutionary work must be carried out to ensure that the memories of Comrade Mbedzi and his close comrade, Comrade Musa "MJ" Dlamini and Comrade Jack Govender, are never forgotten.

In mourning Comrade Amos, the CPS reiterated its call for the intensification of the struggle for freedom in Swaziland. The Party called for the unconditional unbanning of all political parties in Swaziland, the unconditional release of all political prisoners and detainees and the safe return of all exiles to their country Swaziland, the rights to freedoms of assembly, association, movement, speech, including free media.

Long live the undying spirit of Comrade Amos Mbulaheni Messiah Mbedzi!

Long live working-class internationalism!

OBITUARY

Amos Nangammbi Mbulaheni Mbedzi

(18 August 1964 – 7 June 2022)

Funeral: Sunday, 12 June 2022. Makonde village, Makonde Sports Ground, Thulamela Local Municipality, Vhembe District Municipality

Muhali wa Vhahali - "Messiah"

Early Years

Amos Mbulaheni Mbedzi was born on 18 August 1964 at Tshitungulwane Village, now known as Xigamani Village. Amos is the third child of the late Daniel Ndangani Mbedzi, who was fondly known as “Bra Dan”, and the late Khadzi Vho-Muofhe Tshisikhawe Netshitungulwane Mundalamo Tshishonge Mbedzi.

Within four years, in 1968, the people of Tshitungulwane Village were relocated to the current area, Xigamani in the Vuwani Magisterial District in Venda. The villages were swapped due to apartheid forced removals underpinned by “separate development”. As a result, the vhaVenda and vaTsonga people who were staying harmoniously together were separated in the assault on African unity by the highest stage of colonialism of a special type, apartheid, through its segregationist policies. His rejection of the apartheid regime resulted in him joining in the struggle against the historical injustice when he grew up.

In the family, Amos inherited the name Nangammbi from his late uncle, Mr Nangammbi Netshitungulwane, who had left South Africa to participate in the World War 2 against the fascism and never returned home to this day. This is an absolute sign that the revolutionary trait has always been within the blood of the family.

Amos the Scholar

Amos started schooling when the capitalist system experienced the oil crisis of the early 1970s. He attended primary school at Chiawelo Primary School in Soweto, Johannesburg, from 1973 to 1976. In 1977, he moved to Georgenholtz Primary school in Makonde Village, now in Thulamela Local Municipality, Vhembe District Municipality.

Amos finished his primary schooling in 1979. Afterwards, he attended secondary school at Raluvhimba Secondary School in Makonde Village from 1980 to 1981 and moved to Mphaphuli Secondary School from 1982 to 1985.

Amos the Worker

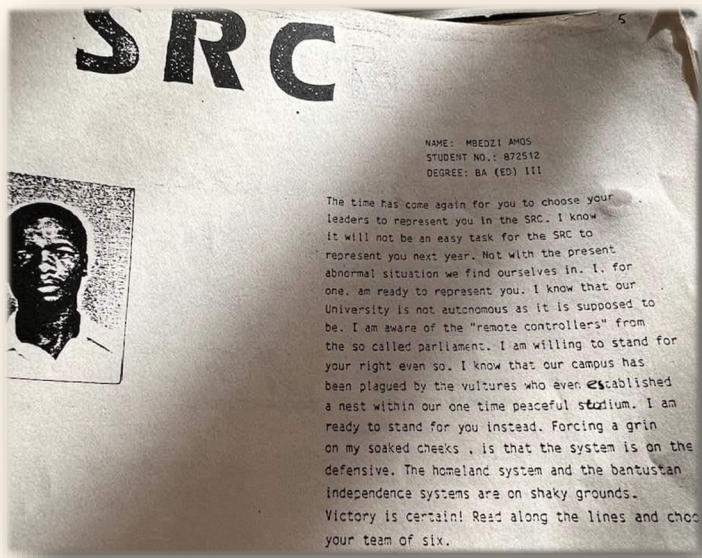
After passing his matric, the young and energetic Amos Nangammbi Mbulaheni Mbedzi worked for a year as a teacher, in 1986, to raise funds to further his studies.



Amos the Activist

A year later, in 1987, he gained admission at the University of Venda, pursuing his studies in BA (Education) degree. It was during this time that Nangammbi was baptised in politics through student activism. He was conscientised and joined the South African National Student Congress, SANSCO, and other student formations.

On the occasion of 68th Anniversary of the African National Congress, the ANC through its January 8th Statement declared the 1980 to 1990 as the Decade of Liberation. The declaration escalated internal mass mobilisation, armed struggle actions, international solidarity, and underground political work in the country. Within the continuum of mass mobilisation, the liberation movement, with the Tripartite Alliance of the ANC, the South African Communist Party (SACP) and the progressive trade union movement represented by the South African Congress of Trade Unions and after its founding in 1985 by the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) at the forefront, set up the organs of people’s power as an alternative to the apartheid regime and its bantustan authorities. This culminated in South Africa being rendered ungovernable, contributing to the transition to the democratic dispensation. It was in this context that comrade Amos Mbulaheni Mbedzi joined the struggle for liberation and universal social emancipation.



Amos the Student Leader

As a young student at Univen, he was part of the contingent of activists who, as part of fighting for People's Education for People's Power, led the student movement, SANSKO. In 1988, he was elected class representative and eventually a member of the Social Sciences Students Representative Committee. Comrade Amos Mbedzi continued to play this role in 1989.

He was instrumental in fighting the vestiges of racism within the social sciences and at Univen, contributing to the overall mass mobilisation programme of the liberation movement. This led to the anti-Venda Independence 10th Anniversary celebration campaign adopted in the Far Northern Transvaal.

Amos the Community Developer

Beyond student activism, comrade Amos Mbedzi was a cultural worker, struggling for People's Culture for People's Power. As a community and rural development activist, and a facilitator at Akanani Rural Development, he played a key role in mobilising and conscientising communities against the apartheid regime.

Comrade Amos Mbedzi's love for community development and cultural activism was high. This became clearer when he was working for Akanani Rural Development, together with the comrade Rashaka Ratshitanga, who is now a veteran of our struggle. Comrade Amos also co-founded a non-governmental organisation called the Rural Development Collective, which operated at the University of Venda.

Amos the Art Activist

In 1988, he became a founder member of the Congress of South African Writers Northern Transvaal Region (COSAW), which was launched a year later, in 1989. COSAW mobilised cultural workers and groups towards the liberation struggle by ensuring that they desist from participating in bantustan programmes. It affiliated to the Federation of South African Cultural Organisations (FOSACO), towards building People's Culture for People's Power.

Comrade Amos Mbulaheni Mbedzi was elected regional co-ordinator of FOSACO in the Northern Trans-

vaal Region. Together with comrade Shadrack Tshikalange and Azwinndini Muronga, he continued to dissuade cultural workers and groups from participating in apartheid bantustan programmes. Both FOSACO and COSAW, which could still operate, hosted other progressive structures in the region, sharing their resources and providing logistics in advancing the people's struggle and mobilisation in the region.

Amos the Youth Leader

At the height of repression by the Venda Police, comrade Amos joined and actively participated in the activities of the Makonde Youth Congress. He was a strong pillar, always ready to serve as part of the underground leadership collective. His love for revolutionary songs was very catalytic in ensuring that the youth swell the ranks of South African Youth Congress. It was therefore not surprising at all that comrade Amos and the other four leaders within the collectives hosted at the second floor of the VDC building in Thohoyandou left for exile in pursuit of the liberation struggle.

Amos the MK Soldier: Commissar Messiah

"All youth to the battle ground. All youth must join and strengthen uMkhondo weSizwe", the MK. When this clarion call to join and strengthen the joint ANC and SACP armed struggle formation, the people's liberation army, the MK, was made, comrade Amos did not hesitate to do so. His move for exile was precisely destined for joining the MK.

He trained in Dr Hugo Nkabinde camp in Uganda. He was one of the finest comrades in the political arena in the Bernie Molokoane detachment. After guerrilla warfare training, he underwent conventional training conducted by Transkei Defence force under former Transkei General Bantu Holomisa.

During his stay in the camp, he was deployed in propaganda where they were responsible for day-to-day assessment of African and World News and report to the camp at the 'GP' (Gathering Point).

He was with the likes of Cde 'Rash' Solly Mapaila at Propaganda. Dr Hugo Nkabinde camp was a real political school where every soldier would debate and process news as they were outlined.

He would ameliorate the living conditions of the life in the camps through his jokes and care less about the flatulence caused by the beans consumption we were accustomed to. He was not quite such a pedantic comrade but would obviate the undesirable environment in the camps through political engagement and discussions.

One of his strengths was adaptability. During the harshest period of mosquitoes in the camps where our bodies would desiccate any little moisture in our bodies where in you can write dry on our skin. At that period, he wouldn't be found in "Medico" where some of us would be daily guest of the centre.

At that time, the brutal apartheid regime was unleashing its most repressive operations and violence against the oppressed, the super-exploited, the discrim-

inated, the marginalised, the underdeveloped, the excluded, with more hatred, above all, against the communists. The apartheid regime intensified its state of emergency. It escalated its detentions without trial, which dated back to its banning of the Communist Party in 1950 under the Suppression of Communism Act and deepened and widened with the banning of the ANC and other formations ten years later, in 1960.

However, the apartheid regime had suffered a devastating blow, a monumental defeat by liberation forces, notably through Cuban intervention, in the battle of Cuito Cuanavale in Angola. Comrade Amos was inspired by the victory over the apartheid forces in the historical Battle of Cuito Cuanavale, which irreversibly strengthened and deepened his internationalist world outlook and commitment to international solidarity.

Because of its defeat in the Battle of Cuito Cuanavale, the apartheid regime was also forced to implement the United Nations resolution on the independence of Namibia. The defeat of the apartheid regime in the Battle of Cuito Cuanavale thus paved the way not only for resolving the Angolan situation but also for the independence of Namibia and the April 1994 democratic breakthrough in South Africa.

Return home from exile

After returning from exile, he integrated into the South African National Defence Force (SANDF). After resigning from the SANDF, comrade Amos continued to play a leading role in the structures of our movement, serving in the structures of the SACP and the ANC in pursuit of his commitment to the struggles of the workers and poor for a better life and universal emancipation.

Arrest in Swaziland

Continuing to advance his internationalism, Comrade Amos Mbedzi took part in active international solidarity with the people of Swaziland struggling for democracy and social emancipation. Mswati's autocratic regime in Swaziland did not like this. In September 2008, the regime arrested Comrade Amos and later unjustly convicted and sentenced him to 85 years imprisonment, comprising concurrent sentences. On the same day when he was detained, he had lost his two comrades, Comrade Musa "MJ" Dlamini, a member of People's United Democratic Movement (PUDEMO) of Swaziland, and Comrade Jack Govender, a member of the SACP, who was also a founding member of the Swaziland Solidarity Network (SSN).

In March 2022, the cruel autocratic regime of Mswati transferred Mbedzi to South Africa after consistently depriving him of access to healthcare, for a long time, resulting in his health and wellbeing deteriorating. The regime of the absolute monarch transferred comrade Amos Mbedzi "to complete his sentence in South Africa" after realising that its intransigent decision to deprive him of healthcare had caused ultimate deterioration in his health and wellbeing.

However, being ruthless, with a do-not-care approach to human rights, Mswati's autocratic regime did not transfer Mbedzi to South Africa without consistent public pressure, among others by the SACP, COSATU, PUDEMO, the Communist Party of Swaziland, the SSN, the

Young Communist League of South Africa, as well as by other human rights organisations and concerned South Africans and Swazi people. Mswati's courts are not independent. They are under the iron fist of the absolute monarch. Because of this, they had no slightest thinking of releasing Mbedzi on humanitarian grounds, considering his deteriorating health and wellbeing.

Amos the Internationalist

An African revolutionary, internationalist and communist till the end, South Africa's 1994 democratic breakthrough did not deter Comrade Amos Mbedzi from contributing to the struggle for a just world. He linked up with democracy activists from Swaziland, primarily PUDEMO, to provide international solidarity to the people of Swaziland struggling for democracy and complete social emancipation.

During his life, he also contributed to spreading the SSN, led by its chairperson, Comrade Solly Mapaila, the SACP First Deputy General Secretary, across the length and breadth of South Africa.

Family

Amos Nangammbi Mbulaheni Mbedzi is survived by his two children, Pfano (Princess) Lilian Mbedzi Williams and Doctor Mkhonotho Mbedzi and their mother Mrs Nndanduleni Roselyne Tshikhudo, his brothers Lufuno Aubry Mbedzi (Donngi) and Rudzani Mbedzi, and sisters Munzhedzi and Makhadzi Mbedzi.

In memory of Comrade Amos Mbedzi, we commit to continue to support the struggle by the people of Swaziland for the unconditional release of all political prisoners and unbanning of all political parties, freedom of speech, freedom of association, and political and other rights. This includes supporting the call for unconditional return of all political exiles, as well as the recognition and respect for people's rights to freedom of assembly, movement and free media.

The entire Mbedzi family, the entire family of the South African and Swaziland liberation movements, will always miss and remember comrade Amos, the father, the husband, the uncle, a stalwart of the liberation struggle.

Together standing in one voice, we will always remember Amos Nangammbi Mbulaheni Mbedzi by the following slogans he so dearly loved.

"I ya konda heyi ndila.... ina mipfa Iya vaya....

Ri do zabalaza..."

Comrade Solly Mapaila's speech at the funeral service of Comrade Amos Mbedzi

12 June 2022

“You have done it, Comrade Messiah. We thank you.”

“Here, comrades, lies indeed a selfless combatant for the freedom struggle of the people of South Africa, who paid a supreme sacrifice, the ultimate price for freedom for the noble struggle for all of humanity, a warrior against exploitation who was exploited, a warrior against oppression who suffered oppression, an activist of peace, freedom, and democracy and internationalist who was condemned by dictators, in particular King Mswati and his cohorts, who will pay when the dawn of freedom comes.”



movement.

I would also like to thank his General Peter Dambuzza, our Commander, for his efforts with the machinery that he had, for the role he played in Comrade Amos' life.

Comrade Amos Mbedzi was one of a kind, one of the many revolutionaries killed by the despotic Swazi government and specially by its leader, absolute monarch Mswati III. He was killed by the despotic Swazi government, especially by its leader Mswati III. We blame the Swazi government is to blame for denying him health care and assaulting and torturing his body. This is a matter that we will hold him accountable. They need to know that.

All dictators think that they will remain in power forever. That they do not learn. Things will change. They will pay for what they have done to Comrade Amos and to other comrades in Swaziland.

Today we are burying the mortal remains of one of our finest revolutionaries, one of the most accomplished internationalists of our generation. Amos Mbedzi reached the concrete highest heights of achievement that a revolutionary may attain. Internationalism is fighting the cause of the oppressed anywhere, and it matures in concrete theatres in struggle. Comrade Amos Mbedzi, Messiah, the “Lion of Mopane Mountain”. He was called the lion of Mopane

First and foremost, I would like to convey condolence to the family of Comrade Amos Mbulaheni Mbedzi. I would like to acknowledge the role played his family played to keep up his spirit. His son, Mkhonto Doctor and daughter Pfano, have done really well with their lives despite the hardships they faced over the years while their father was incarcerated. His wife has also done great work to stand by and keep Comrade Amos' spirit high.

I would also like to thank Comrade JB, as well as the late Comrade Mario Masuku and the rest of comrades who played a significant role behind the scenes while Comrade Amos was in jail.

The Mswati autocracy closed all avenues of support for Comrade Amos. Every support we tried was closed down by the regime. I must say to Comrade JB, in particular on the supportive role he played on bringing newspapers to him in prison. This meant a lot for Comrade while in prison. This will be easily understood by many of our MK combatants who were exiled. Receiving newspapers from back home was such a crucial part of the combatants, no matter how old the newspaper was. Updating ourselves about news from back home always had a healing and morale-boosting effect on all exiled cadres of our

Mountains. These are code names of our mountains here in Limpopo that we were training Swazi comrades. Some of them are here. In that, Cde Amos played a major role.

Amos Mbedzi will remain an everlasting monument, not only for peace, democracy, freedom, and internationalism but for humanism. Sometimes it was very difficult when we were still together. I remember one night when we finished the training program, it was on the 24th of December. That meant that those comrades had to undergo crass courses during the festive period. I travelled back with Jack Govender. He dropped us in Polokwane. We then took a train to Joburg, and we arrived home on Christmas day. The comrades left Limpopo the night of 24th December. Such committed revolutionaries cannot easily balance their revolutionary life proper family life. It is difficult and that is why we can hear some of the disappointments felt by his family, especially his wife. But Comrade Mbedzi reached the ultimate aspiration of the indomitable human spirit, and he shall forever remain a revolutionary legend, a people's hero, and an internationalist.

You have done it Comrade Messiah, we thank you.

Here, comrades, lies indeed a selfless combatant for the freedom struggle of the people of South Africa, who paid a supreme sacrifice, the ultimate price for freedom for the noble struggle for all of humanity, a warrior against exploitation who was exploited, a warrior against oppression who suffered oppression, an activist of peace, freedom, and democracy and internationalist who was condemned by dictators, in particular King Mswati and his cohorts, who will pay when the dawn of freedom comes.

It is important that Swazis should not follow the route that South Africa followed on truth and reconciliation with no consequences for the murderers of freedom fighters. Those who killed Comrade Sipho Jele, Comrade Ntokozo, Comrade Amos Mbedzi, and all other freedom fighters will have to pay. There is no reconciliation with murderers.

Comrade Amos remains a great hero and a revolutionary, an African playwright dramatic, a poet and a writer. Amos was an advanced man. He produced plays and drama that we played in MK camps, that we performed and enjoyed amongst all soldiers even when we were away from home. We did one of the plays, those who were with us at that time will remember, about the national peace-keeping force, regarding the role of the national peace keeping force towards national reconciliation in the country during the national negotiation period. He was excited about that play.

One night after performance, one of our guerrillas, a glorious people's commander, Mkhululi, shed a tear. For Mkhululi, for those who know him, was an obstinate soldier who was not easily cracked. Mbedzi remarked that, "Mchana, today was our greatest achievement in our cultural work. We cracked Commander Mkhululi."

He said, "The task and function of performance arts is to reclaim humanism, and today we cracked Comrade Mkhululi. That was our greatest achievement of our art-



Jack Govender (L) and Musa "MJ" Dlamini (R)

work in the camp."

Mkhululi was a militarist and an utmost disciplinarian, but to have him softened by art showed that Comrade Amos appreciated the work of art that deals with the hardened soul and those human beings whose spirit had been broken. These plays must be recovered and be played anew in our country. It is important that we do research and reclaim his legacy properly and use that legacy to inspire more younger generations in our country to not only love the art but to also love the country and its people.

Mbedzi was among the most knowledgeable yet the most down to earth. He was a humble, honest, very reliable, trustworthy, loyal and dedicated comrade of our movement who served the people and the revolutionary cause without question. He was one of our most trustworthy comrades that I personally worked with. He was a cadre of a rare occurrence, a one in a million.

Comrade Amos taught our generation not only with upholding the value system of our movement, but by fully practicing it and upgrading it. We should be able to use his contribution to build a new cadre in our renewal project in the movement.

I remember at some point he used to like reading great works of African writers, particularly in the African Writers Series, the works of Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o.

When he was in the propaganda unit, I served in the education unit. So, he used to visit the library a lot. He read Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o's pieces and explained them, reflecting on our conditions and also read many others.

The Ghanaian writer, Ayi Kwei Armah, who spoke about "The Beautiful Ones Are Not Yet Born," talking about the liberators who corrupt the liberation projects and how we should do things differently.

One of our comrades who was brought to the movement once said was Comrade Justice. He was a white comrade, a professor of economics, a bourgeois professor. We used to fight a lot with him because he was the head of our education department, but 95 percent of our literature was Marxist-Leninist literature. So, he was very angry with us. Comrade Amos used to come

and take books, and he would say to me, “Look at your friend, he is not only taking the Marxist books, but he is also taking the African Writers Series.” I responded, “Yes, because they are responding to our living conditions as Africans.”

We need to also appreciate the most significant role that Comrade Amos played particularly in supporting the Swazi mission. He went out of his way on this mission, even for the formation of the Swaziland Solidarity Network (SSN).

Between 1996 and 1998, I was banned by the Swazi government. I am not allowed to enter into Swaziland up until today. We were going to enter into Swaziland with Comrade Amos driving. When we arrived at the border gate, I was told that I could not enter into the country. And thus, we had to abandon our mission on the ground that if I could not enter, then we all could not enter. We worked with the entire SSN movement, PUDEMO, SFTU, SAS, SWAYOCO, Human Rights Association of Swaziland, Communist Party of Swaziland, and the progressive NGOs. In this service, the SSN, in particular, and the structures that we worked with had no resources. We worked out of our own pockets.

Comrade Amos and I decided to resign from work. We put our money for this project to build the SSN. We faced difficulties at home. There was almost a sense of recklessness by how we spent our resources for the revolution. He was a conscious revolutionary, and now he is a full martyr of the Swazi revolution.

We must thank the President of our country and all those who played a role in his return for facilitating this return to his homeland. This is a promise we gave to his mother, now departed, that whatever happens her son would come back home. Unfortunately, he came back after the old lady had passed on. Her passing also affected his life badly. Also, during the period when he was in prison, he also lost his commander, Commander Peter Dambuza – David Mbulaheni Malada (5 August 1951 – 20 August 2020).

It is important that we find time to talk about this aspect of the armed struggle and underground work, because the basic principle of this is that many people’s lives are in danger. The work is conducted in secrecy. For instance, at one point the Swazi regime blocked our support for Comrade Leo Gama (Amos’s lawyer). We had to meet him in secret places in South Africa to provide much assistance to him where possible.

What we must say, comrades, is that despite our government facilitating his return to his homeland – and we did say this openly as the SACP – we are not afraid to tell the truth. The only people right now whom we seek to support are those back in Swaziland, those who were worked with Comrade Amos.

Yesterday we talked to the family of the one of the comrades who were in the mission. There was also one of the comrades who worked hard for the underground support of Comrade Amos. Comrade JB has already become a recalcitrant from attacks by the regime. He can speak freely here but others cannot do so. I can speak freely here, but I cannot go to Swaziland. Others will still have to go back to Swaziland.

The regime is still killing our comrades and the government of South Africa must wake up. We have been raising these matters, we build the solidarity movement, we built the **Amos Mbedzi Support Group**. We did everything politically possible. But the government only followed diplomacy. Unfortunately, we are a mere constitutional government, and that is not good enough. The government is refusing to become a revolutionary government that can take decisive political decisions about the living conditions of the people, as well as the Swazi political matters, including this one of Comrade Amos. It is the solidarity network that continuously attacked both governments including the Treasury which gave the bedrock for that autocratic system to exist. So, our democratic movement needs to develop some political teeth!

When Comrade Amos was returned, I was in Venezuela. Our comrades were here, and we had been processing his return together with his family.

One of the things we raised with the government of our country was the fact that why do we continue to carry out Mswati’s instructions in South Africa? We have business being instructed by a dictator! We should have simply gone on and released Comrade Amos and put him in better medical care. As the family knows, it was a big struggle when we visited Comrade Amos at Kgosi Mampuru Correctional Services Centre in Tshwane, when we decided that he should not have been placed there. We tried to speak to the relevant ministers, but government processes take too long. Sometimes it is really annoying!

It is important that the revolutionary movement re-focuses itself especially with regard to dealing with the living conditions of our people. They are deteriorating day by day because of the capitalist system. We have the authority to do so, politically. The situation allows us. Today, we allow the capitalists in our country to control us. We are emboldening it. It is too weak to control us, but we allow it to do so. Even that autocratic government in Swaziland is too weak at this point. We need to be giving more support to the liberation forces of Swaziland so that they can defeat that dictatorship. On the contrary, unfortunately, we are dilly-dallying wanting to use only diplomatic methods.

We want to say to Comrade Amos Messiah: You kept the oath, Comrade. You lived for the people, and you died for them too. In our revolution, you remained pure because you never tainted it with corruption, self-centredness, and decadence. May your fighting spirit continue to inspire the next generation of our people, especially the youth, to carry on the baton of liberation, in particular the battle of socialism and internationalism.

A German poet, Bertolt Brecht, once said:

“There are men who struggle for a day, and they are good. There are men who struggle for a year, and they are better. There are men who struggle many years, and they are better still. But there are those who struggle all their lives: These are the indispensable ones and those we cannot do without.”

These are the likes of Comrade Amos Mbedzi. The



Commander Peter Dambuzza – David Mbulaheni Malanda (5 August 1951 – 20 August 2020)

indispensable revolutionary arises, gets things done. They dirty themselves. They get involved in resolving social contradictions, the primary ones, the living conditions of the people, which is what Comrade Amos was about. He was about the community, not about self-interests.

Revolutionaries like Comrade Amos immerse themselves in the struggle to end these contradictions, which are primarily economic contradictions. They do so and he did so with unmatched commitment.

Comrade Amos Mbedzi has joined the legion of our leaders: Nelson Mandela, Oliver Tambo, Chris Hani, Joe Slovo, Ruth First, Lilian Ngoyi, and many other outstanding revolutionaries of our movement, including those in Limpopo such as his commander, Comrade Dambuzza.

His outlook to our revolution was based on his own conditions of the masses here, rooted in the concrete conditions of the masses. He did not define progress by going to Polokwane and see a tar road. He defined progress by seeing the people here in Limpopo, having access to water, clinics, and other such important facilities. That is why he remained a humble man.

When his two comrades (Jack Govender and Musa “MJ” Dlamini) died, Comrade Jack had returned from an international mission in Colombia for the FARC movement – the armed revolutionary forces of Colombia.

We prepared a welcoming party for him, and he re-committed himself to another international task. These tasks were taken up voluntarily and consciously. I was with them that morning when they left for Swaziland. We shared my breakfast. I remember that I was not well and thus had to take medication. They left and they never came back.

I lost not only my personal friends and dearest comrades, but my pillar of strength of individual comrades. The two, Comrade Jack and Comrade MJ, died on the spot. One, Comrade Amos, was incarcerated by the terrible Mswati dictatorship.

I must indicate here that Commander Dambuzza set up a mission to free Comrade Amos from prison in Swaziland. The reason for that was because the Swazi government had advertised the position of a hangman before his

judgment. The death penalty still exists in Swaziland.

Commander Dambuzza said to me, “Solly, leave all your political positions.” I was a SACP Central Committee member already.

We put together a mission with Commander Teenage Monama that week. When we were supposed to execute that mission that week, the government sentenced him to 85 years in prison, not death. That is what aborted the mission. We were still committed to save his life.

I am sad that Comrade Amos died back home still in shackles when we could have taken a political decision on this. I engaged the government directly on this. The minister of justice, Comrade Ronald Lamola, was supposed to be here and also speak for himself on these matters.

Firstly, we are not happy about the conditions he was subjected to at Kgosi Mampuru. This was completely unacceptable and a sense of negligence. It was mere palliative care, and those doctors were arrogant. Completely unacceptable! We wanted him to be attended to by better specialists. Our intervention led to his transfer to Steve Biko Hospital to be attended to by a proper physician. The SACP must follow up on these matters. We must not let these issue lie down. It is our task and responsibility to make sure that those who have done wrong are held accountable, even on those who benefitted on businesses in his name. They must account, and the SACP must ensure this takes place.

Comrade Amos completed his services for humanity with grace. Comrade Vladimir Lenin said action without theory is sterile, while theory without action is blind. Comrade Amos matched the two. He was one of our most advanced cadres and his internationalism was communicated through basic actions. Those of us who knew him knew how robust he was. He was not a “yes” person. He was loyal to command but still strong on engagement if the command was incorrect, and Commander Dambuzza knew that. We had many hard post-missions assessments, and he would be hard, but once the General issue the command we obeyed because we were soldiers.

When Comrade Amos acted as an internationalist, however, he did not allow borders to differentiate between brother and sisters from beyond his national borders.

The solidarity movement could have done better, but it tried its best. It could still improve. We travelled with Comrade IB to Sudan with Comrade Amos, in Comrade IB’s car. Comrade Amos was driving. We were arrested in Zimbabwe. We were discussing at that time our intentions and plans to support Commander MJ who had set up the Swazi military wing, *Umbane*.

Comrade Amos became the special advisor to Comrade MJ on military affairs. He trained MJ outside the country. When MJ’s soldiers hit the first target in Swaziland, the military barracks, the Swazi regime issued a statement to the media claiming that the military barracks was bit by lightning, that is “umbane” in SiSwati. This is how the name “Umbane” came about. Upon



Daughter, Pfano (Princess) Lilian Mbedzi-Williams



Son, Mkhonotho Doctor Mbedzi

hearing the regime's claim, MJ said to me, "Mchana, the enemy has now renamed our glorious army. We are now going to call it 'Umbane.' We will always hit them like lightning!"

The *Umbane* forces must continue! Here lies the commander! No peace to Mswati! Why should Mswati kill you and your families and comrades while he lives in peace? Where are the forces of *Umbane* back in Swaziland? We know that we have been proscribed. You are called "terrorists." How can a revolutionary movement be a terrorist? Those young people who went outside to train for *Umbane*, young Swazi men and women, were going to train themselves, like we did in the MK, to liberate their own country. They are being labelled a terrorist organisation by the Mswati dictatorship. And this government here in South Africa run by former liberation heroes accept this nonsense of Mswati!

The Mswati dictatorship has no respect for human rights whatsoever. Therefore, to our Swazi comrades, our message to you is that you must ensure to keep the legacy of Comrade Amos Mbedzi alive and continue the struggle. Comrade Messiah has become your martyr. Do not let his blood go down in vain!

For our comrades here at home, continue to give solidarity to the people of Swaziland and all the organisations fighting for freedom.

To Comrade Messiah: You were a revolutionary par excellence, my dear comrade. Well done, Mchana! The roaring lion of Makonde Mountains, Lion of the Mopane Mountains! You have roared the loudest roar!

As for Mswati and his family, I have a word for them. They have martyred you into eternity and your memory will forever be etched on their minds, because

not a single day will go in Swaziland without any single individual mentioning your name. No single generation of Swazi revolutionaries and Swazi people going forward will ever forget your contribution to their freedom.

To all Swazi democratic forces: Intensify the struggle once more, unite yourselves. The enemy at the moment is not too strong to defeat you. You must be united to respond effectively to the enemy as the revolutionary forces in Swaziland. Therefore, unite yourselves to confront the oppressive regime and launch the final offensive against this regime. "Freedom or death in Swaziland!" That should be your slogan, comrades. This was our slogan as the youth congress here in South Africa that Comrade Amos embraced.

To his family, once again, our sincerest condolences. The SACP and its allies should continue to do better: to care for one another and for its comrades, particularly to care for the secondary impact of the void left by the comrades to their families. That aspect is lacking, and we must improve on it. There must be a programme launched here in Limpopo. There are many children of revolutionaries in this province and elsewhere in the country who are suffering. They must be cared for.

We must dedicate Comrade Amos' Mbedzi's life for a free and democratic Swaziland, and for the renewal of the ANC and its alliance forces, as well as for their unity in struggles!

COSATU saddened, and mourns the passing of Comrade Amos Mbulaheni Mbedzi

The Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) is deeply saddened by the passing of an internationalist and revolutionary leader of our time, Comrade Amos Mbulaheni Mbedzi (57), who lowered his flag on the morning of the 7th of June 2022 in Polokwane Provincial Hospital, South Africa, while serving an 85-year sentence after conviction by King Mswati III's absolutism courts in 2012.

Comrade Mbedzi was wrongly arrested in September 2008 for contravening the country's Terrorism Act and sentenced to 85 years for his alleged involvement in a bomb explosion which claimed the lives of his two accomplices Musa "MJ" Dlamini and Jack Govender. The government of Swaziland claimed that Mbedzi and the two deceased set up a bomb to blow up a bridge, after receiving information that King Mswati would be travelling on that bridge. According to the Communist Party of Swaziland (CPS), however, when the Swaziland government failed to prove a case of terrorism against Mbedzi they arbitrarily changed his charge to that of murder for the deaths of his accomplices.

Whilst Comrade Mbedzi was held in the Swazi prison, in 2014, the SACP, joined by COSATU, CPS, SSN and several organisations in the Swaziland pro-democracy movement launched the *Release Amos Mbedzi Campaign*, which not only called for the release of Comrade Mbedzi but that of all political prisoners in Swaziland. It is upsetting that the Swazi government failed to heed our call, and today, just two months after being handed over to prison authorities in his home country, South Africa, Umkhonto Wesizwe former member and SACP member Comrade Mbedzi is no more.

Comrades, the most befitting way to honour Comrade Mbedzi's legacy is to continue with the fight for a free and democratic Swaziland. COSATU continues to pledge its commitment and solidarity to the people of Swaziland. We call on all progressive forces to agitate for the economic and political isolation of the Mswati government. We also continue to call for the release of all political prisoners in Swaziland, who are being incarcerated with no trial, under inhumane conditions.

Comrade Mbedzi died, not because his time had come, but because he was tortured, starved, and deprived of medical attention when he suffered a stroke and required serious medical attention whilst in the Swazi prison. The regime delivered a slow, inhumane and painful death to him by tormenting and draining the life out of him in the cruellest manner, and (then) sent him to a South African prison in an attempt to sanitize his image from the unjust incarceration that led to his untimely death.

COSATU vows to continue the struggle for Swaziland's liberation from the rule of King Mswati III, the last absolute monarch in Africa, for which Mbedzi paid the ultimate price.

The federation conveys its deepest and heartfelt sympathies to the Mbedzi family, the Swazi people, progressive forces in support of the Swazi struggle, colleagues and friends of the late Comrade Amos. We wish them strength and comfort during this difficult time.

Rest in power, Mbedzi. Long live the spirit of Amos Mbedzi!!



Address of the ANC at the Funeral Service of Comrade Amos Mbedzi

Delivered by the Provincial Secretary Comrade Reuben Madadzhe



Allow us to begin with words taken from the speech that President OR Tambo delivered on the 9th of August 1981 at the funeral of a freedom fighter to the end Cde Joe Gqabi in Harare, Zimbabwe.

President OR Tambo said, the future is bright, the end is glorious. It is peaceful. But the intervening period is dark, bitter and finds its glory in the act of struggle.

The quote correctly captures the evolution of our own struggle and even more the struggle of the people of Swaziland today. May we all find comfort in the words of President OR Tambo.

The ANC in Limpopo is extremely saddened by the loss of our hero and combatant Cde Amos Mbedzi.

We join all progressive people of the World, Africa, Swaziland and South Africa to convey our condolences to the Mbedzi family on this huge and painful loss. We join the people of Limpopo and Vhembe as they send off the proud son of the soil to his final resting place.

He joins the gallant sons and daughters of our Province who gave their lives to the liberation of the majority who were oppressed under minority apartheid white rule. Today he will be reunited with his comrades Musa MJ Dlamini and Jack Govender who fell with their boots on that fateful day in 2008.

During the struggle against apartheid, Cde Amos Mbedzi became a committed and distinctive combatant of Mkhonto We Sizwe who was a passionate internationalist. His solid foundation of his convictions was nurtured by the SACP. He worked closely with the extraordinary and courageous comrades in Mkhonto We Sizwe who included our very own General Peter Dambuza Vho Mbulaheni Malada to carry out many important operations inside South Africa and in Southern Africa on behalf of the liberation movement.

It is this soil of Limpopo which produced these combatants who strongly believed in the fight against International Conflict and oppression on the continent.

Cde Amos Mbedzi and his comrades had a superior



understanding that our struggles and those of other oppressed people of other Countries are intertwined and cannot be separated.

The history of our Country and Province is not complete without the inclusion of the role Cde Amos Mbedzi played in the Mkhonto We Sizwe before our freedom and his continued solidarity with the people of Swaziland post our democracy.

His resolve to fight side by side with our comrades in the belly of oppression in Swaziland will forever set him apart from the rest of us. He demonstrated a higher level of selflessness and love for humanity.

He believed in the liberation of the people of Swaziland from the oppressive Tinkhundla regime and he fearlessly wanted them to be free like the people of South Africa. His fighting spirit will continue to inspire us to be better comrades as we foster the renewal of the ANC.

Until today, we cannot fathom how difficult it could have been for the greatest internationalist of our times in that cold and lonely prison they unfairly held him in. Our calls for the free Amos Mbedzi Campaigns which were championed here in Limpopo fell on deaf ears. Without fear or favour, the people of Limpopo still demand justice for Cde Amos Mbedzi even if they released him towards the very end.

Mswati and his regime must be held accountable for arresting our comrade in their deadly prison. Just like the ANC in Limpopo supported the Free Amos Mbedzi Campaign, we will continue to demand answers even in ANC national platforms for this gruesome arrest and torture that Cde Amos Mbedzi encountered for years.

While we are mourning, it is also time to celebrate his unparalleled and unmatched commitment and sacrifice to the struggles of the people of South Africa,



Swaziland and Africa.

There is no greater call to make than the call for the freedom of the very people that Cde Amos Mbedzi fought for in Swaziland. We send our messages of solidarity to the people of Swaziland today.

Activists and leaders of PUDEMO and the Communist Party of Swaziland who are suffering in Mswati's prisons with little support from the rest of us must know that we the people of Amos Mbedzi are still standing with them.

In honour of this great internationalist, we must intensify and deepen our solidarity and international work. We must today respond to the question whether our activism and commitment to the movement in particular our international work is in line with the values and objectives that Cde Amos Mbedzi lived for and sacrificed his life for.

May we never shift our eyes from the goal and may we never despair or give up.

We take this opportunity to salute his family and his late mother Vho Moufhe Mbedzi who never lived to see his release. The Mbedzi family and his mother believed in his convictions and that's why Vho Moufhe was always among the people who called for his release. She was a patriot whose involvement and commitment to the struggle can be traced to the days of his very beginning in Mkhonto We Sizwe.

We want you to know that your son will be engraved in our hearts as he stands out among the most dedicated and loyal militants produced by the movement. We are indebted for his life, and we wish to say to the family that we are grateful and honoured that they gave him to the movement.

Cde Amos Mbedzi has left us with many lessons. He was an embodiment of the alliance and among the things we need to do is to unite the alliance and close ranks in our Province. We are duty bound to learn from our mistakes, to correct our wrongs and to continue serving the people with humility and dedication. He fought for freedom here at home so that the people can have access to basic services. He wanted the people to live a better and dignified life. We must continue to strive for the better.

Cde Amos Mbedzi passes on when we are from a Provincial Conference, we understand the urgent need to unite all ANC members and call on everyone to move passed conference so that we all focus on rebuilding and defending the gains the ANC has made in our Province so



Wife, Nndanduleni Roselyne Tshikhudo

far. We must all continue to work and contribute to the renewal and rebuilding of our glorious movement. We will confront factionalism and corruption at all levels so that we build the confidence of the people in the movement even more.

It is not by mistake that this monumental funeral takes place during youth month, we call on the youth to emulate his courage, loyalty, discipline, hard work and commitment. The youth through the PYA must unite and work together to respond to the challenges that the youth of our Province are facing. The youth must lead us in coming up with community initiatives that respond to poverty, GBV, crime, unemployment, literacy and many others.

Lastly, we will lobby the ANC in Vhembe and the Province to call one of our Sub Regions the Amos Mbedzi Sub Region in honour of this great Son of the soil. Our children and their children must know that there existed a great man who lived among us, he was a revolutionary and his beliefs and ideals must never die for as long as we all live. His life was worth living and all his contribution should never be in vain.

May his fighting soul rest in peace!

NEHAWU MOURNS THE PASSING OF COMRADE AMOS MBEDZI

Tuesday June 07, 2022

The National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union [NEHAWU] is deeply saddened by the passing of Comrade Amos Mbedzi, an internationalist, freedom fighter and political prisoner. Comrade Mbedzi passed on today, Tuesday 7th June while serving an 85-year jail sentence under the Tinkhundla Regime.

NEHAWU conveys its deep and heartfelt condolences to the Mbedzi family, friends and comrades in the Mass Democratic Movement (MDM) and Swaziland Solidarity Network. We wish his family strength and courage during this difficult moment.

Comrade Mbedzi dedicated his life to the struggle for the freedom of our people and championed the struggle for a democratic Swaziland against the brutal and repressive Tinkhundla Regime. The people of Swaziland have experienced repression since the 1973 decree banning all political parties, trade union movement and other progressive formations fighting for democracy.

The Tinkhundla Regime has over the years, imprisoned and tortured many political activists, who stood opposed to the regime. There are many political prisoners languishing in Swazi jails. Comrade Mbedzi was among those political prisoners. Comrade Mbedzi fell sick while serving his 85-year sentence. After long neglect by the Mswati Regime, the regime secretly transferred him to South Africa in March this year, in a futile attempt to cleanse its bloodied hands, fearing that he might die while jailed in Swaziland.

We remain deeply concerned that for a considerable period of time, the South African government could not take the country into confidence regarding the whereabouts of Comrade Mbedzi, including why he remained detained in South Africa instead of being released, especially when he desperately needed medical treatment he was denied for many years. Our government should shed more light on the circumstances of his death.

In memory of Comrade Mbedzi, the national union [NEHAWU] will continue campaigning for the dismantling of the Mswati dictatorship, for a democratic Swaziland and the release of all political prisoners and remain consistent in support of these demands by the people of Swaziland until they are realised. NEHAWU reiterates its solidarity support to the struggle of the people of Swaziland for democracy.



“In the middle of the night after I had heard of my father’s passing, I wrote the following:

‘My name is Mkhonto Mbedzi, the son of one unique man, whom the world heard but could not comprehend. He shared his genuine love of people, regardless of its sour turns. His principles were robust and independent. He gave his genuine love to the just and the unjust, the kind and the thugs, the young and old. I am Mkhonto Mbedzi, the son of Amos Messiah Mbedzi.’”

May his soul rest in power!



"Every morning I arise from a long night I always sing this song ‘TILL WE MEET AGAIN’. I always thought that we would be together on this wonderful day but I'm truly looking forward to us celebrating this happy birthday with you tonight in dreamland. I will always remember the laughter we have shared and that is what will keep me going. I placed the little life we've shared as the best blessings no one could ever imagine. I will also pray to GOD that He makes this day an exquisite day. HAPPY BIRTHDAY DAD!! I will always love you"

A 2013 birthday message from son Mkhonthe Doctor Mbedzi (Right).





Pictures: 9111 Media, Mbedzi family, SSN, CPS Media.



**The philosophers have only interpreted the world, in various ways; the point is to change it. -
Karl Marx (1845)**