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AZAPO AND PAC 2024 ELECTION SUMMIT OUTCOMES

Following the historic signing of the Declaration of Cooperation in February 2021, AZAPO and PAC have worked together to maximise the combined effect of Black Consciousness and Pan Africanism that is sorely needed in the body politic of South Africa (our Azania). This was done through a deliberate program of memorialising the historic contributions of the two organisations in the struggle for land and liberation. AZAPO and PAC resolved and gave effect to jointly commemorating the deaths of Sobukwe and Biko together, the fathers of Pan Africanism and Black Consciousness in Azania. We also commemorated together the epoch changing moments in the history of our liberation struggle, the Sharpeville Massacre and June 16 Uprisings as well as the Afrika Liberation Day.

More than a year later, AZAPO and PAC came together and convened an Election Summit in Johannesburg to review the Cooperation Agreement between them and enhanced it to ensure the two organisations continue their commitment to working together towards unseating the ANC government from power through the 2024 National and Provincial Election.

The working relationship between AZAPO and PAC is built on the foundations of the efforts by Biko and Sobukwe to unite the liberation movement towards the dismantling of the system of colonialism in Azania. It is traceable to the 1982 Dar es Salaam effort where leaders of the Black Consciousness Movement of Azania and Pan Africanist Congress

of Azania met to pursue struggle together. It is also traceable to the agreements reached at the 1991 Kadoma Consultation that resolved on the joint and common approach to the CODESA negotiations. It is traceable on the historical contributions of these two liberation organisations to the struggle for freedom.



It is on this basis that AZAPO and PAC have decided to form a struggle pact under the banner of the Azanian Liberation Front.

The Azanian Liberation Front is a struggle pact that advances the agenda of the reversal of the betrayal of the liberation struggle and positions the liberation politics at the door of Parliament and in the Black Communities. The Azanian Liberation Front is, amongst others, an electoral pact through which AZAPO and PAC will contest 2024 National and Provincial Election. The two organisations

have setup technical committees to unpack the modalities that give effect to this desire. The pact is amongst others committing the two organisations to the following:

- ◆ AZAPO and PAC will continue joint commemorations of our historical days in the Black calendar of our liberation struggle.
- ◆ The two organisations will work together in the 2024 National and Provincial Election Campaigns. In this regard, there will be joint voter education campaigns and joint election campaign rallies.
- ◆ AZAPO and the PAC will share resources, information and guard each other's votes at the polling stations.



The collaboration between AZAPO and PAC will continue beyond elections to ensure our people are never treated as foreigners in their own country. The two organisations further commit themselves to operate as one in parliament and outside of it, in the daily struggles of our communities. To this end, AZAPO and PAC will act together to change the name of the country to AZANIA and work tirelessly:

- ◆ To return the land with all its resources to the people of AZANIA,
- ◆ To legislate on laws and programmes to eradicate racism, inequalities and white privileges,

- ◆ To change and restructure the economy to serve the interests of the Black majority,
- ◆ To build and create a united Azanian Nation where there will be no provincial governments,
- ◆ To champion and advance Pan Africanism and Black Consciousness,
- ◆ To set up a Constituent Assembly where a new political dispensation will be worked out,
- ◆ To dismantle white monopoly economic power and introduce a self-reliant economy,
- ◆ To establish an egalitarian society where the dignity of Black people will be restored,
- ◆ To do away with the two systems of education (Malusi and Independent Boards) and advance research, innovation and creativity in AZANIA,
- ◆ To restructure the criminal justice system to respond to rampant crimes and gender-based violence,
- ◆ To legislate on equal pay for women and men in all spheres of work,
- ◆ To introduce and legislate for free and compulsory education up until the first degree and a free supply of sanitary pads for girls at schools,
- ◆ To build decent public toilets and ablution facilities in all busy public rural and urban places,
- ◆ To make land and resources available to women and young people between 18 and 35 years for all types of productive activities and businesses.

These are efforts that consolidate the forces of liberation and refocus them towards the struggle for the reclamation of our land, the dismantling of neo-colonialism and the ushering in of One

Azania, One Nation, One People. Izwelethu iAfrika! It is thus a clarion call to all formations and civil society organisations that subscribe to the above objectives to join the Azanian Liberation Front in pursuit of the total freedom of our people.

AZAPO VOICE CONGRATULATES DR GAOPALELWE MATHIBA

AZAPO Voice congratulates Gaopalelwe Mathiba who has obtained a PhD in the Faculty of Law at the University of Cape Town, becoming the youngest doctorate graduate from the University in more than 10 years.



Mathiba will graduate this Friday, July 21. According to the University of Cape Town News, Mathiba is one of only five PhD graduates aged 26 or younger out of the total of 2 593 graduates from the University.

Mathiba defied the odds to secure the impressive academic achievement. He lost his mother, Dibakatsatsi, at a tender age of 6 years. Many could have given up and blamed their failure to pursue their dreams to the loss of their mothers. But not Mathiba.

On his achievement, he told the University of Cape Town News: "I would like to dedicate this top academic achievement to my late mother, Dibakatsatsi, who passed away when I was just

six years old. She believed strongly in education. It is unfortunate that she is not here to witness this moment."

According to the University News report, Mathiba matriculated in 2014 and obtained his LLB from North-West University (NWU) in 2018. In 2019, he enrolled and completed his LLM (with distinction) at the University of the Western Cape (UWC). He then enrolled for his PhD in Law at UCT in 2020.

During his study towards his PhD, he worked at three different universities in different capacities at varying times, and he got the opportunity to meet, interact, share, and learn from colleagues.

Between late 2020 and early 2022, he was appointed as a Lecturer in the law faculty at Rhodes University. In the second quarter of 2022 he joined the University of South Africa College of Law as a Lecturer. At the point of completing his PhD, he had returned to UCT as a Senior Lecturer in the Law faculty.

He added that his career in academia is still in its infancy, stretching across a period of almost four years. He believes that his high research output record is what led to his appointment at Senior Lecturer rank – apart from the expertise, qualifications and teaching experience.

Mathiba's story should serve as an inspiration to millions of young Black people to dream and believe that they can achieve anything that they set their minds on. In line with the teachings of Black Consciousness, anybody's future is in one's hand. The youth, just like Mathiba, should know that they are the masters of their own destiny.

Mathiba's achievement is testament to the fact that education is the most potent tool to fight poverty and improve one's life.

With more young people such as Mathiba, this country can solve its primary challenges of poverty and unemployment. It is worth noting that Mathiba chose to focus his studies on finding

solutions to address the tensions between mining communities and the mining authorities.

DISHING JOBS TO CARD CARRYING MEMBERS

The seeds of political hegemony in the country have been sown over a long period under the current political dispensation. Ordinary people have come to accept as their reality that unless one is a card-carrying member of the ruling party, one is unlikely to get employment or economic opportunities that, on paper, should be available to any candidate who qualifies.



Last week, a list allegedly consisting of members of the ANC Youth League in the Vhembe District leaked to the media. The list had five names from each of the four Sub-Regions – Thulamela, Musina, Collins Chabane and Makhado. Those on the list, allegedly compiled by the ANC Youth League, were to be appointed and trained as Traffic Officers in the Vhembe District.

The ANC Youth League was quick to distance itself from the list. "The ANCYL Vhembe Region has noted with a very serious dismay the list which is making rounds in the social media platforms with a presumption that it is coming from the ANCYL Vhembe Region."

"We would like to put it categorically clear that the ANCYL Vhembe Region is not aware about the origin of the said list, and we call upon those

who are drafting the so-called lists to reframe (sic) from using the name of the ANCYL to settle their uncontrollable political scores as it is an act of cowardice."

The culture of forcing people to take up membership of a political party to access jobs and economic opportunities in the State has taken root. People know that many of the jobs in the State are discussed in meetings of the ruling party. Even the elderly have been made to believe that the monthly grants that they get would be stopped should they vote against the ruling party.

Patronage is a major factor in the decay of the political system in any democracy. Patronage enables the politically connected, yet under-qualified, individuals to get jobs and tenders from the State. The poor levels of service delivery throughout the country can be traced to this system whereby comrades dish out jobs to their comrades who do not qualify. What complicates matters is that, for the ruling party to attract more members and by extension more votes, it should be able to dish out patronage. If jobs in the State are given to people simply because of their qualifications, what will attract people to the ruling party? This is why politicians use patronage to grow their power base. But of course, this is myopic. When unqualified people are appointed to the municipality, residents would not have water despite being surrounded by dams that are full of water. Roads will be littered with potholes despite the fact that there is enough budget for road maintenance.

The domination of one party can suffocate the progress and lead to economic stagnation.