

THE KEY NOTE SPEECH OF HER WORSHIP, THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR OF MOTHEO DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, Cllr M.E.MOILWA, ON THE OCCASION OF THE LAUNCH OF THE 2009 FREE STATE STOP CRIME DRAMA FESTIVAL AT MMABANA, THABA NCHU, 04 DECEMBER 2009, AT 19H00.

The leadership of Dramatists Against Crime,
Esteemed representative of the Sowetan, Mr Victor Mecoamere,
Esteemed Mr Presley Chweneyagae,
Esteemed official of National Lotteries Board,
Esteemed Mr Seputla Sebogodi
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen: and all Protocol observed.

Program Director,

Thank you for the honor and privilege you give to us Motheo District Municipality, to address your august meeting. Before we do so, we wish to express our deep-felt words of gratitude to the leadership of Dramatists Against Crime for having found it appropriate for us to participate in this important launch.

It is encouraging to note that our artists do not only acknowledge that the scourge of crime is not only a reality of our daily lives, but are also actively making efforts towards ensuring its permanent eradication from the face of our country. For it is through criminal activity that today our country has been unjustly and unfairly robbed of that wonderful talent but most importantly, a wonderful human being in the person of the late “ Lucky Dube”.

Considering the success with which we were able, as a people and country to defeat the demons and monsters of apartheid led by the African National Congress, and delivered a liberated society, crime becomes an unacceptable contradiction. Having noted this contradiction, the ANC in a Strategy and Tactics document adopted during the Polokwane Conference, said the following,

“The national struggle for freedom was the critical over-arching vehicle to bring about peace, security and stability to our society. In dealing with issues of crime, the ANC proceeds from the premise that a rising quality of life also means improvement in the safety and security of citizens in their homes and environs where they live, work and engage in extramural activity.”

This is the reason why, as government, we do not only appreciate the endeavours of Dramatists Against Crime but are also ready to provide support to similar initiatives as they are also in line with the principles of “Operation Hlasela” which was launched by the honorable Premier of the Free State Government on the 15 June 2009.

- We wish to conclude by quoting a poem said to have been closest to the heart of the eighth President-General of the African National Congress, Chief Albert

Luthuli, called The Psalm Of Life by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. The message of this poem is relevant to people who are as concerned about the plight of their compatriots as you are. It reads as follows.

“Life is real, Life is earnest.
And the grave is not its goal;
We can make our lives sublime,
And departing, leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time;
Footprints, that perhaps another,
Sailing over life/s solemn main,
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother,
Seeing, shall take heart again.”

THANK YOU
EXECUTIVE MAYOR
MOTHEO DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY
Cllr M.E.MOILWA.