



# ALFRED NZO

DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

# Alfred Nzo News



## Alfred Nzo Awards top matric achievers

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Matric prayer day session 2017

#### VISION

"A District whose communities are self-sustaining and enjoy a good quality life, equitable access to basic services and socio-economic opportunities."

In the second leg of the Grade 12 Mayoral Achievers Awards, Alfred Nzo District Municipality Executive Mayor Sixolile Mehlomakhulu, awarded top matric achievers from across the Alfred Nzo District.

The inaugural awards saw Amento Sibi from King Edward High School in Alfred Nzo West District honoured with the top award of being overall top achiever in the Alfred Nzo region. Amento obtained average of 94.42% of her studies. She received a bursary, laptop, printer, certificate and a trophy.

Vuyisa Gama from AD Tshayingca Senior Secondary School in Mbizana, Alfred East Education District was second highest in the district and top performer in Mbizana Local Municipality. He obtained 94.1 % in his studies, while Yamkela Mzana of Mbizana Village Senior Secondary School in Mbizana was third highest and top performer in Ntabanlulu Local Municipality. Mzana obtained 90,4%. They also received a bursary, laptop,

printer, certificate and a trophy. Best Performed school overall position one went to King Edward Senior Secondary School in Alfred Nzo West and grabbed R 20 000, Certificate & Trophy. Most improved School in west District went to Moiketsi Graves S.S.S Matatiele Local Municipality and awarded Certificate & Trophy 2016: 35, 4 % 2017: 85, 4 %. Most improved School in the East District was Ntabezulu S.S.S Mbizana Local Municipality as they were awarded Certificate & Trophy 2016: 55, 14 %; 2017: 81% with 31 Bachelors improved with 23, 8 %.

King Edward S.S.S were the best performed school in Physical Science, Mathematics and Accounting and were awarded a trophy and certificate. Chief Dumile S.S.S obtain 86.7 with 2 level 7's in mathematics and were awarded with certificate & Trophy.

Best performed school in physical science went to Bizana Village S.S.S as they obtain 81.6% with level seven's and they walked away with certificate and trophy. Ad Tshayingca got 97.8 % on Accounting and were regarded as the best performed school and were awarded with trophy and certificate. District Director of Education Mr. Lungelo Mthatyana scooped a floating trophy and certificate. Best performed schools historically disadvantaged institutions (HDI)



Above: Executive Mayor Cllr Sixolile Mehlomakhulu, District Director for Education, Councillors and Parents of Amento Sibi receiving the Awards on her behalf



Above: Mr Mathew Thomas receiving certificate, award and cheque worth R 20 000 00 from Inkosi Tsita, Municipal Manager Mr Zamile Sikhundla, Cllr Langasiki and Deputy Executive Mayor Cllr Sandile Sello for the Best Performed school overall Non HDI (from both Districts combined)

Vuyisa Gama said he was very excited and humbled by the award.

"I have put in a lot hard work in studies as well as balancing social social with books," said excited Gama. He added that his wish is to build a big mention for his mother who always supported him.

Yamkela Mzana said he was inspired by his principal who always advised them to work as team and individually when they are at home as well as time management.

Executive Mayor said education is societal matter hence he decided work with the department of education in the district to motivate learners and reward those who are excelling. "These top achieving learners will be the drivers of development of this district in the four to five years, this is why we investing in the education," said Mehlomakhulu.

went to the following schools: Zinyosini S.S.S 96, 2 % on position one received R 20.000.00 Certificate & Trophy. Osbon S.S.S at 94.3% managed to get R15 000, Certificate & Trophy meanwhile Zwelakhe S.S.S 93% at position three went home with R 10 000 Certificate & Trophy. Individual category which talk to learners from both district went to Sibi Amento a leaner from King Edward who walked away with a bursary, laptop printer and certificate as the overall top achiever meanwhile Gama Vuyiswa from AD Tshayingca got herself a bursary, Laptop, Printer, Certificate and Trophy.

Lanyosi Mlamleli a learner from Marelane S.S.S was the overall achiever in accounting he got trophy and certificate. Teachers across the District were also awarded as a way of encouragement. King Edward S.S.S Mr. Mathew Thomas was a top mathematics teacher and he received trophy and certificate. Top physical science teacher went to Mr. Mathew Philip from King Edward as he was awarded with a trophy and certificate.

Mrs. Swanepole followed his colleagues from King Edward as she was the top accounting teacher also received trophy and certificate.



Above: Deputy Executive Mayor Cllr Sandile Sello, Cllr Langasiki, Municipal Manager Mr Zamile Sikhundla, Inkosi Tsita and Zinyosini SSS staff receiving a cheque for obtaining 96, 2 % pass rate

Chief Dumile S.S.S was also among the names being mentioned during the awards as Mr Ngqongwa was awarded with a trophy and certificate as he was the top mathematics teacher. Mkula a top physical science teacher from Bizana Village S.S.S got himself a trophy and certificate. A.D Tshayingca top Accounting teacher Mr. Charlie got himself a trophy and certificate.

Special schools award went to Zamokuhle Special School as the best performing school they grabbed a R20 000, Trophy and Certificate. Number two was Vukuzenzele Special School as they got R15000, Trophy and Certificate. The overall top achiever went to Yolanda Gxumisa from Zamokuhle Special School and she got Trophy and Certificate. Ntombiyesizwe Mnyaiza from Vukuzenzele Special School was on position two and she received a trophy and certificate and Ncubeko Sonjica from Zamokuhle Special School took the third position and got himself a trophy and certificate.



Life and legacy of  
**OR TAMBO.**  
100 YEARS





### Executive Mayor's Foreword

Let me take this opportunity and welcome all our readers and residents to our quarterly publication which is intended to keep communities, stakeholders and other strategic formations in the district and beyond informed about the implementation of the municipal programme of action.

We have just concluded 2017, the year that was dedicated to celebrating the life and times of our struggle stalwart, Oliver Reginald Tambo. The yearlong celebrations took place across the country was embraced by all South Africans. Alfred Nzo District Municipality took a centre stage and hosted the National Celebration in his home village of Nkantolo, on his birth date, 27 October 2017. This is the date Tambo would have turned 100 years had he lived.

I wish to thank all residents of the district for taking part in these celebrations through all forms that they were carried out and attending the national celebration in Nkantolo.

In this year, 2018, we are celebrating the centenaries of another two struggle stalwarts, uTata Nelson Mandela and Mama Albertina Sisulu who also would have turned 100 years had they lived.

As the municipality, we have also just concluded the midterm of the 2017/18 financial year and we are currently assessing our performance during the midterm period that started in July 2018 to 31 December 2017. This period also coincides with the Integrated Development Plans (IDP) Reviews where communities were given opportunity to review their development priorities for us to implement as such. We would be adjusting our budget and priorities as informed by community needs and reprioritisation as raised in the IDP outreaches.

We would be embarking on massive communication activities aimed at reporting back to the communities and stakeholders, our midterm performance and plans for the last six months of the financial year.

During the O. R. Tambo Centenary, we have launched many water supply projects that would supply water to more than 4 000 households across the district and we would be crisscrossing the district handing over these projects to communities.

We will continue to keep our communities informed through our communication platforms such as this publication as well as our Facebook and Twitter pages, website, Phuhla Alfred Nzo Radio Programme and our community outreaches among others.

Our communities can also link directly with the municipality through our Customer Care Line which is 086 000 3781.

Thank you very much for spending your valuable time to read this publication and we look forward to your inputs in our developmental agenda.

**CLLR. S. MEHLO MAKHULU**  
**EXECUTIVE MAYOR**



### Speaker's Council Message

It is always an honour to engage with you, the citizens of the Alfred Nzo District Municipality through this platform and other platforms of communicating the Council messages as adopted by the Council. We utilise these platforms to engage the people of our district and ensure that they take part and get information regarding the Council programmes.

The year 2018 has been declared by the ruling party as the year of Nelson Mandela and Albertina Sisulu. This is a year dedicated to a special man and woman who sacrificed the better part of their lives in pursuit of a noble idea, that human beings are born equal and thus must be afforded equal opportunities to realize their personal goals and aspirations.

They pursued a struggle whose principal aim was premised on a realization that "no government can claim just authority unless it is based on the will of the people"

Their struggle has led us to what we today affectionately refer to as the new South Africa. A government based on the will of the people, whose principal basis is to champion the needs, wants and aspirations of the people. Whose continued legitimacy depends on how far it goes in winning this battle not only quantitatively but in a manner emulating Nelson Mandela, with dignity and honor.

We jointly express, as the councilors of Alfred Nzo District Municipality, that in the year of 2018 we shall strive to be like Tata Mandela and Mama Albertina Sisulu. We shall act in a manner that seeks to ensure good clean governance. The time for a council not fulfilling its oversight responsibility is over. We as the council have the final word on both the executive and legislative functions.

In the first quarter of this financial year as this council we embarked on a key journey to review our rules and orders. We undertook this task because we all agreed that we wanted a tool to ensure that this Municipality turns the democratic but also legal corner during our time. A corner where irregular expenditure, unauthorized and fruitless and wasteful expenditure are an occurrence of the past. We want as the children of Tata Nelson Mandela to make this Municipality great. We have all witnessed on national television how parliament has started to hold the executive and officialdom accountable and "*sizeka mzekweni*". We have since realized the need to review our Delegations Framework so as to empower council committees to perform oversight.

We have seen incidents of moral decay in our district, *amavondo*, children and women killings and we call upon all members of society to assist in finding the root cause. The district has recently launched a structure of Moral Regeneration Movement to assist in finding solutions to these social ills. Our own performance management framework as adopted by this council as well stipulates the form and content of managing performance including assessing it. The challenges in implementation shall be and must be addressed.

I wish to conclude borrowing some insightful words from the late President JFK Kennedy, who had this to say

**"... those to whom much is given, much is required. ...when at some future date the high court of history sits in judgment on each one of us, recording whether in our brief span of service we fulfilled our responsibilities to the State..., in whatever office we may hold, will be measured by the answers to four questions:**

**First, were we truly men/ women of courage –? ...the courage to resist public pressure, as well as private greed?**

**Secondly, were we truly men of judgment –? ...of our own mistakes as well as the mistakes of others – with enough wisdom to know what we did not know, and enough candor to admit it?**

**Third, were we truly men of integrity –? ...men who never ran out on either the principles in which they believed or the people who believed in them ...neither financial gain nor political ambition could ever divert [them] from the fulfillment of our sacred trust?**

**Finally, were we truly men of dedication –? with an honor ... to no single individual or group, and compromised by no private obligation or aim, but devoted solely to serving the public good and the national interest."**  
 Today we must in answering to all these questions say, YES we can.

**CLLR. T. S. SOBUTHONGO**  
**SPEAKER OF THE COUNCIL**



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# Multi-million rand Ludeke Dam launched in Mbizana



ABOVE: Executive Mayor of Alfred Nzo, Cllr. Sixolile Mehlomakhulu, Premier of the Eastern Cape, Phumulo Masualle, Minister of Water & Sanitation cutting the ribbon during launch of Ludeke dam.



ABOVE: Premier Phumulo Masualle and Minister Nomvula Mokonye un-veiling the plaque of Lu-deke Dam.



ABOVE: Ludeke dam which expected to supply communities of Alfred Nzo District Municipality

Department of water and sanitation launched a multi-million rand Ludeke Dam in Mount Zion, ward 26 in Mbizana. The launch was led by Minister Nomvula Mokonyane. Ludeke dam will increase the capacity of water treatment works and improve the bulk- water distribution in the district. Phase one of this project has been completed with the amount of R900 million and that includes building of the dam and now fully operational, pump raw water supply system to the existing water treatment works in Nomlacu village and upgraded into two phases.

The Mbizana Regional Bulk Water Supply Scheme will provide 20 million litres of safe drinking water a day to 266 000 people. The construction of the project has created job opportunities as 190 people has been employed in the construction of the dam, other 70 people employed at pump stations, Nomlacu Treatment works employed 70, and further 150 employed on pipelines. There were trainings that were also conducted during these developments as 32 people were trained as plumbers and 5 as treatment works operators. Water is life and Sanitation is dignity.

Ludeke dam is expected to supply potable water to more than 800 000 villagers of Matatiele, Mbizana, Ntabanku-lu and Umzimvubu, residing in about 178 347 households. The scheme will address water challenges in the villages by increasing the capacity of the water treatment works and improving the bulk water distribution in the area.

A pump station was also built to pump water from the Ludeke Dam through the existing main pump to Nomlacu Water Treatment Works for the benefited the villagers.

The Minister launched the project where storage reservoirs and gravity mains are designed to provide water and address the scarcity of water to the area of Mbizana at the OR Tambo Centenary and going forward.

This was part of O.R.Tambo centenary projects where we saw a series of handover happening at the birth place of Tambo. Meanwhile a 80 year old Bikiwe Mxotwa said she so excited and over joyed that finally they are getting water just out side their gates. "My age doesn't allow me to travel long distance

since I stay alone in most in-stances now that the tap water is just out side my gate it makes my life much more easier thank government " said Mxothwa.



PLACE OF UNITY IN DIVERSITY

# 500 destitute families in Silangwe village get houses



**Above:** M.E .C officially handing over a house to one of the beneficiaries at Silangwe Village in Mbizana just two days before the O.R Tambo centenary year celebrations

"The legacy of Oliver Reginald Tambo shall live forever" this statement was said by the Member of the Executive Council (MEC) for Hu-man settlement in the Eastern Cape, Ms Helen Sauls - August, during the official handover of 500 houses at Silangwe village in Mbi-zana.

"The series of handovers in Mbizana are part of the O.R Tambo legacy programmes which we implement to ensure that communities experienced better living conditions in a democratic country." said August.

The handover of houses is part of the human settlement mission which facilitate and coordinate the provision of quality, integrated and sustainable human settlement that offer a better living environment.

MEC Sauls—August said: "The life that we're experiencing today has been fought for by the Tambo and other liberation struggles, we have to carry the mandate of make the lives of the people better and dignified".

A full-fledged house with furniture inside was handed over to a 40 year old Nolwazi Njokweni who is disable.

Speaking with Alfred Nzo News at the handover, Njokweni could not contain her excitement and said: I will not stress any more even if the weather conditions are not good" She had been living in the unsafe mud structure with her daughter and grandchildren.

"We are surviving on my Disability Grant and Child Support Grant for my grandchildren." she said.

# Mobile Police Station handed over in Mbizana

The days of waiting for public transport or walking long distances in order to access the services of the police or to report crime are finally over for the rural community of Nkantolo in Mbizana.

The MEC for Transport, Safety and Liaison, Weziwe Tikana, handed over a fully equipped mobile Community Service Centre (CSC) to the community of Nkantolo as part of celebrating OR Tambo's centenary.

"This mobile community service centre is an initiative to enhance service delivery in the Mbizana policing precincts and is for the benefit of the communities, so I urge you to take advantage and utilise it fully," MEC Tikana told the packed to capacity Nkantolo community hall.

She said that bringing resources and excellent services to the people is one of the priorities of government as this is a progressive step towards positive touching and being part of the lives of the people.

"Mobile community service centres are most effective in the

rural areas as they can be driven from one village to another," said Tikana.

The facility offers basic services that one would get from a police station and includes the certifying of documents, reporting of criminal cases for investigation, signing of affidavits by a commissioner of oaths and reporting of motor vehicle accidents or any other matter that deserves police attention.

The mobile CSC also has constant radio contact with its mother station, Mbizana Police Station, and has a temporary holding cell and facilities to interview and obtain statements from complainants and victims of crime.

On the same day, seven bakkies were handed over to the Mount Ayliff cluster which includes Mbizana. Cluster Commander Mthuthuzeli Mtukushe welcomed the mobile unit and the bakkies and assured their efficient use. "We welcome and we are thankful for these added resources; we promise to use them effectively and efficiently for the safety of our communities," said Mtukushe



**Above:** M.E. C for Transport, safety & liaison at the official handover of mobile police station



**Above:** mobile police station which was recently handed over by the MEC for transport in Mbizana





## Learner get bicycles during the Road Safety Awareness Campaign

Minister of Transport, Mr Joe Maswanganyi, embarked on a day-long road safety awareness and education campaign in Mbizana as part of Oliver Reginald Tambo Centenary.

This activation took place on the eve of the OR Tambo Centenary celebrations in Bizana and forms part of the Department's October Transport Month (OTM) campaign.

During the campaign, Minister educate taxi operators, passengers, pedestrians and school learners about issues of road safety as part of government efforts to curb road fatalities and crashes.

The Minister distributed bicycles to learners at OR Tambo Technical High School as part of the Department's Shova Kalula programme. Shova Kalula is a learner transport programme which donates bicycles to learners who walk more than 3 km to school.



Above: Minister of Transport handing over bicycle at Nkanto-Lo Vilalge in Mbizana

The Minister was joined by the Deputy Minister of Transport, Ms Sindiswe Chikunga and the Department's roads entities: Road Accident Fund (RAF), Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC), Cross-Border Road Transport Agency (CBRTA), Road Traffic Infringement Agency (RTIA) and South African National Roads Agency Limited (SANRAL).

## Matriculants inspired to do well in the exams



Left: Hon Mayor of Matatiele Local Municipality encourages Matriculants before writing their final

Grade 12 pupils in Matatiele were touched by words and prayer as Matatiele Local Municipality in partnership with Alfred Nzo District Municipality and the Department of Education held a Matric Prayer Day at Maluti Civic Centre in Matatiele.

The Matric Prayer Day was aimed at spiritual upliftment and motivating learners to put all their energy towards success and pass their grade 12 with flying colours.

"Education is our priority number one as government and as the municipality we want to assure them that they have our full support", said Matatiele Mayor, Cllr. Momelezi Mbedla.

Mayor Mbedla told pupils that government had removed many barriers to education by introducing no fee schools, offering bursaries and study loans to students who want to study at institutions of higher learning.

"In the past years we have also created supporting environment in the post school arena. These opportunities include the expansion of the opportunities for training in technical vocational and training colleges as well as at universities," he said.



Above: Learners that attended Matric Prayer Session in Maluti Civic Centre



Above: Thembelihle Mthwesi from Tholanga Senior Secondary School who was representative of the learners

Thembelihle Mthwesi, a grade 12 pupil from Senior Secondary School said: I am happy that the municipality are here because I feel like he cares for us," said Mthwesi who want to be a doctor said he felt hopeful about her future.



# SASSA succeeds with making direct payments

SASSA has successfully paid over 2 million beneficiaries who receive their grants from commercial banks. This was done through the Paymaster General account which was opened recently. This move is a giant step taken towards SASSA ultimately paying all beneficiaries using any type of electronic payment method. It is part of fully complying with orders of the Constitutional Court and phasing out CPS, the current service provider.

As from the 1st of March 2018, SASSA will also do direct transfers to about 5.7 million beneficiaries who use the SASSA card. This will bring about 80% of payment transactions under the control of SASSA by the end of March 2018.

By April, the only beneficiaries whose payments won't be falling under SASSA's direct control will be the ones paid in cash at SASSA pay points. SASSA has already gone to the market for the cash payment category by way of advertising a tender. This represents just under 3 million beneficiaries.

Till recently, the legislated life insurance premium deductions of 700 000 beneficiary accounts were deducted through a third party contractor. SASSA is in the process of completing the take-over of this responsibility from CPS, who was managing these on SASSA's behalf.

SASSA is currently negotiating with the banking industry in order to develop a low cost banking account which will be subsidized by SASSA so that beneficiaries get the full value of their grants without paying bank charges. Such an account will not allow electronic debits and is intended to protect beneficiaries from unauthorised debits which have been a problem in the past.

The current SASSA card is still valid and will only expire at the end of the year; by which time the new SASSA/SAPO card shall have been introduced. SASSA has gone on a countrywide awareness campaign to inform beneficiaries with these developments and to eliminate fake messages which tell beneficiaries to switch to some questionable new cards. The public is reminded to contact 0800601011 in case they need more clarity.

## Ezempilo

Kuqhambule isifo esifumaneka ekutyeni esaziwa ngokuba yi listeriosis kwilizwe lo Mzantsi Afrika. Ebhengeza ukuiqhambuka kwesisifo kwinkomfa noonondaba, uMphathiswa weSebe lezeMpilo uGqirha Aaron Motswaledi, the esisifo sinobungozi kwaye siyanyangeka xa sifunyenwe ngethuba. UMphathiswa uthi esisifo esibangelwa yi ntsolongwane ***Listeria monocytogene*** sifumaneka kwindalo efana nezityalo, umlaba, iziqhamo, amanzi kunye nezinye izinto ezifumaneka kwimfuyo ezinje ngo bisi. Nazi iimpawu zesisifo:

- Umkhuhlane onokuhambisa
- Isicaphucaphu, ukuhlanza
- Umjika ntamo
- Intlolo ebuhlungu
- Intlungu emzimbeni
- Ukuxhuzula



## Uzikhusele njani kwesisifo?

- Zama ucoceko olulungileyo ikakhulukazi ekitshini;
- Qhubeka ococekile. Hlamba izandla ngaphambi kokuphatha ukutya, ngakumbi xa ulungiselela ukutya;
- Hlamba izandla ngalo lonke ixesha xa uvela endlwini yangasese, na xa uzakuphatha ukutya
- Iziqhamo nemifuno zihlanjwa rhoqo phambi kokuba ziye phatsi kwempumlo
- Ukutya funeka kuphekisiswe ngakumbi inyama.
- Qiniseka ukugcina ukutya ngexehs lokutshisa elifanelekileyo.
- Isikhencezisi(Friji) funeka ihlanjwe rhoqo khona ukuze ihlale icocekile.
- Ungadli okanye ungaseli imveliso ezenziwe ngo bisi oluluhlaza
- Sebenzisa amanzi okusela acocekile.



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**100 YEARS**





## DID YOU KNOW?



### OR Tambo was widely respected by the international community

- In 1963, he convinced the United Nations (UN) to pass Resolution XV111, calling on the apartheid government to release all political prisoners.
- O.R Tambo also convinced the UN Security Council to urge member states to adopt a wide range of economic measures against South Africa in 1985.
- He mobilised and united the national, continental and international forces in sustained action that ultimately led to South Africa's freedom.



### The international community played a significant role in the fight against apartheid.

Through the diligent work of OR Tambo, the human rights violations of the apartheid government were exposed to the international community.

The support of the international community was critical in the fight for a democratic South Africa. South Africa remains grateful for the role played by the international community in our Struggle.

### OR Tambo's legacy lives through our international relations.

OR Tambo laid the foundation for country's sound relations with other countries all over the world. South Africa enjoys cordial relations with all countries based on the spirit of cooperation inspired by OR Tambo.

## OR TAMBO BOOKS

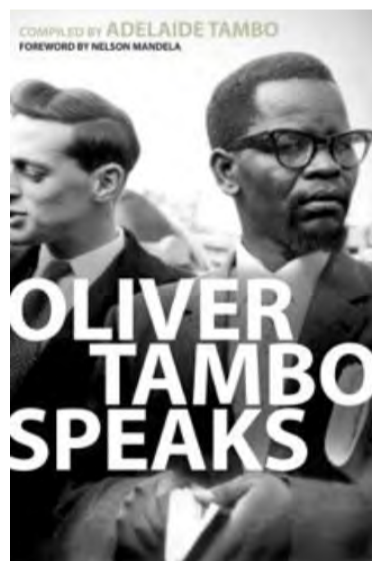
Learn more about OR Tambo by reading

#### *Oliver Tambo Speaks*

This unique collection of speeches, writings and rare interviews, with a foreword by Nelson Mandela, gives a coherent and comprehensive view of the African National Congress's development, from its origins as a protest movement in the stormy 1950s, through its banning and subsequent reconstitution in exile, into the organisation that it is today. Aside from being a vital historical document, *Oliver Tambo Speaks* presents us with fresh perspectives on our current situation from one of the greatest political thinkers that South Africa has produced.

The book is available for purchase in most bookstores and accredited online retailers.

**Author:** Oliver Tambo

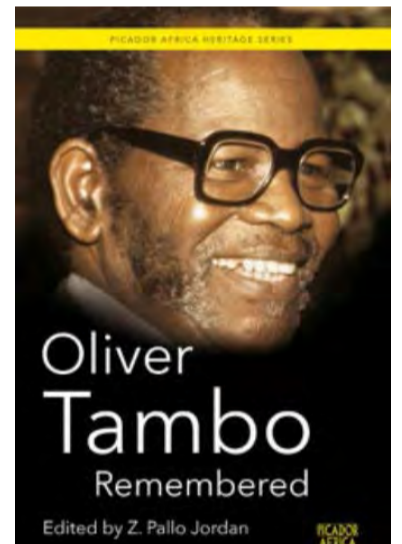


#### *Oliver Tambo Remembered*

*Oliver Tambo Remembered* is a salute to one of South Africa's most remarkable individuals. Originally published in 2007, this compilation of memories is a celebration of what would have been Oliver Reginald Tambo's 90th birthday. It sees friends and associates remembering OR the leader, the comrade and the man. The contributions are written by people who encountered OR during his travels in Europe and the United States, and who knew him whilst he was living in South Africa and in exile in Africa and the United Kingdom.

This edition of *Oliver Tambo Remembered* is published to commemorate his centenary on 27 October 2017. The pieces in this book celebrate not only the impact that OR had on South Africa's future, but also the character of a selfless and compassionate leader who raised the international profile of the ANC through his wise and intelligent guidance, his humility and integrity, and his unyielding commitment to the Struggle.

**Author:** Zweledanga Pallo Jordan



#### *Oliver Tambo's Dream*

The book is a collection of the 2017 OR Tambo lecture series presented by Albie Sachs commemorating OR's Centenary. The first lecture was presented at the University of Pretoria on 22 February 2017, followed by three more lectures at universities in the Western Cape.

**Author:** Albie Sachs



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## Alfred Nzo put smile on elderly and disabled people at Lubaleko village



**Left:** Executive Mayor , Mayoral Committee Members and Councillors giving presents to communities at the Christmas party at Lubaleko Village in EMaxesibeni



"This is a day I will never forget in my life, this is much needed gift as I share my blankets with my grandchildren", said Jojo. Meanwhile Bhova Nobefundisi (25) who is heading her family was pleased to receive grocery and Christmas hamper .

The Executive Mayor Cllr Sixolile Mehlomakhulu accompanied by Mayoral Committee Members held the Special Grouping Christmas Party at Lubaleko Village at EMaxesibeni

The event was attended by all special grouping such as elderly, youth, disability, and child headed families.

The aim was to promote Ubuntu and create awareness about human rights of the special grouping as well as to close the 16 days of activism against woman and child abuse.

Executive Mayor, Sixolile Mehlomakhulu said this was part of his mayoral social inter-vention to the vulnerable people in society. He handed over wheel chairs, blankets groceries and Christmas gifts to elderly people, disabled people and children.

"Christmas is a much needed refreshing and fulfilling period of time for many of our people, but to those without families, and especially to orphans and vulnerable children, the festive season is a difficult period" said Mehlomakhulu.

"This period of time we must also reminds our communities that we should care for all children, Elderly, disables, in our communities especially those without parents," said the executive Mayor.

## Oliver Reginald Tambo National Centenary Celebrations Organised in Alfred Nzo District



President Jacob Zuma officiated the O.R Tambo Centenary national celebrations that were organised in Nkantolo village in Mbizana. The objectives of these celebrations were to honour the legacy and life of the liberation struggle icon, African humanist and the longest serving President of the governing party,

Mr Oliver Reginald Tambo.

The year 2017 was declared a 'Year of OR Tambo' by government to mark the centenary birthday of Mr Tambo and to remember his principled leadership and ideals which inspired many liberation struggle and anti-colonialism activists not only in South Africa but across the continent and the world. The national centenary celebrations were held under the theme "Life and Legacy of Mr OR Tambo". Mr Tambo was born in the Nkantolo village in Mbizana in the Eastern Cape on 27 October 1917 and he sadly passed away on 24 April 1993, aged 75, after he suffered a stroke. If he is still alive, he would have 100 years old. The intentions of honouring this Icon by government were to fast-track his values and service deliveries to fellow Africans.

President Zuma has defined the National Centenary Celebrations as one of the most significant occasions for the country and the African continent and encouraged South Africans to draw lessons from Mr Tambo's life, leadership and to understand the qualities that made him one of the most internationally respected leaders and founding of father of the democratic South Africa. Several Government Developmental Activities were organised during the year to honour his advocacy on creating a conducive environment on educational. National celebratory took place across the country as they were build up to the fully fledged National Centenary Celebrations that were organised in Nkantolo village, the birth place of this Icon in out skirts Mbizana.



**Above:** President of the republic of south Africa delivering the key note address at the O.R Tambo centenary celebrations

These celebrations used to draw lessons from his life and understand the qualities that made him the outstanding leader that he was. President of the Republic of South Africa Jacob Zuma addressed thousands of people who were fully packed in marquee that accommodated more than 20 000 people. The unflinching weather conditions never stopped

fellow South Africans to descend to Mbi-zana to celebrate the birthday of this International Icon.

As part of the legacy projects that were undertaken in the area was the electrification of the newly built home of Mrs. Nomthetho Iris Mnyameni. Mrs. Mnyameni is 82 years old who lives in a dilapidated structure in Ludeke village, about 10km from Nkantolo. She lives with 11 grandchildren and their parents have passed away. She has a responsibility to provide shelter, food and all basic needs. From collaborated efforts of various government departments, Mrs. Mnyameni received a house with furniture. President was accompanied by Mininsters, Jeff Hadebe, David Mahlobo Premier Phumulo Masualle, MECs Sakhumzi Somyo and Pemmy Majodina to the officially switched on and activated. "Ndinovuyo nochulumanco olungazenzisiyo xa kunamhlanje ubomi bam buthe batshintsha ngendlela emangalisayo. Ndiyambulela lo Rhulumente kwaye nam ndiyakutsho ndifane namanye amakhaya, ndibe kwikhaya elifudumeleyo", utshilo umama uMnyameni. Yanga umdali angandongeza eminye iminyaka emi-ninzi, nam ndikwazi ukungcamla ubomi obufudumeleyo, utshilo.





## TB HOSPITAL CONSTRUCTION A BOOST FOR LOCAL ECONOMY AND JOBS



**Above:** Phase 3 construction at Khotsong TB Hospital in Matatiele.

The contracts awarded to SMMEs on this project are valued at R8.1 million combined. A further R94 million is set aside for local business opportunities, mainly construction work for upcoming contractors in and around Matatiele. This R 436 million project will go quite a long way in government's efforts to fight TB, as part of the government civil society strategy to fight HIV and TB. According to Unathi Maholwana, Coega Development Corporation SMME Manager, the amount set aside for the SMME development in this project is the 35% of the value of the project work going to SMMEs which are primarily residing within in the area in which projects takes place. There is a great deal of excitement with the facility and with impact that the project has had in the lifeline of the SMMEs that had benefited. Sibongile Shangase, owner of Tankim-zwa Catering and Construction from Maluti, appreciated the project's contribution

with skills training and de-velopment.

The project has received much appreciating with community members who have been longing for such a state of the art facility. This development will also contribute much to the infrastructural development of the rural town of Matatiele. "We believe that the hospital will offer better health care for patients and I would like to thank our leaders for providing quality health services to the people of Matatiele, despite the difficult conditions faced," said the excited Yolezwa Mdingi - a Ward 20 community member. Another SMME that has received a boost from the project is Qhamani Project, owned by Phakama Evans. Evans expressed gratitude for the opportunity her business has received through this project. The project has create about 260 jobs opportunities in different aspects of the project. "For the municipality this project means a serious milestone in terms of Local Economic Development, as a number of our local contractors benefited immensely. "The investment by Coega – the implementation agent has ensured that we 'move our SMMEs forward – thus moving Matatiele and South Africa forward" said Cllr .Nomonde Nkukhu, Portfolio Head responsible for Economic Development and Planning in the Municipality.

## MORE THAN 400 HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVE RUNNING WATER



**ABOVE:** Nomzomo Senemfu opening tap water for the first time

Nomzamo Sinemfu from Drayini village says this is a huge relief.

"Our bodies feel rejuvenated because the water is clean. The water we used to fetch was unhygienic, and we would get sick, have recurring stomach bugs and diarrhea. The water would even run out."

Mehlomakhulu said the WSIG fund is aimed at facilitating the planning, acceleration and implementation of various interventions that will ensure water supply provision to those communities that are currently not receiving clean running water

Alfred Nzo District Municipality handed over water supply project that bring clean water to 466 households in Drayini, Nzwakazi and Mngeni villages in Ntabankulu.

Executive mayor, Cllr Sixolile Mehlomakhulu said the project, which is valued at more than R6.8 million, is part of the series of water supply projects that were launched as part of O. R. Tambo Centenary since July 2017.

"This is the first project to be completed funded under the Water Ser-vices and Infrastructure Grant (WSIG) that is aimed at providing inter-mediate water solution to rural communities," said Mehlomakhulu.

He said the project, which created 25 direct employment opportuni-ties for locals, included refurbishment of weir as water supply source, installation of water reticulation pipelines, construction of storage reservoir and 31 standpipes.

"This is the start of the many projects handovers we will be embarking on from now on and we expect to open taps with running water to 27 villages across the district," he added.

# THROUGH THE LENSES



**Above:** Communities of Lubaleko Village celebrating during their events



**Above:** King Edward High receiving cheque and trophies at the Matric Awards



**Above:** Executive Mayor giving blankets to elderly at the closure of 16 days of Activism



**Above:** Alfred Nzo District Municipality Mayoral and Management at the Media engagement interacting with journalists



**Above:** communities at the O.R. Tambo centenary celebrations in Mbizana



**Above:** Executive Mayor addressing parents and learners at the Awards



**Above :**Phase 3 construction at Khotsong TB Hospital

## Life and legacy of **OR TAMBO.** **100 YEARS**



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