

CELEBRATIONS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY TO COMMEMORATE HERITAGE DAY

LIMPOPO: The country came to a standstill as thousands of South Africans were celebrating Heritage Day, President Cyril Ramaphosa led the main event in the Northern Cape and the Limpopo Acting Premier Namane Dickson Masemola led the celebrations in Lephalale Municipality at D’Nyala Game Reserve while Mogalakwena Local Municipality Mayor Cllr Andrina Matsemela led the celebrations few days late in Kromkloof Village, Bakenberg Cluster.

South Africans celebrated the day by remembering the cultural heritage of the many cultures that make up the population of South Africa.

The Mogalakwena Local Municipality joined the rest of the country in celebrating the 2019 Heritage Day, under the theme “Celebrating South Africa’s literary classics in the year of indigenous languages”.

In her brief speech, Mayor Matsemela indicated that government calls on all sectors to use our liberation heritage as a vehicle to foster social cohesion, nation building, economic development and inclusive citizenship.

“On this month we celebrate our many cultures, traditions and languages. We pay tribute to all South Africans, young and old, who have kept our rich and diverse cultural and linguistic traditions alive,” said Matsemela.

“Our ancestors survived life in this extreme desert landscape because of their knowledge of the land, their ability to find and conserve water, their understanding of animals, as well as their vast knowledge of traditional plants and medicines,” added Matsemela.

“I want to call on community cultural organisations and those custodians of our cultural heritage to teach and train young people. It is the greatest tragedy that our elders often pass away without handing over their knowledge of our customs and traditions. I call upon our young people: reach out to the elders in your communities, listen to them, learn from them. What they tell you and teach you has value,” said Matsemela.

Matsemela urged the community to preserve the culture, tradition, the legacy of our forebears and the environment.

The liberation heritage was forged in the theatre of struggle that shaped the new South Africa and can be actively used to contribute to the revival of social and political consciousness in our country.

Photo Captions

Pic no 16: Mogalakwena Local Municipality Mayor Cllr Andrina Matsemela seated next to Cllr Josephine Madiba during the Heritage Day Celebrations at Kromkloof Village

Pic no 17: Premier Representative MEC Dickson Masemola conversing with Lephalale Municipality Mayor Jack Maeko during Heritage Day at Lephalale.