



**LIMPOPO**  
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF  
SPORT, ARTS & CULTURE

## MAPUNGUBWE WEEKLY BULLETIN

### LIMPOPO COMMEMORATES FREEDOM MONTH

By Jermina Kaka

**Turfloop:** Limpopo Government joined the rest of the South African in celebrating Freedom month under the theme **'The Year of Oliver Reginald Tambo: United for a radical socio economic transformation'**. Unlike the previous year's whereby freedom day was celebrated one day through a rally like event at a stadium, this year Limpopo Government through the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture held a series of activities.

The Freedom month celebrations kick-started with the official launch of Limpopo Arts and Craft market, at Rand Easter Show Nasrec, Johannesburg, Gauteng.



It was then followed by the launch of *Iokshion Biskop* at the Peter Nchabeleng Memorial Hall, Modimolle Township in the Waterberg District through the showcasing of a freedom fighter who was killed by the apartheid regime, Solomon 'Kalushi' Mahlangu movie. In Sekhukhune, Moses Mabhatha Hall in the Fetakgomo Greater Tubatse Municipality, became the host of the movie showcasing.





Then on Thursday, the 27th April 2017, Limpopo Province saw both young and old people coming together in numbers under one roof at Tiro Hall, University of Limpopo, Turfloop Campus to attend the historic Freedom Day lecture. The session was different and interactive as the people of Limpopo had an opportunity to listen to various speakers including the Premier of Limpopo, Stanley Chupu Mathabatha and the Office of the Public Protector Representative. The attendees were given a chance to ask questions in-line with freedom day celebration; its importance, where freedom comes from and where is taking the youth of South Africa.

During his address, the Premier of Limpopo gave a narration on how South Africa was captured by the colonialists and the apartheid system which mostly oppressed Africans or blacks. "Apartheid system developed policies that oppressed black, whereby blacks did not have freedom of association, freedom of choice, right to Education, blacks were not allow black to study Mathematics. Women were the most oppressed including both black and white" said Premier Mathabatha.

The premier further emphasised that the 23 years of freedom should be embraced by communities through there are still some outstanding matters on service delivery but there is progress in terms of civilising communities. "Our Province is today a much better Province than the one we inherited in 1994. In the past you wouldn't find a village with electricity, better roads and school kids been given food like is happening now, therefore the lives of the previously disadvantaged are improving, both socially, educationally and economically"





The last leg of Freedom month celebration was held at Freedom Park to commemorate the heroes and heroines who lost their lives fight for South African freedom. The MEC Moloi, together with MKMVA members and the related families unveiled the names of freedom fighters inscribed on the Wall of Names at Freedom Park.

Freedom Day on 27 April is an annual celebration of South Africa's first non-racial democratic elections of 1994. It is significant because it marks the end of over three hundred years of colonialism, segregation and white minority rule and the establishment of a new democratic government led by Nelson Mandela and a new state subject to a new constitution.

Freedom month celebration month gives South Africans time to reflect on the strides the country has made in achieving the vision of a better life for all. Undoubtedly much has changed since 1994 and there has been progress in every sphere of society, but government is aware that more must still be done. Freedom Day 2014 is especially significant as it marks 20 years since the first free and fair election. Freedom Day is also a time to reflect on what makes citizens proud to be South Africans. Entertainment was also galore, with loads of traditional groups showcasing the cultural diversity of Limpopo, then Mdivha, Moryks, Judith Sephuma making everyone dance and singing along to their various tunes.

