



***“LEADERS HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO LEAD BY EXAMPLE AND DEFEND THE
CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER”***

GAUTENG MK NATIONAL COUNCIL PRESS STATEMENT

12 FEBRUARY 2021

MK National Council in Gauteng calls for calm and rationality as we join the **ANC Veterans League, Eastern Cape MK LWVs, and other progressive organisations and individuals** for the defence of our constitutional order. It is clear to everyone that a dark cloud is gathering over the republic, threatening stability, and placing at risk, all that we hold dear as a Nation, peace and stability, whose absence can only derail the Developmental State the ANC is tasked to construct.

OUR STANCE ON LEGALITY

South Africa is a Constitutional State that places the equality before the law at the center of our daily lives. That all shall be equal before the law is what was promised by the Freedom Charter after all. It is therefore normal, that as former Liberation War Soldiers, schooled in the Freedom Charter and trained to defend justice and legality with our lives, we cannot be silent when law and order is under threat.

OUR STANCE ON THE ZONDO COMMISSION

The ANC, our mother body has publicly declared its support for the Commission it helped to create. As disciplined members of the ANC, we therefore see no reason to second guess our leaders and take a hostile posture towards the Commission on Allegations of State Capture, no matter how uncomfortable and painful the disclosures are told at the Commission. Without the truth there can be no self-correction. We therefore see the Commission as the bitter medicine we need as a country to

cure ourselves from the corruption virus afflicting us. Our support for the Commission is not our disapproval of any person or leader. Ours is a principled decision.

OUR PLEA TO FORMER PRESIDENT ZUMA

All ExMK members must be feeling a lot of pain whenever one of its leaders and ex Commanders face difficulty. While as a matter of principle, MKNC in Gauteng makes no distinction among the leaders of our movement, it is natural to see former fellow Comrades deal with the problems differently. However, we want to make a direct plea to Cde President JZ and say, "As our ex-Commander, we feel we have an obligation to ask you Cde President to ignore the advice of those who encourage you to turn your back on our constitutional order. Your best interest is well served by rising above your individual pain and show leadership by example as some of us have seen in you before. We join those calm and rational voices that have reached out to you to ask our ex-Commander in Chief, to rethink his attitude towards the ruling of our Constitutional Court, and fight for justice within the parameters of our laws.

No one doubts your will and ability to stand up and fight for your beliefs. This moment we ask you to fight a different battle, a different fight. The country needs you to fight against all forms of lawlessness and strong man mentality that risks teaching future generations, that defying the laws of our Republic is somehow a revolutionary path. There are many who encourage you to defy the courts not for your wellbeing but theirs. They are fugitives from justice, who see you as their Moses who must show them the way to standing up against legality as a way of escaping responsibility and accountability for their choices. Please Comrade President, deny these would-be bandits the example and the motivation they so desire to claim you as their idol and choose the people you struggled for".

EX MK AND REVOLUTIONARY DISCIPLINE

Let the name of MK not be used in festering divisions and instability but unity and prosperity of our country. We therefore call on all those who see themselves as former MK soldiers to remember their oath and defend the people and the country against any threats, local and foreign. Turning our backs against legality is not the way to support our former President. We are not defending his name nor his legacy by declaring war against the people he led to freedom. Out of all our leaders, Cde JZ knows the carnage of civil unrest as he was in the forefront of peace making in KZN. We should be more measured in our approach and be more responsible with our words. Inciting violence is not the way. We therefore want to make it clear that those who are calling for violence against the Constitutional State, are neither the true comrades of former President JZ nor patriots whose shoulders our people can lean on. We had our war and now it is time for peace and stability. Let the law take its course and we

place our faith in the hands of the Judiciary, even when we are not happy about the outcomes. After all, in every court battle there are winners and losers. So, someone is always hurt by the outcome and that does not mean we should destroy the judicial processes for that.

CONCLUSION

We ask the ANC NEC to assess whether those who are agitating for violence and defiance of the constitutional order using the name of MK have not brought the Organisation into disrepute. This is in the light of the ANC resolution to support the Zondo Commission and guarantee equality before the law by defending the independency of the Judiciary. We also plead the ANC NEC to prioritise the legitimate cries of Liberation War Veterans, who now are being used as cannon fodder in factional fights out of desperation as they face daily hardships. Our fallen heroes in foreign lands remain a lump on our throats and we will not tire from demanding their dignified reburial in the land of their birth. This will go a long way in our own healing as a generation of freedom fighters.

Gauteng MKNC will reach out to the ANC, SACP and COSATU in Gauteng to strengthen a progressive front in defence of our values as the movement, our interest as a country and the future of our children. Our members are encouraged to be active in all these structures, and participate in political education, which hopefully, we remind us once again, what it means to be exMK, the most advanced detachment of the revolutionary movement.

Amandla!!!

Issued by Gauteng MKNC

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