

# TIMELESS

# NEWS

INCORPORATING LIMPOPO, MPUMALANGA AND GAUTENG - FRIDAY, 26 APRIL 2024

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"Thought Leaders in Community News"

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## TRIAL BEGINS FOR FOURTH ACCUSED IN CAIPHUS NYOKA MURDER CASE



Community members from Etwatwa in Daveyton singing struggle songs to celebrate the life of a fallen hero, Caiphus Nyoka. Photo: Supplied.

By Staff Reporter

**Boksburg, Gauteng** - Trial proceedings in the historic case of anti-apartheid activist Caiphus Nyoka's murder took a dramatic turn as Pieter Stander, the fourth accused in the case, was formally indicted.

The trial, which commenced on Monday, has garnered significant attention and has been a long-awaited moment for Nyoka's family and supporters.

Stander's recent arrest at O.R. Tambo International Airport on April 5, 2024, sent shockwaves through the community.

Despite being released on warning, the gravity of the charges against him resonated as he appeared before the Benoni Magistrate's Court on April 12,

2024, to face formal charges of murder.

Stander now joins Johan Marais, Leon Louis Van Den Berg, and Abram Hercules Engelbrecht in the dock, where they all stand accused of conspiracy to commit murder, murder, and defeating the ends of justice.

The trial's remand to April 26 in the Boksburg Magistrate's Court for a substantive application suggests that the legal battle ahead will be protracted and complex.

On the other hand, this is a big step towards closure for the Nyoka family, who are being represented by the Webber Wentzel legal team.

Joost Venter, an associate at Webber

Wentzel and legal representative for the Nyoka family, emphasised the family's satisfaction with the trial date secured by the National Prosecuting Authority.

He highlighted the family's enduring struggle for justice, spanning over three decades since Nyoka's tragic death in 1987.

Despite previous setbacks, including an inconclusive inquest in 1988 and 1989 and a confession by the first accused only in 2009, the family's perseverance has been unwavering.

Venter underscored the emotional toll the prolonged quest for justice has taken on the Nyoka family, who have lived with the knowledge of the perpetrators'

identities for decades.

He referenced their appearance before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in 1997, where no applications for amnesty were made, further emphasising the family's commitment to seeking accountability rather than reconciliation.

As the trial progresses, all eyes remain fixed on the courtroom, where the quest for justice for Caiphus Nyoka enters a critical phase.

The proceedings serve not only as a legal reckoning but also as a testament to the resilience of those who have tirelessly fought for truth and accountability in the face of oppression and injustice.

# DEPUTY PRESIDENT MASHATILE LAUNCHES SA CONNECT PHASE 2 PROJECT



Deputy President of the Republic of South Africa, Shipokosa Paulus Mashatile, delivers an inspiring address at the launch of the SA Connect Phase 2 Project in Modimolle. Photo: GCIS.

By Staff Reporter

**Modimolle, Limpopo** - Deputy President of the Republic of South Africa, Shipokosa Paulus Mashatile, delivered an inspiring address at the launch of the SA Connect Phase 2 Project in Modimolle, Waterberg District, last Friday.

The event, attended by government officials, industry stakeholders, and community members, marked a significant milestone in South Africa's efforts to bridge the digital divide and enhance connectivity nationwide.

In his address, Deputy President Mashatile commended the Department of Communications and Digital Technologies for their dedication to expanding internet access and narrowing the digital gap across the country.

He emphasized the critical role of internet connectivity in modern life, from education and healthcare to economic empowerment and social connectivity.

created by the project, Deputy President Mashatile emphasized its potential to generate employment and empower local businesses.

He announced that the SA Connect program is estimated to provide approximately 4,505 direct employment opportunities, with a focus on skilled professionals and semi-skilled labor.

"We are determined to see the participation and employment of people in the communities where we are deploying Wi-Fi to households and communities," Deputy President Mashatile stated, underlining the government's commitment to inclusive economic growth.

Deputy President Mashatile also emphasized the importance of youth participation in the digital economy, encouraging young people to pursue careers in ICT and engineering.

He highlighted the role of institutions like NEMISA in providing training programs and support for digital literacy and SMME development.

The Deputy President outlined the project's objectives, including the deployment of broadband services to 32,055 community Wi-Fi hotspots and the connectivity of approximately 5.6 million households over three years.

He stressed the government's commitment to ensuring universal connectivity, regardless of geographic location or socio-economic status.

In closing, Deputy President Mashatile urged citizens to exercise their democratic right to vote in the upcoming national elections, emphasizing the importance of collective action in building a better and more prosperous future for South Africa.

As the SA Connect Phase 2 Project takes root in Modimolle and the Waterberg District, Deputy President Mashatile expressed confidence that the initiative would not only connect communities but also empower them to thrive in the digital age.

With the launch of the project, Modimolle has embraced the digital revolution, paving the way for enhanced education, economic growth, and social development in the region.

"As we prepare for the seventh National General Election, we reflect on the transformation that South Africa has undergone since 1994," Deputy President Mashatile remarked, highlighting the significance of launching the project during the month of South Africa's freedom commemoration.

He underscored the alignment of the SA Connect program with the principles of the Freedom Charter, emphasizing its role in uplifting marginalized communities and advancing social equity.

The SA Connect program aims to extend connectivity to schools, healthcare facilities, and government institutions while increasing connection speeds to facilitate effective teaching, e-health services, and government service delivery. Deputy President Mashatile reiterated the government's commitment to achieving seamless broadband accessibility for all citizens within 36 months. Highlighting the economic opportunities

The event concluded with a sense of optimism and determination as Deputy President Mashatile and government officials reaffirmed their commitment to realizing South Africa's digital potential and ensuring that no one is left behind in the digital economy.

## HLOPHE ANTICIPATES BOOST IN TOURISM WITH 2023 METRO FM MUSIC AWARDS

By Staff Reporter

**Mbombela, Mpumalanga** – Nompumelelo Hlophe, the MEC for Finance, Economic Development, and Tourism, expresses enthusiasm over the forthcoming 2023 Metro FM Music Awards (MMAs) being held in Mpumalanga, citing its potential to invigorate the tourism sector and bolster the provincial economy.

"We are thrilled that Mpumalanga will be the focal point this week as music enthusiasts from across South Africa, including neighbouring countries like Eswatini and Mozambique, converge on our province to partake in one of the nation's premier music events—the Metro FM Music Awards," remarked MEC Hlophe.

Highlighting the significance of the MMAs beyond the realm of music and arts, Hlophe emphasised its role as a catalyst for tourism, drawing thousands of visitors to Mpumalanga, known as "The Place of the Rising Sun" for its scenic beauty.

"This event serves as a significant tourism booster, attracting throngs of people to witness the Music Awards ceremony.

The Metro FM team has already initiated tourism activations in our townships, further stimulating economic activity and benefiting local businesses, including accommodation providers," noted Hlophe.

With accommodation fully booked in and around Mbombela due to the anticipated influx of visitors, Hlophe urged guests to extend their stay and explore Mpumalanga's diverse attractions, promising an unforgettable experience amidst natural wonders like God's Window, the Big Five, Sudwala Caves, and Graskop Gorge.

Meanwhile, Hlophe issued a reminder to business owners, particularly those in and around Mbombela, to adhere strictly to licensing regulations throughout the MMA period.

"As thousands converge on our province for the Metro FM Music Awards, we anticipate increased demand for entertainment activities, including alcohol consumption.

We urge businesses selling alcoholic beverages to comply with their licence conditions, including operating hours and age restrictions," cautioned Hlophe.

In closing, Hlophe extended a warm welcome to all attendees, expressing gratitude for choosing to explore and experience the offerings of Mpumalanga, "The Place of the Rising Sun."

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# MINISTER LAUNCHES BALFOUR HEALTH CENTRE, ASSESS PUBLIC HEALTH



Minister of Health, Dr. Joe Phaahla cutting the ribbon at Balfour Community Health Centre in last Thursday in presence of MEC for Health in Mpumalanga. Photo: Facebook.

By *Thembekile Mzimba*

**Balfour, Mpumalanga** - The Minister of Health, Dr. Joe Phaahla, inaugurated the cutting-edge Balfour Community Health Centre in Balfour under the Dipaleseng Local Municipality last Thursday.

The ceremony, attended by various dignitaries including the MEC for Health

in Mpumalanga, Ms. Sasekani

Manzini, symbolised a significant step forward in enhancing primary healthcare services as part of the government's commitment to achieving universal health coverage through the National Health Insurance initiative.

With a price tag of R373 199 734, the facility boasts 14 consultation rooms, an

emergency unit, a maternity unit, an EMS unit, and a forensic unit.

The Minister emphasised the facility's role in improving access to primary healthcare, particularly for communities, including farm dwellers in and around the Dipaleseng Local Municipality.

This endeavour not only serves health needs but also fosters local economic development.

The construction project engaged 27 SMMEs, employed 585 local labourers, provided 90 training opportunities, and utilised 36 subcontractors.

Chuene Ramphela, Group Executive of the Infrastructure Delivery Division at the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), lauded the project as a testament to the bank's commitment to resilient infrastructure and improved healthcare access.

The opening ceremony was attended by esteemed guests, including the Executive Mayor of Gert Sibande District Municipality, Cllr Walter Mngomezulu, and the Executive Mayor of Dipaleseng Local Municipality, Cllr Khethiwe Moeketsi, along with senior national, provincial, and local government officials, and health strategic partners.

Doctor Phaahla underscored the significance of the Balfour Community Health Centre in realising the goals of the National Health Insurance Bill, emphasising its role as a practical implementation of the legislation.

He commended the collaboration between public and private entities in ensuring healthcare accessibility and sustainability.

Following the inauguration, Minister Phaahla conducted an oversight visit to Themba Regional Hospital near Mbombela.

He assessed the state of public health service delivery and addressed concerns regarding alleged criminal activities that disrupted healthcare services.

Meanwhile, MEC Manzini, in another health initiative, inaugurated a refurbished walkway at Shongwe Hospital in Nkomazi Municipality.

The walkway, donated by Trans African Concessions (TRAC), provides covered access for patients and staff, ensuring comfort and safety during transportation within the hospital premises.

The event was attended by Chief M. Shongwe of Matsamo Traditional Council and Ms. Sesi Mkhize, representing N4 TRAC management.

The refurbishment aligns with TRAC's corporate social investment objectives, enhancing health service provision for Nkomazi residents and N4 TRAC Road motorists.

Following the walkway inauguration, MEC Manzini led a Cheka Impilo campaign event at Matsamo Traditional Council offices, offering comprehensive healthcare services to over 340 community members.

These initiatives highlight the government's commitment to accessible and inclusive healthcare, driving positive change and sustainable development across communities.



MEC for Health in Mpumalanga Sasekani Janet Manzini listens to briefing before ribbon cutting ceremony. Photo: Facebook.

## MAYOR LEADS BLANKET DRIVE FOR WINTER RELIEF



Diphagane Village residents during the blanket drive program. Photo: Facebook.

By *Duncan Mnisi*

**Diphagane Village, Limpopo** - Last Friday Sekhukhune District Municipality Executive Mayor Cllr Minah Bahula in collaboration with Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality Mayor Cllr Merah Mahlase, Council Speaker Judy Mphelane and a team of dedicated councillors, led a heartwarming blanket drive to Diphagane Village, Ward 24 in Makhuduthamaga Municipality.

The initiative, born out of a desire to extend warmth and comfort to less fortunate and vulnerable families ahead of the impending winter chill, underscored the commitment of the government to support the underprivileged within the community.

Hundreds of families, including the elderly and infirm, were beneficiaries of

this noble endeavour, receiving blankets to shield them from the biting cold.

Mayor Bahula expressed the profound impact of collective efforts in uplifting and supporting one another, especially during challenging times.

"This programme exemplifies the strength of our community when we come together to lend a helping hand," Mayor Bahula said.

She stressed the importance of extending assistance to those unable to afford basic necessities, highlighting the government's role in fostering a caring and supportive environment for all citizens.

Recognising the invaluable contributions of the elderly, Mayor Bahula emphasised their significance in shaping the fabric of society.

"The wisdom, experience, and resilience of our elderly community members are the bedrock of our society. It is essential that we honour and respect their contributions," she affirmed.

The blanket drive programme not only provided essential warmth but also served as a symbol of solidarity and compassion within the community.

Mayor Bahula expressed gratitude for the opportunity to make a meaningful difference in the lives of community members and reiterated the government's commitment to fostering a culture of care and inclusivity.

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR LIQUOR LICENSE IN TERMS OF SECTION 28(1)(C)

Limpopo Liquor Act, 2009( Act No.5 of 2009) Regulation 8

I, the undersigned applicant hereby give notice in terms of Section(1)(c) that an application for liquor license will be lodged with the Sekhukhune District Local Liquor Authority.

In terms of Section 28(2)(b) of the Act, you may lodge an objection to the application. The objection form is obtainable from the above mentioned Local Liquor Authority.

The objection must be submitted to the aforesaid Local Liquor Authority within 21 from the date of lodgement of the application.

Full Names of the applicant:

**Kgopolo Legobe Ramphisa**

Intended trading name:

**Rampoint Bar Lounge**

Identity number or registration of the applicant:

**8906166299081**

Full address and location of the premises:

**Stand No 585/6 Ga-Mathukuthela Nebo Village 1059**

Type of license applied for: **Liquor Store**

## PREMIER ALLOCATES R20 MILLION FOR TRADITIONAL AND KHOI-SAN FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

By Nothando Makhubela

**Mbombela, Mpumalanga** - Mpumalanga Premier Refilwe Mtshweni-Tsipane unveiled a groundbreaking initiative during the 5th annual opening of the Mpumalanga House of Traditional and Khoi-San Leaders (MHTLK) on Wednesday, April 17.

The initiative involves a substantial allocation of R20 million to bolster financial management and bookkeeping within the province's traditional and Khoi-San leadership structures.

The event, held at the provincial legislature in Mbombela, marked a significant step towards supporting the financial sustainability and governance of these esteemed leaders.

Premier Mtshweni-Tsipane emphasised the importance of equipping Amakhosi with foundational skills in financial

management and bookkeeping through training programmes initiated under this initiative.

"In this regard, it gives me great pleasure to announce that we have already initiated training programmes designed to equip, upskill, and sustain Amakhosi with foundational skills in financial management and bookkeeping," stated Premier Mtshweni-Tsipane.

Furthermore, the Premier highlighted the creation of sustainable jobs through capacity-building workshops on various topics such as the Traditional Courts Act and agrarian and farming skills, among others.

These workshops aim to empower traditional leaders to initiate and oversee long-term economic initiatives in their communities while collaborating with the government to create sustainable job opportunities.

"Helping abo-Ndabezitha adapt to new

ways of our operations, these changes have a rippling effect on societal dynamics and require knowledge, technical skills, and practical exposure," added Premier Mtshweni-Tsipane.

The Premier also announced that an additional R20 million would be allocated to bolster day-to-day operations and enhance the overall functionality of the Provincial House.

This additional budget will be allocated during the adjustment period, effectively doubling the existing budget to R40 million.

The allocation of funds and the initiation of training programmes signify a commitment to strengthening the financial management capabilities of traditional and Khoi-San leaders in Mpumalanga, ensuring sustainable development and governance within their communities.



Premier Refilwe Mtshweni-Tsipane, Traditional leaders and MEC Mandla Msibi at the 5th annual opening of the Mpumalanga House of Traditional and Khoi-San Leaders. Photo: Supplied

## EMALAHLENI MAYOR URGES LOCAL HIRING IN FIRE STATION PROJECT



Emalahleni Local Municipality Executive Mayor, Cllr Leah Mabuza, Glencore's Noel Pillay and officials during groundbreaking ceremony for new fire station in Ferro. Photo: Nothando Makhubela.

By Nothando Makhubela

**Emalahleni, Mpumalanga** - At the groundbreaking ceremony for the new fire station in Ferrobank Ward 10, held on April 15 in Emalahleni, Mayor Leah Mabuza of Emalahleni Local Municipality boldly addressed concerns regarding job opportunities for residents within the construction project.

The event, attended by various dignitaries, including Glencore officials, Emalahleni Local Municipality Municipal Manager Sizwe Mayisela, and community members, marked the commencement of the construction of one of three fire stations in Emalahleni, with others situated in Ga-Nala and Phola-Ogies.

Mayor Mabuza's call for fair employment opportunities stemmed from the potential tension and delays that could arise if community members were excluded from employment on the project.

By urging the contractor to prioritise local hiring, Mayor Mabuza aims to minimise disruptions and foster community harmony throughout the construction process, slated to be completed within twelve months.

"This project belongs to Emalahleni, located in ward 10 but serves the people of Emalahleni.

Any individual seeking opportunities here should be afforded that chance to

create less tension and disruption," Mayor Mabuza emphasised.

She acknowledged the end of the 30% employment quota but urged generosity in hiring practices to accommodate community members.

Highlighting the benefits to local companies from Glencore's involvement, Mayor Mabuza expressed excitement at the opportunities for job creation and business growth, emphasising community ownership of the project.

The Mayor commended Glencore for its commitment to community development, noting that beyond the fire station construction, the company also contributes to community welfare by supplying portable water to the Phola-Ogies community.

In response, Noel Pillay, Executive Head of Community Affairs & Regulatory Affairs at Glencore, emphasised the transformative impact of the infrastructure project on the Ferrobank community.

Pillay affirmed that the fire station would enhance emergency response capabilities, prioritising the safety and well-being of residents during fire emergencies.

The collaboration between local government and corporate entities like Glencore underscores the collective efforts to improve community resilience and enhance emergency services within Emalahleni, ensuring a safer and more prosperous future for all residents.

## NEW SCHOOL BRINGS HOPE TO MGIBE PRIMARY



One of the school blocks constructed using containers, boasts 18 classrooms designed to accommodate 540 learners. Photo: Nothando Makhubela

By Nothando Makhubela

**Emalahleni, Mpumalanga** - After years of longing and perseverance, Mgibe Primary School in Kwaarspruit has finally welcomed a ray of hope with the inauguration of a new school building.

The official handover ceremony, held on Wednesday, April 17, marked a historic moment celebrated by Africoal SA, Seriti, the Mpumalanga Department of Education, the Manala Mgibe Tribe, and the Emalahleni Local Municipality.

For nearly six decades, the community has tirelessly advocated for a new school facility to replace the dilapidated structure that once stood in its place.

The old school, which was surrounded by decay and vandalism, held 600 students in seven classrooms, some of whom commuted from nearby informal settlements.

As conditions deteriorated, students were temporarily relocated to Bonginsimbi Combined School.

However, through the collective efforts of stakeholders and the generous donation of land from the Manala Mgibe Tribe, Mgibe Primary School now stands as a beacon of progress and promise for future generations.

Speaking on behalf of Africoal SA, Nichol Van Der Merve emphasised the importance of investing in children's education, stating, "Our children are

important; they are valuable."

Prince Thulani Mabena, representing the Manala Mgibe Rural Property Association, expressed gratitude for the milestone achievement.

"This school brings forth emotions as it represents the restoration of hope, dignity, and pride for our community," he remarked.

He highlighted the historical significance of Mgibe, the forefather of the Manala Mgibe Tribe, and underscored the transformative potential of education in empowering future generations.

The new school, constructed using containers, boasts 18 classrooms and is designed to accommodate 540 learners.

With its completion, Mgibe Primary School not only provides a conducive learning environment but also symbolises a renewed commitment to education and community development.

The inauguration of Mgibe Primary School stands as a testament to the power of collaboration and determination in realising collective aspirations.

As students step into their new classrooms, they embark on a journey of learning and opportunity, laying the foundation for a brighter future for generations to come.



# EMALAHLENI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 19 of the Local Government Municipal Systems Act, Act 32 of 2000 that the following meeting of the Emalahleni Local Council will be held as follows:

MEETING	DATE	TIME	VENUE
Ordinary Council Meeting	25 April 2024	14:00	Council Chamber

Kindly note that the above meeting is open for the public and interested stakeholders.

Members of the public and interested stakeholders are expected to be seated in the Council Chamber 15 minutes before the actual time of the meeting.

All COVID-19 regulations will be observed.

**Mr. H.S. MAYISELA**  
**MUNICIPAL MANAGER**

**Civic Centre, Mandela Street,  
Emalahleni,  
1035  
[www.emalahleni.gov.za](http://www.emalahleni.gov.za)**

# SENIOR MANAGER ARRESTED FOR QUALIFICATION FRAUD

By *Thembekile Mzimba & Duncan Mnisi*

**Polokwane, Limpopo** - A senior manager from the Human Resource Management department in the office of the Premier in Limpopo Province finds himself in hot water after being arrested on charges of fraud.

The Directorate for Priority Crimes Investigations (HAWKS) took the suspect into custody for allegedly falsifying qualifications during his application for the position of Senior Manager: Human Resource Management in the Premier's office back in October 2021.

According to Hawks Spokesperson Warrant Officer Lethunya Mmuroa, the 59-year-old suspect, identified as Mbobole Michael Maseko, misrepresented his qualifications during the application process.

Mmuroa stated, "He was appointed due to his misrepresentation. He was later appointed to the mentioned position. His appointment cost the office over R11 million."

The matter was swiftly referred to the Hawks for further investigation, which led to the approval of an arrest warrant by the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA).

Maseko appeared in the Polokwane

Magistrate's Court on Thursday, 18 April 2024, to face the charges against him.

Major General Gopz Govender, Director of Limpopo Provincial Hawks, commended the investigators for their diligent work, emphasizing that the arrest serves as a stern warning to others contemplating similar fraudulent activities.

"It's a great job. The arrest is a deterrent to others who want to commit the same crime," said Govender.

Legal experts from Webber Wentzel warn that individuals found guilty of misrepresenting their qualifications could face severe penalties, including fines or imprisonment for up to five years.

The firm also highlights the obligation of employers to verify the authenticity of qualifications provided by prospective employees, as mandated by the National Qualifications Framework Act (NQFA).

As the case involving Mr. Maseko unfolds in court, the Office of the Premier has opted not to comment until the trial reaches its conclusion.

In a statement, the agency reaffirmed its commitment to upholding integrity and transparency in all its operations, underscoring the importance of maintaining trust and credibility in public service.

# HOME AFFAIRS OFFICIAL SENTENCED FOR FRAUD AND CORRUPTION



Ngwenyama's sentencing was announced by the Giyani Commercial Court in Limpopo last Friday. Photo: Facebook

By *Staff Reporter*

**Giyani, Limpopo** - In a significant crackdown on corruption within the Home Affairs Department, Amos Ngwenyama, a former official based in Malamulele, has been handed a substantial prison sentence for his involvement in fraudulent activities.

Ngwenyama's sentencing, announced by the Giyani Commercial Court in Limpopo last Friday, marks a pivotal moment in the government's ongoing battle against corruption.

Ngwenyama's offences were uncovered through a thorough investigation jointly conducted by the Home Affairs Counter Corruption Unit and the Hawks in Limpopo in 2023.

The investigation revealed that Ngwenyama had been unlawfully issuing birth certificates to ineligible foreign nationals in exchange for financial gain.

As a consequence of his actions, Ngwenyama was found guilty on two counts of fraud and corruption.

The severity of Ngwenyama's crimes was reflected in the court's sentencing, which handed down eight (8) and six (6) years of imprisonment for his offences.

These sentences are to be served concurrently, underscoring the gravity of the offences committed.

Home Affairs Minister Aaron Motsoaledi expressed his satisfaction with the outcome of the case, emphasizing the government's steadfast commitment to combating corruption within its ranks.

"We have no tolerance for any acts of corruption and malfeasance," Minister Motsoaledi reiterated.

"Members of the public expect government officials to uphold the highest ethical and moral standards.

They are also expected to be honest in serving the public and the state."

Motsoaledi's warning to officials engaged in corrupt activities resonates deeply with ongoing efforts to root out corruption across government departments.

"We will uproot this plague from the government and are poised to emerge victorious," he affirmed, signalling a resolute stance against corrupt practices.

Ngwenyama's sentencing serves as a stark reminder of the government's unwavering commitment to preserving the integrity of public service and upholding the rule of law.

The sentencing of Ngwenyama comes amidst heightened scrutiny of corruption within the Home Affairs Department.

Earlier this month, another Home Affairs official based in the Upington office was apprehended by the Anti-Corruption Unit for allegedly selling illegal identity documents to foreigners.

The official, a 37-year-old woman, was caught following a tip-off about her illicit activities, which involved processing illegal IDs for undocumented foreigners in exchange for cash.

In response to the pervasive issue of corruption within Home Affairs, President Cyril Ramaphosa has authorized the Special Investigating Unit (SIU) to launch a comprehensive investigation into allegations of maladministration and unlawful conduct by department officials.

Proclamation 154 of 2024 empowers the SIU to probe serious maladministration relating to various aspects of Home Affairs operations, including the issuance of permits, visas, and citizenship documents.

The government's decisive actions, including Ngwenyama's sentencing and the SIU investigation, underscore its commitment to eradicating corruption and restoring public trust in the Home Affairs Department.

As these investigations continue, the government remains steadfast in its pursuit of accountability and transparency in all facets of governance.

# FOREIGN NATIONAL CONVICTED FOR ILLEGAL CIGARETTE TRADE IN NELSPRUIT

By *Thembekile Mzimba*

**Nelspruit, Mpumalanga** - In a significant development, a 40-year-old man identified as Ali Matabi, reportedly of Pakistani nationality, faced justice at the Mbombela Specialised Commercial Crimes Court on Thursday last week, for violating the Customs and Excise Act in Nelspruit.

The case stemmed from information received by the police on June 21, 2023, indicating the alleged sale of illegal cigarettes in a shop.

Acting swiftly, a team comprising Nelspruit-based Serious Commercial Crime Investigation and Customs Enforcement officials (SARS) conducted a thorough investigation under Section 252A of the Criminal Procedure Act.

Following the authorization of a search and seizure warrant, law enforcement officials raided "Nadmad Trading" in Nelspruit on the same day.

Their efforts yielded illicit cigarettes, specifically Remington Gold Blue, which were promptly confiscated. Subsequently, Ali Matabi was apprehended, detained,

and subsequently brought before the court. Despite being released on bail, Matabi continued to attend court proceedings until his recent conviction.

In a verdict delivered on April 18, 2024, by the Mbombela Specialised Commercial Crimes Court, Matabi was handed a choice between a R10,000 fine or a 6-month imprisonment term.

Additionally, the illicit cigarettes seized during the operation were forfeited to the state.

Major General Gerber, the Provincial Head of the Hawks, lauded the collaborative efforts of the multidisciplinary team involved in the investigation.

He emphasised the importance of community engagement, thanking the Mpumalanga community for their contributions that facilitated the conviction.

Major General Gerber reiterated the commitment of the Hawks to safeguarding the economy and preserving revenue generation by rigorously investigating cases that threaten the state's financial integrity.

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# A REVIEW OF 'ALL THINGS FALL APART'

## BY IGNATIUS KARABO NYALUNGU

By Duncan Mnisi

"All Things Fall Apart" by Ignatius Karabo Nyalungu is a captivating poetry collection that transcends the boundaries of mere words, immersing readers in a profound exploration of the human experience.

Through its evocative prose and poignant imagery, the book delves deep into the complexities of human relationships, personal struggles, and the inexorable passage of time.

At its core, "All Things Fall Apart" is a testament to the resilience of the human spirit.

Nyalungu's characters grapple with adversity and hardship, yet they emerge stronger and more resilient in the face of life's challenges.

From tales of heartbreak and loss to stories of redemption and renewal, the book offers a rich tapestry of human experience that resonates deeply with readers.

One of the most striking aspects of "All Things Fall Apart" is its exploration of identity.

Through the lens of diverse characters and narratives, Nyalungu examines the

intricacies of self-discovery and the search for meaning in a constantly changing world.

Whether grappling with questions of race, gender, or cultural heritage, the characters in the book confront the complexities of identity with courage and introspection.

Furthermore, "All Things Fall Apart" is a celebration of the enduring power of hope.

In the face of despair and uncertainty, Nyalungu's characters cling to hope as a guiding light, illuminating the path forward even in the darkest of times.

Through their stories, readers are reminded of the transformative power of optimism and resilience in overcoming life's greatest challenges.

Nyalungu's prose is both lyrical and profound, weaving together themes of love, loss, and redemption with a deft hand.

His evocative imagery and vivid descriptions transport readers to far-off lands and distant memories, immersing them in the rich tapestry of human experience.

Furthermore, "All Things Fall Apart" is a testament to the author's skill as a story-

teller and public speaker.

With a background in psychology and a passion for personal growth, Nyalungu brings a unique perspective to his writing, inspiring readers to live their best lives and embrace their true potential.

In addition to its literary merits, "All Things Fall Apart" is a call to action for social change and collective empowerment.

Through his writing and speaking engagements, Nyalungu seeks to raise awareness for important causes and make a positive impact in the world, inspiring others to join him in the pursuit of a more just and equitable society.

In conclusion, "All Things Fall Apart" is a masterful work of poetry that transcends the boundaries of genre and language.

With its profound insights and evocative storytelling, the book offers readers a transformative journey of self-discovery and renewal.

It is a testament to the enduring power of the human spirit and a reminder that, even in the darkest of times, there is always hope for a brighter tomorrow.

### ALL THINGS FALL APART



Poetry Beyond Poetry  
Ignatius K. Nyalungu

**All Things Fall Apart, Poetry Beyond Poetry a must read book by Ignatius Karabo Nyalungu. Photo: Supplied.**

# KING DAVID STUDIOS: YOUR ROADMAP TO RESILIENCE

By Duncan Mnisi

"King David Studios," hosted by the esteemed David Mashabela, renowned for his captivating presence on one of South Africa's leading commercial radio stations, transcends the airwaves to deliver an unparalleled podcasting experience.

With his transition to podcasting, David continues to showcase his remarkable talent for storytelling, founding a platform that delves deep into the rich tapestry of human existence.

Each episode of "King David Studios" masterfully explores the spectrum of human experiences, from navigating adversity to revelling in triumphs and successes.

David's innate ability to weave together authentic narratives and engage in meaningful dialogue creates a space where listeners can find solace, inspiration, and profound moments of reflection.

Through insightful interviews and engaging conversations, "King David Studios" celebrates the resilience and strength of the human spirit.

It offers invaluable insights and wisdom, serving as a beacon of hope for those facing their challenges.

David invites listeners to embark on an enriching journey where the power of storytelling illuminates the endless possibilities of life.

This podcast is a testament to the beauty and complexity of the human experience. It navigates life's highs and lows with grace and authenticity, empowering listeners to embrace their journey.

Whether seeking motivation, solace, or connection, "King David Studios" is a steadfast companion on the journey of self-discovery and growth.

In essence, "King David Studios" is more than just a podcast; it's a beacon of inspiration, guiding listeners through the depths of life's challenges and triumphs.

Tune in and immerse yourself in the beauty of storytelling and the resilience of the human heart.

Join David on this transformative voyage and emerge enriched, enlightened, and empowered to embrace life's infinite possibilities.

**David Mashabela who is well-known on the airwaves, radio hosting in one the South Africa's commercial radio station to podcasting on King David Studios. Photo: Instagram.**



# TIMELESS SPORT

## RONNIE O'SULLIVAN BEGINS QUEST FOR EIGHTH WORLD SNOOKER CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE



Cueing up for history: Ronnie OSullivan sets his sights on an unprecedented 8th World Snooker Championship title at The Crucible. Photo: Supplied.

By Staff Reporter

**Sheffield, South Yorkshire, England** - Sheffield's Crucible Theatre once again becomes the epicentre of snooker's grandest stage as the 2024 World Snooker Championship unfolds from April 20 to May 6.

Amidst the buzz and anticipation, all eyes are on the legendary Ronnie O'Sullivan, who aims to etch his name in history with an unprecedented eighth title.

O'Sullivan's journey towards snooker immortality commenced with a clash against Jackson Page at 2:30 pm on Wednesday, April 24.

The formidable second seed showcased his prowess in a captivating battle, eventually concluding the match at 1 pm

the following afternoon, signalling his intent to reclaim the coveted trophy.

Luca Brecel, the current champion, was forced to withdraw early after losing to David Gilbert in a thrilling match, making history as the 19th first-time champion to lose in Sheffield.

This shows that the path to glory is not without its difficulties.

The tournament's first-round matches have witnessed a mix of drama and skill, with seasoned contenders and rising stars vying for supremacy on the green baize.

Notable fixtures include Judd Trump's commanding victory over Hossein Vafaei, Tom Ford's triumph against Ricky Walden, and Si Jiahui's upset win over Mark Williams.

As the competition progresses,

anticipation mounts for the second-round clashes, promising more thrilling encounters and intense battles for supremacy.

O'Sullivan's potential showdown with the likes of Stuart Bingham or Ding Junhui looms large, setting the stage for captivating spectacles at the historic Crucible Theatre.

Away from the arena, discussions regarding the future of the World Championship have sparked intrigue, with O'Sullivan advocating for a change in venue and suggesting potential locations in Saudi Arabia and China.

Meanwhile, the allure of the maximum 147 break adds an extra layer of excitement to the tournament, with players vying for the £40,000 prize.

Kyren Wilson's achievement in the

opening round and Mark Selby's historic feat in the final of the previous edition serve as testaments to the calibre of talent on display.

As the quest for snooker's most prestigious accolade intensifies, players not only vie for the title but also for a share of the substantial prize money, with the winner set to claim a staggering £500,000.

With a rich history and a tradition of producing memorable moments, the World Snooker Championship continues to captivate audiences worldwide, offering a unique blend of skill, drama, and passion on the green baize.

As the tournament unfolds, fans eagerly await to witness who will emerge triumphant and etch their name in snooker folklore alongside the sport's greatest legends.