

Six who died in Lesotho celebrated on Human Rights Day

Six South Africans who were killed in Lesotho between 1982 and 1985 will be remembered at a public Mass Memorial Service in the Eastern Cape, Sisa Dukashe Stadium (Mdantsane) on Human Rights Day, 21 March 2011 (08h00). The human remains of these fallen heroes were repatriated from Lesotho earlier this month and will be reburied at their respective hometowns. They were killed whilst in exile and fighting for the rights of the oppressed South Africans. They are Mzwanele Fazzie, Lepota Marai, Sipho Notana, Mzukisi Skweyiya, Cassius Barnabas and the only woman among them is Boniswa Ncukana.

The Memorial Service that is hosted by the National Heritage Council (NHC) and its partners is a reminder that affirms the Nelson Mandela aspiration where he said "...never again shall it be that this beautiful land will again experience the oppression of one by another". This provincial event will commemorate the lives that were lost in search for human rights in South Africa and celebrate the rights of democracy that the country is now enjoying.

Sonwabile Mancotywa, the Chief Executive of the NHC will be the guest speaker at the Memorial Service and the Premier of the Eastern Cape, Ms Noxolo Kiviet will grace the occasion together with other dignitaries.

Mancotywa says "It is important to acknowledge that had it not been for our flourishing democracy, the free practice of cultural beliefs where the aggrieved families can freely rebury their loved ones at their rightful resting places. The Memorial Service is a symbolic reminder to South Africans that the scars of the past human rights violations are still haunting communities in the country. It is also a reminder that we should respect the challenges of modern society human right needs".