

## **Celebrating Mandela as our Living Heritage**

Do good, in celebration of our living heritage.

The National Heritage Council of South Africa wishes the world and the people of Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela's continent of birth, a happy birthday. Mandela is the only person whose birthday is globally celebrated as an expression of good to others. A strong believer in cultural heritage himself once said, whilst serving as the State President in 1996 "we knew that our rich and varied cultural heritage has a profound power to help build our new nation".

"We consider Tata as South Africa's living heritage that will remain the memory of the people of this world", says Sonwabile Mancotywa the Chief executive Officer of the National Heritage Council. The definition of heritage that is mostly relevant for declaring the legacy of Mandela as universally significant is that of Ashworth and Turnbridge (2001), "Heritage is that which is constructed in the present from remains of the past".

He stood for the values of Ubuntu that the NHC encourages the nation to uphold; respect, love, honesty, compassion, forgiveness, humility and unity.