ISILO

HIS MAJESTY THE KING

Old Legislative Building, King Dinizulu Highway, Ulundi

HIS MAJESTY, KING MISUZULU REMARKS, DURING THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE KWAZULU-NATAL LEGISLATURE, WOODBURN STADIUM PIETERMARITZBURG 27 FEBRUARY 2025

Somlomo !

First and foremost, I wish to acknowledge the leadership of Premier Ntuli, particularly in his commitment to the recognition and strengthening of traditional leadership and institutions.

When he came before me to introduce his Cabinet, Mphemba made a solemn promise—one that spoke to the heart of our heritage and governance. He pledged that his administration would bring change, that the voices of aMakhosi would not be sidelined, but rather given their rightful place at the table of governance.

He assured me that he would consult, that he would listen, and that he would walk this journey with us.

Such commitments are not merely words—they are the foundation upon which trust is built. And today, we stand as witnesses to the path he has chosen. Imibiko engiyithola eMakhosini ithi nembala sekukhona izinguquko ezinqala kubudlelwano bukaHulumeni noBukhosi. Lokhu kuhle futhi kuzosakha isizwe.

Somlomo!

Ngikuqonda kahle ukuthi angiyona nje iNkosana kaZulu kuphela kepha ngokomthetho enawuqophayo kuleNdlu ehloniphekileyo navumelana ukuthi ngiyiNkosi yeSifundazwe sonke. Lokhu kungigaxa ijoka.

NjengeNkosi yawo wonke umuntu okulesi sifundazwe ngikhathazekile ukuthi izinhelo esinazo njengohulumeni noBukhosi azibafaki kakhulu abanye abangewona AmaZulu. Ngiyazi ukuthi kokunye lokhu kusuke

kungenhloso kepha nazo izizwe engikhuluma ngazo ziyaqhela.

Lenkinga iyagqama uma sinemikhosi noma imigubho yesizwe lapho uthola kuvalwe ngoZulu emnyango zingekho ezinye izizwe. Phakathi kwalezi zizwe ngibala amaNdiya, abelungu, amaKhoi nemiphakathi yaMakhaladi. Lesi simo kuhle sisibheke ngelibanzi ngoba kumqoka ukuthi uhulumeni wengamele yonke imiphakathi.

Ngiselapho ngiyafisa ukubabaza okuthile engikubona emiphakathi yethu eyahlukene – ukungcola okusezindaweni zasemakhaya, emalokishini ngisho nalapho okuthiwa zindawo zabelungu kuyamangaza. Izindawo ezabe zigundwa kahle seziphenduke amahlathi. Kwezinye izindawo kugeleza indle imfucuza ikhona yonke indawo.

Uzothi omunye ngumsebenzi kabani ukuhlanza izindawo zethu? Impendulo yami ithi uhulumeni wendawo kumele abephambili ukugunda amahlathi notshani kanjalo nokuhlinzekela ngemigqomo, kepha nemiphakathi nayo kukhona okumele

ikwenze ngoba kokunye yiyo elahla imfucuza lena esiyinqwaba emigwaqeni.

Ukuhlanzeka kwezindawo zethu kumqoka hayi kuphela ngoba kwenza siphephe ezifweni kepha njengesifundazwe esifuna ukusebenzisa ezokuvakasha ukuthuthukisa umnotho, kuhle siguqule ukwenza ngoba asikho isivakashi esizosuka kusifundazwe saso noma ezweni laso bese sizolala endaweni nakusifundazwe esixathukayo.

Ngiphakamisa ukuba kube khona imikhankaso yesifundazwe yokukhuculula izindawo zethu, njengoBukhosi sizokweseka lokhu.

Ngikhathazekile ngokuphakama kwamanzi kusifundazwe sethu ngenxa yokuguquguquka kwesimo sezulu. Lokhu njengoba sizwa kuphazamisa umgqigqo wempilo emiphakathi njengoba amanzi ekhukhula konke, ingqalasizinda kanye nezindlu imbala.

The recent devastation caused by floods is a stark reminder of the challenges we face as a nation. While it is undeniable that climate

change plays a significant role in these disasters, we must also reflect on the way our land is settled and developed.

I have observed, with great concern, that in areas under the leadership of aMakhosi, as well as in certain urban settlements, homes are being built too close to roads and water streams—placing our people in grave danger. This is an issue that demands urgent and decisive action. I therefore call upon the Honourable Premier to convene a high-level summit on climate change and spatial planning.

This gathering must bring together all aMakhosi and Izinduna who are entrusted with the stewardship of our land, so that we may find lasting solutions to safeguard our people and our province.

I, too, shall be present at this summit, for I foresee a great danger looming over our province if we do not act swiftly. The time to act is now, with wisdom and unity, to protect our land and future generations. May wisdom guide us in this noble endeavour.

Madam Speaker,

In my inaugural address as Zulu King and Monarch of KwaZulu-Natal, I made a solemn commitment—to stand as a shield for women and children, to use my voice and my position to protect the most vulnerable in our society. I firmly believe that gender-based violence and femicide are among the greatest obstacles to achieving true equality, dignity, and justice for women, girls, and children.

Working alongside civil society organisations, I have championed campaigns aimed at eradicating this scourge from our communities. Yet, despite our collective efforts, I must express my deep disappointment that we are not winning this battle. Women, girls, and children continue to live in fear. Too many have suffered unspeakable brutality—raped, violated, and murdered in acts of inhumanity that shame us all.

This is not the society our ancestors envisioned. It is not the future we dare leave for the generations to come. We must do more. We must stand united—traditional

leaders, government, civil society, and every citizen—to say with one voice: ***enough is enough***.

The time for rhetoric has passed. It is time for action, for justice, and for the full weight of our laws and traditions to be used to protect those who cannot protect themselves. I will not relent in this fight, and I call upon all of us to renew our commitment to ending this crisis. Let us act. Let us protect. Let us heal.

Somlomo

Nokho akukubi konke ngathi njengesifundazwe. Izingane zethu nonyaka zisibeke esicongweni ngesikhathi ziphuma isibili kuzwelonke kwimiphumela kamatikuletsheni. Ngibonga kubo bonke abafundi nekilasi lika-2024. Ngibonge ukuzinikela kwabo kwesinye isikhathi ngaphansi kwezimo ezinzima. Ngibonga othisha okuthe ngisho izinsiza zingekho kepha njengabazali bahlanganisa. Angingabazi ukuthi nonyaka sizoba ngabokuqala inqobo nje uma sisebenza ngokubambisana.

Ngiyafisa kulomzuzu ukukhuluma ngezinhlelo nezifiso zeSihlalo engiyiNhloko yaso. Njengoba ngikubalulile ekuqaleni kwenkulumo yami, ukuthi ngiyakuqonda ukuthi angiyona nje iNkosi yalabo abazibiza ngaMazulu kepha ngiyiNkosi yesifundazwe. Okunye iSihlalo engiyinhloko yaso okumele singalezi iphutha wukuthi siluhlaka lwemicimbi nemikhosi kuphela.

Yebo amasiko amqoka ukuba siwagcina kepha amasiko phela kungakuhle asivulele imisebenzi. Akuthi umuntu eqephuza kuphakama unyawo, luthi luhlala phansi ingene imali.

Emcimbini waseSandlwane nje besibaningi. Sibahle kukhona nababaphesheya besithatha izithombe. Umbuzo uthi lokho kusizuziseni ngakwezomnotho? Kubanjalo nangoMkhosi woMhlanga siba zichuse nje ezishaywa izithombe kepha asisali nalutho.

Lokhu ngifisa kuguquke. Kusuka nonyaka ngokubambisana neHhovisi likaNdunankulu sizoyihlela kabusha imikhosi yethu. Phela isiZulu sabadala sithi enethunga kayisengeli phansi.

Akukwazi ukuthi abantu bazenzele nje ngefagugu lethu kepha thina singatholi lutho? Hayi ngesami isikhathi ngimfunge uMamonga woSuthu.

NjengoBukhosi sesiqalile ukuba yingxenye yezinhlelo zezokuvakasha. Njengoba abaningi bazi ukuthi nonyaka sivule iSigodlo saseMashobeni sihlonipha umbumbi walesi sizwe, iNkosi yaseMashobeni, iLembe.

Kulesi sigodlo enginimemayo nonke ukuba nisivakashele kuzoba nezinhlelo zezokuvakasha ezizohlanganisa amazwe nezizwe eziseningizimu, njengoBukhosi bakwaNgwane, obamaNgoni nabaseMozambique. Empeleni siyafisa ukusebenzisana nezinkampani zezokuvakasha ezizimele kanye nohulumeni ukuze manxa bethi “ *Welcome to the Zulu Kingdom”* uZulu ube ukhona futhi uzuza ngalokho.

Ngiyafisa ukuphawula ngezinto ezimbili ezimqoka. Udaba lwe-Ingonyama Trust neNgonyama Trust Board kanye nodaba lwebhange iThala. Lezi zinhlaka zimqoka

kakhulu kimi ngoba ngokwesikhundla sami ngingumvikeli wazo.

Ithala liyifagugu lethu, izinhloso zokulisungula zisemqoka namuhla njengoba kwakunjalo mhla libunjwa.

Yingakho ngokubambisana noMphemba noMengameli wezwe ngizoba yingxenye yokuvikela iThala labazali babazali bethu.

Ngiyafisa ukuba kulokhu ningizwe kahle, ngithi iNgonyama kaZulu, uNdunakulu uMphemba noMengameli wezwe uRamaphosa bazovikela iThala hayi izigebengu ezisebenza eThala ezinye esikulenkinga nje ngenxa yazo. Siyafisa ukwazi ukuthi kuze kube njena nje kuqalephi NjengoBukhosi sesinombono we-Ithala elisha lapho aMakhosi nezizwe bezoba nevenge kulo. Sizozihlela Mphemba ukuze sibeke iziphakamiso kuwe njengomsingathi we-Ithala ngokomthetho olengamele.

Lokhu kwe-Ingonyama Trust nebhodi nakho siyakulungisa. Kongazi lomhlaba okuthiwa wenganyelwe yi-Ingonyama Trust Board asiwuphiwanga muntu, kepha yithonsi nje elalwelwa ngokhokho bethu. Lokhu ngithi

angikusho ngoba lapha kuhulumeni kukhona abacabanga ukuthi ngalomhlaba basenzela isihe. Akekho ungqongqoshe ongaqholosha ngokuthi uphethe umhlaba kaZulu. Ngiyobe ngikuphi mina, ekephi aMakhosi wona uZulu usukepha seliphathwa ngungqongqoshe leli lamadelamzimba?

Njengobaba ongizalayo angiyena umuntu wempi kepha futhi angisona isithutha noma ivaka. Mphemba ngikhuzeleni laba abasifaka umunwe esweni. Asisathandi. Kabangalokothi bakhombe iSihlalo ngomunwe , leli yizwe lamahwanqa, yizwe laMakhosi neZindlovukazi, yizwe leZinyandezulu. Lelizwe nalesi sizwe ngeke sife ngathi, ngakho abantu kabayeke ukusifaka umunwe esweni.

As I conclude Madam Speaker

I wish to repeat what I said in this house last year. All the good things we are planning will come to nought if we do not change our approach. As residents of KwaZulu Natal Province, we are a family—a family of different shades. Our diversity is not a fault;

it is an opportunity to know, understand, teach, and accept one another.

Let us unite in our diversity and work together for the betterment of our province.

As residents of KwaZulu Natal, we must go beyond tolerance and accept one another. We must accept that while we are different, we are a family. As the Crown Head, I stand ready to assist in this journey and other initiatives to develop the people of KwaZulu Natal.

I thank you !!