

iSHASHALAZI

LUTHULI MUSEUM | 3233 NOKUKHANYA LUTHULI STREET, GROUTVILLE, KWADUKUZA, 4450 | TEL: 032 559 6822



an agency of the
Department of Sports, Arts and Culture



THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE ISSUE



Chief Albert Luthuli's understanding of ethics coupled with his Peace beliefs and Christian values, service and willingness to sacrifice were carefully considered by the Nobel Peace Committee and was awarded a Nobel Peace Prize in 1961.

The awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize to Chief Albert Luthuli was a pinnacle point in the struggle for political freedom in South Africa. The award made Chief Albert Luthuli - Africa's first recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize. He was given the award for his work, sacrifices and dedication to the liberation struggle and the fight for human rights in 1961. He was awarded an internationally recognized prize for his commitment to non-violence. The Nobel Peace Prize is awarded to a person who has contributed the most to the benefit of humanity for the respective year.

He accepted the award on 10 December 1961 after having travelled to Oslo, Norway with his wife Mrs. Nokukhanya Luthuli. He was at the time the President General of the African National Congress and at the time of his death in 1967.

The award brought into focus apartheid, the struggle for liberation and Chief Albert Luthuli's role in the struggle and what kind of a man he was. Following on from this he was made honorary rector at the University of Glasgow, Scotland, honorary president of the student organization NUSAS and was visited by former US senator Robert Kennedy.

The people of Groutville and the family could not believe when Mr Goolam Suleman, a family friend from Stanger brought the message that the Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded to Chief Albert Luthuli. The news spread like wildfire and tears of joy were overwhelming.

Chief Albert Luthuli's response at receiving the prize was a clear indication of where his mind was focused. His vision was that of a peaceful, non-violent South Africa and African continent so that an environment is created for making a better life for all a reality. And he spelt out this vision in his speech- An Honour to Africa in Oslo when he received the Nobel

Peace Prize, I accept it also as an honour not only to South Africa, but for the whole continent of Africa, to this continent, Mother Africa! To all its people, whatever their race, colour or creed might be.

The Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to Chief Albert Luthuli in the year 1960 and he was supposed to travel to Oslo to receive it in that same year.

The government of the day refused him to travel as he was serving a five-year banning order and there were discussions surrounding the factors that made him the 1961 prize recipient. It was only because of intense international pressure exerted on the South African government that the banning order was partially lifted.

Luthuli's life has relevance to the plight of violence and the status of nonviolence; and the value placed on peace in our lives and questions gender equality. This led to a willingness for him to sacrifice, even to the point of offering his life in the service of freedom.

Source: Various articles on Chief Albert Luthuli
Compiled by: Luthuli Museum Public Relations Officer



ACCEPTANCE SPEECH

Oslo, Norway, 10 December 1961

Your Majesty, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, here present! On an occasion like this words fail one. This is the most important occasion not only in my life, but in that of my dear wife, Nokukhanya, who shares with me this honour. For, friends, her encouragement, not just mere encouragement but active support, made me at times fear that she herself might end in jail one day. She richly shares with me this honour.

I will now, Mr President, humbly present my speech of acceptance of this great honour. A significant honour which I feel I least deserve, Sir.



I have committed into writing what I have to say, I will proceed to read that. This year, as in the years before it, mankind has paid for the maintenance of peace the price of many lives. It was in the cause of his activities in the interest of peace that the late Dag Hammarskjöld lost his life. Of his work a great deal has been written, but I wish to take this opportunity to say how much I regret that he is not with us to receive the encouragement of this service he has rendered mankind. I might here pause and interject, friends, to say as I was thinking of this unfortunate occasion that brought about the passing of Dag Hammarskjöld. I remember that many lives have been lost in Africa, starting with Livingstone of old to this day. Lives worthily lost to redeem Africa. It is significant that it was in Africa, my home continent, that he gave his life. How many times his decisions helped to avert a world catastrophe will never be known. But there are many of such occasions, I am sure. But there can be no doubt that he steered the United Nations through one of the most difficult phases in its history. His absence from our midst today should be an enduring lesson for all peace-lovers, and a challenge to the nations of the world to eliminate those conditions in Africa, nay, anywhere, which brought about the tragic and untimely end to his life. This, the devoted Chief Executive of the world.

As you may have heard, when the South African Minister of Interior announced that subject to a number of rather unusual conditions, I would be permitted to come to Oslo for this occasion, conditions, Mr President, made me literally to continue a bad man in the free Europe. He expressed the view that I did not deserve the Nobel Peace Prize for 1960. Such is the magic of a peace prize that it has even managed to produce an issue on which I agree with the Government of South Africa. I don't think there are very many issues on which we agree. Although for different reasons.

It is the greatest honour in the life of any man to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, and no one who appreciates its profound significance can escape a feeling of inadequacy, and I do so very deeply, when selected to receive it. In this instance, the feeling is the deeper, not only because these elections are made by a committee by the most eminent citizens of this country, but also because I find it hard to believe that in this distressed and heavily laden world I could be counted among those whose efforts have amounted to a noticeable contribution to the welfare of mankind. I recognize, however, that in my country, South Africa, the spirit of peace is subject to some of the severest tensions known to men. Yes, it is idle to speak of our country as being in peace, because there can be no peace in any part of the world where there are people oppressed. For that reason South Africa has been, and continues to be, the focus of world attention. I therefore regard this award as a recognition of the sacrifice made by many of all races, particularly the African people, who have endured and suffered so much for so long. It can only be on behalf of the people of South Africa, all the people of South Africa, especially the freedom-loving people, that I accept this award, that I acknowledge this

honour. I accept it also as an honour not only to South Africa, but for the whole continent of Africa, to this continent, Mother Africa! To all its people, whatever their race, colour or creed might be, and indeed, friends, I like to say, quite long ago my forefathers extended a hand of friendship to people of Europe when they came to that continent. What has happened to the extension of that hand only history can say, and it is not time to speak about that here, but I would like to say, as I receive this prize of peace, that the hand of Africa was extended. It was a hand of friendship, if you read history.

It is an honour for the peace-loving people of the entire world and an encouragement for us all to redouble our efforts in this struggle for peace and friendship, or indeed we do need in this world of ours at the present moment peace and friendship. These are becoming very rare commodities in the world. For my part, I am deeply conscious of the added responsibility which this award entails. I have the feeling that I have been made answerable for the future of the people of South Africa, for if there is no peace for the majority of them there is no peace for any one. As I said it is idle to speak of peace anywhere where there are people still suffering under oppression. I can only pray, friends, that The All Mighty will give me the strength to make my humble contribution to the peaceful solution of South Africa's, and indeed, the world's problems, for it is not just South Africa, or Africa, there are other parts of the world where there are tensions, and those places are sorely in need of peace, as we are in my own continent, as we are in my own area of South Africa.

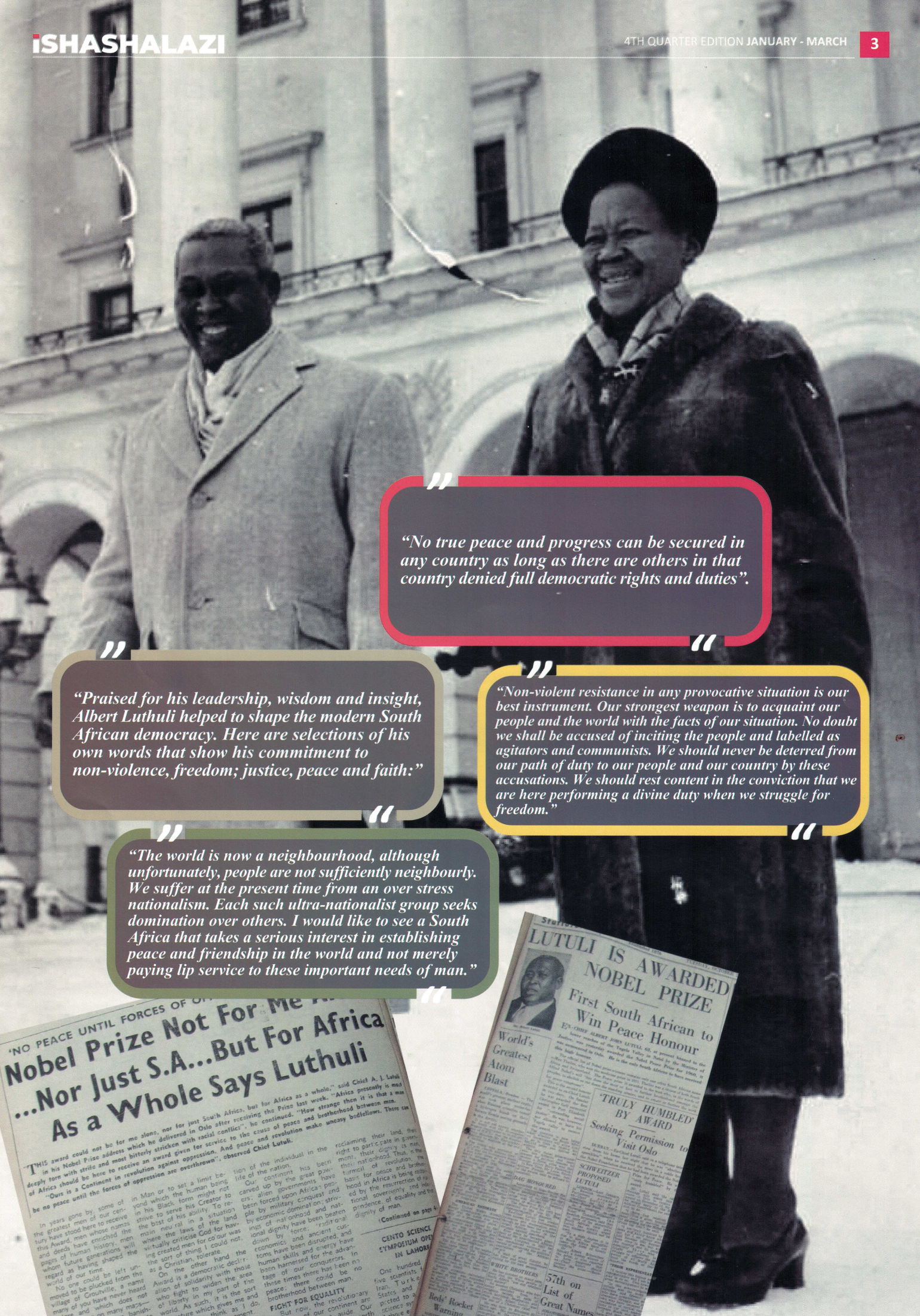
Happily, I am only one among millions who have dedicated their lives to the service of mankind, who have given time, property and life to ensure that all men shall live in peace and happiness, and I like to here say, that there are many in my country who are doing so.

I have already said I have noticed this award on behalf of all freedom-loving peoples who work day and night to make South Africa what it ought to be. It is appropriate, Your Majesty, Mr. President, at this point, to mention the late Alfred Nobel to whom we owe our presence here, and who, by establishing the Nobel Foundation, placed responsibility for the maintenance of peace on the individual. It is so easy sometimes to hide under groups when you do very little for a cause. Here the stress is on the individual, so making peace, no less than war, is the concern of every man and woman on earth, whether they be in Senegal or Berlin, in Washington or in the shattered towns of South Africa. However humble the place, it can make its contribution also, it is expected to make its contribution to peace. It is this call for quality in the late Nobel's ideals which have won for the Nobel Peace Prize the importance and universal recognition which it enjoys. For indeed it enjoys deservedly this universal recognition. In an age when the outbreak of war would wipe out the entire face of the earth, the ideals of Nobel should not merely be accepted or even admired, they should be lived, with a stress on, they should be lived! It is so easy to admire a person, to admire what he or she stood for or stands for, and yet shrink from cutting off the mission of the present. The challenge, friends, is for us to live the ideals that Nobel tried to uphold in the world as enshrined in the Nobel Peace Prize and other prizes which he bequeathed to mankind. Scientific inventions, at all conceivable levels should enrich human life, not threaten existence. Science should be the greatest ally, not the worst enemy of mankind. Only so can the world, not only respond to the worthy efforts of Nobel, but also ensure itself against self-destruction. Indeed the challenge is for us to ensure the world from self-destruction. In our contribution to peace we are resolved to end such evils as oppression, white supremacy and race discrimination, all of which are incompatible with world peace and security. There is indeed a threat to peace.

In some quarters it is often doubted whether the situation in South Africa is a threat to peace, it is no doubt that any situation where men have to struggle for their rights is a threat to peace. We are encouraged to know, by the very nature of the award made for 1960 that in our efforts we are serving our fellow men in the world over.

May the day come soon, when the people of the world will rouse themselves, and together effectively stamp out any threat to peace in whatever quarter of the world it may be found. When that day comes, there shall be peace on earth and goodwill amongst men, as was announced by the Angels when that great messenger of peace, Our Lord came to earth.

- Speech delivered by: Chief Albert Luthuli



“No true peace and progress can be secured in any country as long as there are others in that country denied full democratic rights and duties”.

“Praised for his leadership, wisdom and insight, Albert Luthuli helped to shape the modern South African democracy. Here are selections of his own words that show his commitment to non-violence, freedom; justice, peace and faith:”

“The world is now a neighbourhood, although unfortunately, people are not sufficiently neighbourly. We suffer at the present time from an over stress nationalism. Each such ultra-nationalist group seeks domination over others. I would like to see a South Africa that takes a serious interest in establishing peace and friendship in the world and not merely paying lip service to these important needs of man.”

“Non-violent resistance in any provocative situation is our best instrument. Our strongest weapon is to acquaint our people and the world with the facts of our situation. No doubt we shall be accused of inciting the people and labelled as agitators and communists. We should never be deterred from our path of duty to our people and our country by these accusations. We should rest content in the conviction that we are here performing a divine duty when we struggle for freedom.”

“NO PEACE UNTIL FORCES OF OPPRESSION ARE DESTROYED”
Nobel Prize Not For Me ...Nor Just S.A...But For Africa As a Whole Says Luthuli
“THIS award could not be for me alone, nor for just South Africa, but for Africa as a whole,” said Chief A. J. Luthuli in his Nobel Prize address which he delivered in Oslo after receiving the Prize last week. “Africa presently is most deeply torn with strife and most bitterly stricken with racial conflict,” he continued. “How strange then it is that a man of Africa should be here to receive an award given for service to the cause of peace and brotherhood between men.”

LUTULI IS AWARDED NOBEL PRIZE
First South African to Win Peace Honour
EN-CHIEF ALBERT JHON LUTULI 66, at present known to the South African people as the “Father of the Nation”, was yesterday awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 1960, in Oslo, Norway. He is the only South African to have received this high honour.
The official list of Nobel laureates includes only one other South African, namely, Dr. J. G. R. M. van der Stoep, who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 1944. Dr. van der Stoep was a member of the South African Parliament and a prominent leader of the anti-apartheid movement.
Luthuli, who was born in 1897, has been a member of the South African Parliament since 1947. He was a member of the African National Congress (ANC) and was a prominent leader of the anti-apartheid movement. He was arrested in 1960 and spent several years in prison. He was released in 1961 and continued his leadership of the ANC. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 1960 for his leadership of the anti-apartheid movement.
Luthuli is a member of the ANC and was a prominent leader of the anti-apartheid movement. He was arrested in 1960 and spent several years in prison. He was released in 1961 and continued his leadership of the ANC. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 1960 for his leadership of the anti-apartheid movement.

Continued on page 4

CENTO SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM OPEN IN LAHORE

One hundred five scientists from Turkey, Iran, Turkey, States and other countries are expected to attend the symposium on the science of the environment in Lahore.

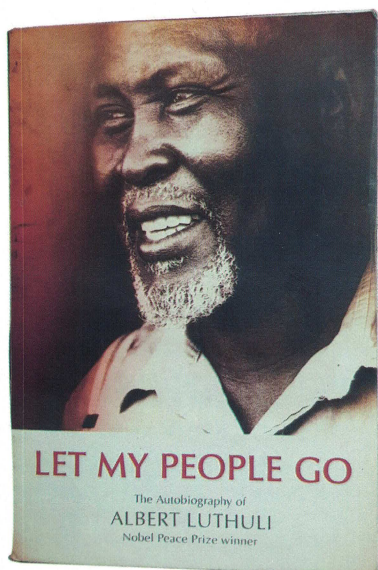
Reds' Rocket Warning

5th on List of Great Names

LET MY PEOPLE GO- BOOK REVIEW

The dawn of South Africa's freedom on the 27 April 1994 reminded most of us of the dedication of the many before us, who like Chief Albert Luthuli, came to pass and did not see 'freedom in their life time'. They lived a life of courage in the face of adversity; unrelenting conviction and selfless dedication to the ideals of freedom; equality and social justice. Their roles and contribution to the foundations of the freedom and democracy we relish today needs to be reflected on for a deeper and fuller understanding of how South Africa came to be as a constitutional democracy.

For Chief Albert Luthuli his struggle was not only for a free South Africa, but the continent of Africa as testified in his Nobel Peace Prize Acceptance Speech on 10 December 1960 when he said that he accepts the award as an honour not only to South Africa, but for the whole continent Mother Africa, all its people, whatever their race, colour or creed. He became South Africa's most admired political leader, both in moral stature and international acclaim as testified by the Nobel Peace Prize Award he received in 1960. He stood as a moral giant of no comparison at a time when white supremacy was law and his humanity influenced a leadership ideology that appealed to all races; religions and political formations.



In his autobiography, aptly titled; Let My People Go, first published in 1962, Chief Albert Luthuli not only tells his own life story as that of the African National Congress which he led for 15 years. He gives a first-hand account of the repression and resistance that were to shape the South African political landscape forever.

The Defiance Campaign; the drawing up of the Freedom Charter; the Treason Trial to the Alexandra Bus Boycott; the 1959 Potato Boycott up to the tragedies of the Sharpeville; Langa and Nyanga. Also the vision of South Africa's route to freedom!

- Source: The Autobiography of Albert Luthuli - Nobel Peace Prize Winner

MRS. NOKUKHANYA LUTHULI



The Luthuli Museum in March pays tribute to Mrs. Nokukhanya Luthuli for her dedication to Chief Albert Luthuli, his work, his liberation struggle, her children, and the societies, embracing her name as a synonymous with the struggle male equals.

It is said that history is told not as it was. Women have largely been absent from the telling of our history, despite their vital contribution made in the struggle for freedom and economic emancipation. It is with importance that women like Mrs. Nokukhanya Luthuli

are celebrated in ways seeking means to cross over and fight the gender-based violence and femicide and many other social ills that women in the world are faced with seeking to learn lessons from women in the struggle, hence the celebration of Mrs. Nokukhanya Luthuli and women's everyday struggles.

Women have in a larger extent been neglected and silenced, yet women have played a profound role in shaping the country's history. South African history reveals that many women were educated, either at mission schools or through life experience; they were fearless; they were selfless; and they had the audacity to challenge the system. Women intellectuals like Mrs. Nokukhanya Luthuli. Mrs. Nokukhanya Luthuli did not only take care of her family, but also supported Chief Luthuli in his dreams and ideology to bring about a non-racial, peaceful and inclusive South Africa for all. She never forgot the importance of grounding oneself in the basics of what society needs and having a clear vision of the future that South Africa needs.

Mrs. Nokukhanya Luthuli was an outstanding farmer and grew her own vegetables, sugar cane and fruits. She supplemented her family's income through her farming activities during the time that Albert Luthuli became Chief of Grootvlei and in later years, when political activities demanded much of his time. She stayed loyal to Chief Albert Luthuli and to his dreams for South Africa, even after his death in 1967. She remained active and continued to take an interest in her community by supervising the farming activities and settling disputes. She believed in serving her community and was actively involved in creating a better future for all.

Mrs. Nokukhanya Luthuli shared and supported Chief Luthuli during these difficult times where on occasions she herself was subjected to the repression suffered by her husband. As a person, she embodied humility and selflessness, distinguishing herself as a leader away from the public office of her husband. Chief Albert Luthuli proudly announced his recognition of her support and contribution to the world in 1961 when he received the Nobel Peace Prize in Norway.

- Article by Luthuli Museum Public Relations Officer

