

Root out corruption in South Africa in honour of Andrew Mlangeni

Brian Themba Khoza writes:

The last accused in the Rivonia trial and struggle stalwart, Andrew Mlangeni, was one of the major voices against corruption. He was vocal and spoke out against it until his last days. He always made his views known about the negative impact of corruption on the socioeconomic development of the country and society at large.

It would therefore be befitting to honour his legacy and the role he played in the liberation of South Africa, to root out corruption and focus all resources on the benefit of the people.

Corruption is destroying our country and depriving the needy of the most necessary services and infrastructure to improve their lives. It fuels the inequalities and this is

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exactly what Mlangeni fought against.

Looking at the Auditor-General's reports, one clearly sees what corruption does to service delivery. It cripples service delivery, leaving communities worse off for the benefit of few immoral officials and businesses. It destroys the country; South Africa is in junk status

and broke and has to borrow money mainly due to corruption. It is therefore important to fight and root out corruption for the benefit of communities and

the country at large.

The main rot is within government and it must therefore take the lead to deal with the challenge. Our leaders must heed Mlangeni's calls against corruption and lead the fight against it, firstly in government and then across all spheres of business.

We must also commend those leaders who are taking action in their departments. A leader such as the minister of human settlements, water and sanitation, Lindiwe Sisulu, who is taking action against corrupt activities in the department, must be applauded and supported. Water is life and the key to socioeconomic development, therefore corruption has deprived most communities of their livelihood and it must be dealt with.

Fighting this is everybody's business as it affects everyone. Leaders and officials must always put the interests of communities and society first and ensure quality service delivery. The public also has a critical role to report corruption to ensure the delivery of quality services in communities.

Let us all play an active role in the fight against corruption to build a better country in honour of the fallen stalwart, Mlangeni.

