



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

Limpopo Regional Office employee starts Heritage Month in style

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Heritage Month is celebrated annually from 1 to 30 September. Heritage Month recognises aspects of South African culture which are both tangible and intangible: creative expression such as music and performances, our historical inheritance, language, the food we eat, the colours we wear, as well as our beliefs.

Each and every year there is a key message that accompanies Heritage Month, of which this year's key message is: "Celebrating our human treasure by asserting our African identity". It is through asserting our African identity that we need to be proud of our African heritage and also embrace everything that is African.

After visiting one of the employees in the Limpopo regional office (pictured), one got to understand how proud the people of Limpopo are with regard to their cultures and their colours. This after many years of colonialism where we were taught that everything African represents backwardness and that we should all embrace Eurocentric beliefs as they represented modernisation.

Our culture represents who we are and how we should conduct ourselves, as we have taboos that make sure that we are on the straight and narrow. Those who lived before the days of modernisation had ways to preserve and save things like water because they knew how precious that is and it is now our responsibility to make sure that we preserve our cultures and showcase to the outside cultures that we also respect our own.

Ms Constance Machaba (pictured) indicated that she feels very comfortable and proud in her cultural colours than in the corporate clothing that is Eurocentric. "Even when I go to the shops for shopping, people always stops me to tell how nice I look in my colours, which shows that you do not need to wear a suit in order for you to look the part, even the African colours which were previously considered to be too much, you can still look elegant", said Ms Machaba.

Celebrating our heritage should be something that we live every day, as that will also help us alleviate some of the social ills that affect our communities.



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I urge all the employees of the Department of Water and Sanitation to showcase their cultural colours as we celebrate this Heritage Month, “Celebrating our Human Treasure by asserting our African Identity”.

Malope Matlou