

In times of uncertainty, let hope prevail..

As citizens of this beautiful country there is great trepidation about the uncertainty that plagues our nation. South Africans are familiar with challenges coming from a colonised past and an unforgettable history of apartheid. Those times were braced by the brave masses and the nation prevailed.

Some twenty five years later, when uncertainty and fears rumble in the corridors of power, faith teaches us to accept these realities and adapt to them as best as possible. These are inevitable and unavoidable occurrences which we must embrace with courage and conviction.

Let us affirm our belief that when people bring change within themselves it will give effect to change on the ground. The power of perseverance, reformation and collective concern should not be underestimated. It has dismantled oppression in the past and will solve our current challenges as well.

The people of this land must rekindle the spirit that calls for us to collectively stand for the poorest of the poor, to end the plight of the needy, to raise the bar of justice, to act with honesty, mercy, compassion, forgiveness - to reignite the feeling of genuine concern for one's fellow citizens. **The spirit of Ubuntu (true brotherhood) must prevail. What I want for myself I should wish for my brother.** (Hadith)

Every citizen of this country should commit to how I can benefit my neighbour, my street, my community, my city and my country. The time has come for us to mobilise, initiate, volunteer and assist. Our actions speak louder than words.

Nothing can be achieved without prayer and every citizen must engage in excessive repentance (istighfar), reflection, and commitment to serve the creation.

Whilst we are experiencing a period of uncertainty, this is also a time to be grateful, cherish what we have and invest in our land for the generations to come. Let's give effect to the adage, **"A society grows great when people plant trees in whose shade they know they shall never sit."**



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