



## 1893 Mthwakazi Restoration Movement statement on Energy Mutodi Mthwakazi nation misguided statements - Press Release - September 10 2019

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The 1893 Mthwakazi Restoration Movement (1893 MRM) is greatly perturbed by the disrespectful, false and grossly offensive statements uttered by Deputy Minister of Information and Publicity, Mr Energy Mutodi on the 4th of September 2019. The Deputy Minister made uneducated, false and inflammatory public statements via a video on the micro blogging site, Twitter where he claimed that in 1836, Zimbabwe accommodated thousands of South Africans fleeing Zulu king Shaka. It our conclusion that the irresponsible and false Ndebele nation related history statement made by Deputy Minister Mutodi does violate the fundamental human and Constitutional rights of every person implied to by his derogatory statement. Deputy Minister Mutodi through that statement misinformed the world and most importantly is that he did so while holding such a high office and in his capacity as a Minister whose duties must include responsibility for disseminating country information that is uniting, productive and nation building. Mr. Mutodi's statement did the opposite of the aforesaid and instead rather caused disunity, dissociation, discomfort and division of a people in a country that is already so rife with destructive tribalism that has for over a century dehumanized many native tribes of Zimbabwe that belong to Mthwakazi (Ndebele) nation, in favor of promoting Shona supremacy. Mr. Mutodi's statements must not be taken at face value as they are and were not statements made by a "mad man" as some may want to write them off. The statements by Mr. Mutodi were made by a Minister whose words are taken very seriously by over 24000 Twitter followers that he sought to channel his message through on his account and subsequently the millions of his government pro-followers who got access to the downloaded video statement and could henceforth further be influenced to hate, segregate, abuse and discriminate nationals of the Ndebele nation of native tribes that are not part of Mashonaland. The impact of Minister Mutodi's statments is very significant as well at an international level. Mr. Mutodi's government duties include informing the rest of the world about the people of Zimbabwe and in many instances making reference to our people's historical facts. Its is worrying to see that a Minister tasked with such serious national duties of patriotism is so ill-educated about the history of the country's citizens and most worrisome is the fact that his ill-educated facts are biased in favor of making one region of the country superior to another - a belief system that has led to the entire region of Mthwakazi (Matebeleland and Midlands) be subjected to massive ethnic cleansing and genocide as well as continued abuses, segregation and discrimination of the people of Mthwakazi in every institution of Zimbabwe be it in government, business, education, hospitals etc. Recently the world was alerted to a 2019 British government (Home Office) policy document called "Country Policy and Information Note Zimbabwe: Opposition to the government" - in which this document used by the British Home Office in grading the credibility of Zimbabwean asylum seekers, takes a distinctly unfair and discriminatory position against people of Mthwakazi (Matebeleland and Midlands) versus those of Mashonaland. It is such publicity and misinformation by officials such as Minister Mutodi - whom this week is evidently seen with British Journalist Penny Marshall - that one would worry and wonder what polarized misinformation the Deputy Minister would be sharing with foreign dignitaries if the least he knows is that half of the natives of his country are not natives but rather refugees.

Mutodi must be educated that there was no Zimbabwe and there was no South Africa during the time or era of 1836 that he references. Infact there were no borders in Africa for him to define



Zimbabwe as having hosted South African refugees. There is a common misconception among some Shona nationals that Mthwakazi nationals are foreigners in Zimbabwe. This is a misconception that must be destroyed from its roots in our populations and it does begin to be manifested into people's mindsets from early childhood schooling where our children's history curriculum is polluted with deceitful and misguided facts that seek to promote Mashonaland supremacy over Mthwakazi throughout the country of Zimbabwe. In order to correct the unwanted mutation of such misguided education that promotes the very kind of thinking that Deputy Minister Mutodi has, 1893 Mthwakazi Restoration Movement will continue to call for a reviewing and rewriting of our country's history and education curriculum so that it consists of the real truth and not filtered truths and propaganda. Zimbabwe's native inhabitants are known to be the San and Khoisan who claim most of Southern Africa, then we have the Tonga, the Venda etc all of whom are a part of Mthwakazi nation and are the originals of the land.

We also note that following his controversial tweet Mutodi faced serious backlash leading to him deleting the tweet and issuing a non-genuine apology which was also clearly not directed to the nation of abathwakazi that he offended, but rather to the opposition political party which he felt would use the statement to their political advantage against him. Mr. Mutodi was condemned by many Zimbabweans on Twitter including David Coltart, Journalists Zenzele Ndebele, Hopewell Chinono and many others. Unbeknownst, Zanu PF's Obert Mpofu also threw in a few of his own to Mutodi for making irresponsible and unacceptable statements. Mutodi's supposed apology response read as follows "My tweet saying about three million Zimbabweans were of South African descent has riled some Zimbabweans. The tweet has been misunderstood, giving political capital to the opposition. I wish to withdraw the tweet and unreservedly issue my apologies to whoever was affected."

Meanwhile we also take note of the fact that a Mthwakazi citizen who is a Member of Parliament in the Zimbabwean government, Hon. Mahlangu made unsuccessful attempts on September 4 2019 to have Mutodi's statements discussed, by questioning The Minister of Information, Publicity and Broadcasting Services, Hon. Mutsvanga in Parliament.

1893 MRM which recently won a case against Bulawayo former Deputy Mayor Tinashe Kambarami is also taking Minister Mutodi's statements as a serious constitutional violation of a Peoples' Rights in their native lands and we will not hesitate to look at legal options as a Movement fighting for Mthwakazi people in every aspect including correcting Zimbabwean history that has falsely educated whole populations with fabricated historical falsehoods.