

14TH SEPTEMBER, 2019.
NATIONAL SPORTS STADIUM,
HIS EXCELLENCY, CDE R. G. MUGABE,
REPUBLIC OF ZIMBABWE,
PRESIDENT OF THE
STATE FUNERAL OF THE LATE FORMER
AT THE
HIS EXCELLENCY, DR E. D. MNANGAGWA,
REPUBLIC OF ZIMBABWE,
THE PRESIDENT OF THE
BY
EULOGY



**HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT AND
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE ZIMBABWE
DEFENCE FORCES,
DOCTOR EMMERSON DAMBUZO MNANGAGWA.**



Director of ceremonies;
The Bereaved Mugaabe family;
The First Lady, Amai Auxillia Mnangagwa;
Honourable Vice President, General (Rtd)
Dr C.G. D.N. Chiwenga and Amai Chiwenga;
Honourable Vice President, Colonel (Rtd)
K.C.D. Mohadi and Amai Mohadi;
Your Excellencies, Heads of State and Government,
Prime Ministers and Deputy Prime Ministers
and Special Envoys, here present;
Your Excellencies, Former Heads of State and
Government;
Honourable Speaker of the National Assembly,
Advocate J. F. Mudenda;
President of the Senate, Honourable M.M.
Chinomona;
Chief Justice, Honourable L. Malaba;
Members of the Politburo and Central Committee;
Members of the Diplomatic Corps;
Dignitaries and Delegations from different parts of
the World;

Indeed, the bold, steadfast and resolute revolutionary, Cde Robert Gabriel Mugabe, is no more, taken away from us, we the people he fought hard to free, liberate and empower.

On Friday 6th September 2019, a dark cloud loomed over and enveloped our country, when the Founding Father of independent Zimbabwe, our Revolutionary Icon, Statesman, Leader, Wartime Commander and Former President, Cde Robert Gabriel Mugabe, passed on at a hospital in Singapore. A giant tree of Africa, has fallen.

Honourable Ministers here present;
 Representatives of Political Parties;
 War Veterans, War Collaborators and Ex-Detainees
 here present;
 Fellow Mourners;
 Ladies and Gentlemen;
 Comrades and Friends.

On behalf of the Government and people of Zimbabwe; the ruling Party, ZANU PF, the Party

Today, Zimbabwe is mourning the demise of her great son of the soil, a visionary and the champion of our empowerment. Today, Southern Africa mourns, the sad loss of a front-liner. Today, Africa weeps, grieving over the loss of a true Pan-African. Our motherland is in tears, our region is in grief, and our continent is in sorrow! Above all, a family is stricken, and in deep sorrow.

Taken away, from a Continent into which he was born, he loved, inspired and sought always to inculcate a sense of pride, independence and freedom. Seeking always to carry on the torch of his generation, a torch of heroic nationalism, patriotism, sacrifice, unity and freedom. Thanks to Comrade Robert Gabriel Mugabe and his rare breed of Pan-Africanists, nationalists and freedom fighters, the once shackled Africa, is forever free.

Comrades and Friends;
 The late Founding Father, Cde Mugabe, was a
 great scholar, thinker, teacher and above all, a
 true African. He taught a generation, led a nation,

of our late Founding Father, and indeed also on
 behalf of all the progressive political parties; may I
 yet again, convey my deepest, heartfelt condolences
 to the Mugabe Family, Amai Grace Mugabe and the
 children, on this sad bereavement. We empathise
 with you, it is our loss together.

Allow me to thank the Former First Lady, Her
 Excellency, Amai Grace Mugabe and the family,
 for looking after and caring for our Commander,
 during his illness, right through to the end. The
 fortitude, commitment and love you exemplified,
 is admirable and should forever be emulated.
Tinotenda, siyabonga. Be rest assured that you
 will continue to have my support and that of my
 Government, in these moments of grief.

inspired a continent, spoke for the oppressed and defined the politics and economics of an epoch. The man who lies before us, was for years, our leader, our commander, mentor and our President, both in the Party and in Government.

Among the mourners gathered here are many fellow comrades from the region and continent and the world who worked and fought alongside our dearly departed father. There are elder Statesmen, Presidents and Prime Ministers; great men and women, young and old, as well as dignitaries from all corners of the world; pulled here by the demise of this colossus, Cde Robert Gabriel Mugabe. Today, we all grieve together, feeling the void he has left behind.

We are humbled by your presence here to mourn with us. We are equally comforted by the many more who could not be with us physically; but sent moving tributes and expressed their deepest condolences.

It is now incumbent on us who remain in the land
Africa's struggles for independence and statehood.
These gallant men will forever remain the symbol of

good Lord continue to watch over him.

Mzee Kenneth Kaunda remains alone; may the
"Mwalimu" Kambarage Nyerere of Tanzania. Now
Samora Moses Machel of Mozambique and Julius
Neto of Angola; Sir Seretse Khama of Botswana;
passed on; such as the late, Comrades Augustino
of leaders of the Frontline States; the rest having
were the only two survivors from the generation
Dr Mzee Kenneth Kaunda and Cde Mugabe,
The Founding President of the Republic of Zambia,

his life.

For years and generations to come, we shall continue
to draw inspiration from the life, leadership,
courage, valour and bravery of this great man we
here, fondly called "Gushungo". A true statesman,
who resolutely defended our country, throughout

But today the truth is laid bare and open, we honour and remember our late African icon, in our special own way, demonstrating that he had many friends, allies, and followers. As he moves on from this life, into another, his star rises; it shines high and bright. We, who remain, shall continue to hear his rich, brave, defiant and inspiring voice which we grew

A statement which exposes a lie heavily sponsored by a retrogressive narrative, falsely framing the late Cde Mugabe; giving him many false names, routinely and systematically vilifying him.

I want to thank you all who continue to console our nation, sharing our grief. Your presence in such huge numbers today and your kind words of comfort; from across nations and continents, is solace and a strong statement.

of the living, to carry on the rich heritage they bequeathed to us.

As Zimbabwe, we shall ride on the education and high literacy levels bequeathed to us by our late great teacher and educator. As a visionary, he understood the importance of a solid education, as well as science and technology in the future

Let us boldly play our part in setting the wrongs of the world right. We must continue to challenge an unfair world, opposing injustice, racism and all forms of oppression of man by man.

As Africa moves further towards integration and economic prosperity, let us all stand ready to take up the cause which the generation of our late Commander fought for:

accustomed to on various international platforms; beyond his grave, encouraging and warning us to be vigilant and astute; always guarding and protecting our freedom, our independence and indeed our God given resources.

Comrades;

The policies of our late Revolutionary Icon, with regards to peace and security, were not only defining in ensuring the territorial integrity of our great country, but had a far reaching impact on the region and the continent as a whole. His strong stance on the need to protect and preserve African independence was evident within the Frontline States, during the fight against apartheid and in the management, prevention and resolution of conflicts on the continent at large.

world. As Africa, let us find our niche within the fast unfolding 4th Industrial Revolution, leveraging on our youthful population, abundant, untapped natural resources and expansive combined market. We dare not be left behind. Our destiny is in our hands. The late Cde Mugabe and other Founding Fathers of our continent played their part. Let us now play our

Without peace and security on the continent, sustainable economic development will be elusive. Let us, therefore, as children of this continent, protect the love, peace, harmony and unity that our Founding Fathers worked so hard to attain. As Africa rises, booms, and takes its rightful place as a power house on the world arena, there is no place

As Africa boldly operationalises the African Continental Free Trade Area, let us be emboldened by the ideals of the late Cde Mugabe, who was one of the consistent champions of African Unity, industrialisation, intra-Africa trade, as well as regional and continental integration.

To this day, the esteemed reputation of the Zimbabwe Defence Forces, on the international peace and security platform, as evident by their successful participation in various United Nations Missions, are a result of the unquestionable leadership of our late Former President.

for hate, division and disunity among us, within the Continent.

This was the legacy the late Cde Robert Mugabe imparted and leaves behind for us.

Your Excellencies, Comrades and Friends;

As we mourn this Great Son of Africa, we also remember and celebrate his tenacious and fearless adherence to principles. Quoting the late Kwame Nkrumah, he constantly reminded us that "principles should never be sacrificed on the altar of expediency".

Under the leadership and guidance of our iconic leader, we fought for democracy and universal adult suffrage. My Government will continue to consolidate, deepen and entrench democratic tenets, constitutionalism and the rule of law; always guarding our peace, unity and stability.

Distinguished Guests, Comrades and Friends;
Our late Former President, challenged a faulty

Beyond political independence, he boldly tackled the age-old national question that of our Land, which had been occupied by settlers for over a century. To him, this was "the grievance of all grievances." As a result of his unflinching stance, the land has now been reunited with the people, and the people with their land. Today, over 365,000 families have benefited from the Land Reform Programme which our Revolutionary Icon, led from the front.

Allow me to state that, our Land Reform will never be reversed. It is sacred, complete and finished. We remain firm and unshakable on this matter. Now the challenge for us, is to be productive as we modernise and mechanise our agriculture processes. We must equally use our land sustainably, be it in agriculture, mining or tourism, so that we bequeath it to future generations.

As we bid our Founding Father farewell, our resolve as a people is not broken. More than ever before, we are determined to grow our economy and improve the quality of life of our people. We are moving our country forward along the path of sustainable development. Towards a modern, industrialised and prosperous society, free from poverty and corruption. Indeed our success is inevitable, building on the foundations, laid by our veteran leaders such as the late Comrade Mugabe.

world where mighty selfishly thought itself right. He challenged great powers and deep, vested global interests. Our Great Leader asserted a key principle of the United Nations Charter, which asserts the sovereign equality of nations and proclaims the inalienable rights of nations, big and small, strong or weak. For that boldness, he was repaid through illegal, ruinous and spiteful sanctions, which our country languishes under, to this day.

My Government shall play its part in the achievement of world peace as well as an empowered, integrated and economically prosperous Africa.

Your Excellencies, Distinguished Guests,
The heritage left to us by our Founding Father is that of a peaceful world where nations trade and cooperate for the collective good and a shared future.

Zimbabwe is open for business; we are in transition and welcome investments. In doing so, we seek to buttress and augment our sovereign independence, through partnerships founded on mutual respect.

We will constantly reform and improve our socio-economic and political systems, and institutions. Putting the interests of our great country first, we will continually reconcile the national and global realities informed and guided by the ever-changing aspirations of our people.

There is no place in our modern world for unilateral punitive sanctions, imposed in pursuit of selfish interests, undue influence and colonial-time expansionism. As we mourn our Revolutionary Icon, we call for the unconditional and immediate lifting of the sanctions imposed on us.

Under the Second Republic, we announced a policy of engagement and re-engagement, the former to foster relations with countries we had not related to in the past; the latter in respect of those nations which had disengaged with us. Our arms remain stretched out with a genuine heart of friendship and cooperation.

All guns on the continent must be silenced. Our people must have adequate food, shelter, health, water and sanitation. The women, youth and those with disabilities must be empowered and have equal access to opportunities so that they thrive and realise their full potential.

We invite the world to work and walk with us into a brighter future for our people, our region and the continent. A Zimbabwe free of the albatross of sanctions, is indeed of greater benefit to the world.

We thank SADC, the African Union and the progressive world for standing with us throughout these years of immense hardships under sanctions. We stand emboldened by the recent declaration by SADC, setting aside this 25th October as a day to call for the unconditional removal of the illegal sanctions imposed on Zimbabwe.

May the world honour the late Cde Mugabe by ensuring that sanctions encumbering Zimbabwe, are immediately removed. We say, give our country a re-birth and a new start, remove sanctions now. We do not deserve them.

Your Excellencies, Distinguished Guests; Comrades and Friends;

Allow me to once again, thank you all, you who
have come to mourn with us and give our Founding
Father and Former President such a resounding
send-off. Zimbabwe will forever remember this
grand gesture of solidarity and friendship.

We will continue to count on your support in
our quest to leapfrog our development, grow our
economy and improve the quality of life of our
people. Though we may be pressed on every side, we
are not crushed; although perplexed, we are not in
despair. Tomorrow is a brighter day, weeping may
last for the night, but joy comes in the morning.

As we say our goodbyes to our late, great, national
hero and Son of the Continent; Zimbabwe shall
always stand with Africa and for what is right.
This is our tribute to our great liberator, Founding
Father, teacher and empowerer, the late Cde Robert
Gabriel Mugabe.

As we prepare for his interment we continue to pray
that the Almighty God, rests his soul, in eternal
peace.

God bless you all!

God bless Zimbabwe!

I thank you.