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THE PROPOSAL: CENTRE FOR LIBERATION, CONSCIOUSNESS & PEACE, NON VIOLENCE IN AFRICA

FY 2016

Draft proposal for the establishment of the Centre for Liberation, Consciousness & Peace, Non Violence in Africa recording history, conducting education, training, research and awareness programmes.

“

True teaching is not an accumulation of knowledge; it is an awaking of consciousness which goes through successive stages

— Ancient Egypt

”

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CENTRE FOR LIBERATION, CONSCIOUSNESS & PEACE, NON VIOLENCE IN AFRICA

PREAMBLE TO THE PROPOSED CENTRE

VAAL COMMUNITY LINKS TO LIBERATION, CONSCIOUSNESS AND NON-VIOLENCE

The Vaal communities have extensive recorded and oral history with regard to liberation, consciousness and non-violence movements. The brief overview of related history and links below serves as initial guide rational for the proposed centre and is by no means comprehensive.

The following Sharpeville's Global and Violence Timeline indicate a changing society that shifted its view to change through violence with a need to apply new Liberating Consciousness through Non Violent means:

VAAL AND SHARPEVILLE'S GLOBAL & VIOLENCE TIMELINE

- 1892 VEREENIGING IS ESTABLISHED
- 1899 – 1902 ANGLO BOER WAR TREATY NEGOTIATIONS AND SIGNING
- 1911 INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT IN VEREENIGING
- 1920's INFORMAL TOWNSHIP DWELLING BY MIGRANTS
- 1937 TOP LOCATION ERUPTS
- 1942 SHARPEVILLE IS ESTABLISHED
- 1960 SHARPEVILLE ERUPTS WITH MORE THAN 70 DEATHS ON 21 MARCH 1960

SHARPEVILLE MASACRE - THIS INSTANTLY MADE SHARPEVILLE INTERNATIONAL

- 1966 SHARPEVILLE GLOBAL PRESENCE The UN declared International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination is observed annually on 21 March.

THIS CONFIRMED SHARPEVILLE'S INTERNATIONAL STATUS

- 1984 SHARPEVILLE ERUPTS AGAIN

On September 3, police stopped marchers from Sharpeville and Boipatong from leaving for Sebokeng, killing several marchers.

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In Sharpeville, protesters attacked and killed the deputy mayor, Khuzwayo Jacob Dlamini.

SHARPEVILLE 6 - THIS BECAME INTERNATIONAL TOO

- 1985 SHARPEVILLE SIX SENTENCED TO DEATH

The Sharpeville Six were six South African protesters convicted of the murder of Deputy Mayor of Sharpeville, Kuzwayo Jacob Dlamini, and sentenced to death.

1. Mojalefa Sefatsa,
2. Theresa Ramashamola,
3. Reid Mokoena,
4. Oupa Diniso,
5. Duma Khumalo
6. Francis Don Mokhesi

These were arrested in the following months, found guilty of murder under the "Common purpose" doctrine and sentenced to death by hanging on December 12, 1985.

Christian Mokubung and Gideon Mokone were also sentenced to eight years in prison. All were represented by lawyer Prakash Diar.

The convictions were widely condemned by the international community as unlawful and racist, particularly in United Nations Security Council Resolution 610 and 615.

THIS RECONFIRMS SHARPEVILLE'S INTERNATIONAL STATUS

- 1994 SOUTH AFRICA'S DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS

The South African general election of 27 April 1994 was an election held in South Africa to mark the end of apartheid, therefore also the first held with universal adult suffrage. The election was conducted under the direction of the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC).

- 1996 SOUTH AFRICA'S DEMOCRATIC CONSTITUTION SIGNED IN SHARPEVILLE BY NELSON MANDELA

Two years after the first democratic election (1994) the President of the Republic of South Africa, Nelson Mandela, signed the final draft of the constitution into law at Sharpeville, Vereeniging on 10 December 1996. The date on which the constitution was signed marked International Human Rights Day.

Furthermore, the location where the constitution was signed was significant and symbolic of the betrayal and brutality of past governments:

1. In 1902 the Treaty of Vereeniging signed between the British and Afrikaners disenfranchised the Black majority and set in motion processes that laid the foundation for apartheid.

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2. On 21 March 1960 police opened fire on a crowd demonstrating against Pass-Laws in Sharpeville, Vereeniging.

- 2010 SHARPEVILLE ERUPTS AGAIN
 - THE 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE SHARPEVILLE MASSACRE
 - SOUTH AFRICA HOSTED THE FIRST FIFA SOCCER WORLD CUP IN AFRICA

On February 23, 2010, South African police once again opened fire on residents of Sharpeville who were protesting their lot.

On Sunday, March 21, 2010 South Africans marked the 50th anniversary of the Sharpeville Massacre, a turning point in the nation's liberation struggle.

South Africa also hosted the First Fifa Soccer World Cup on African Soil in June 2010 and Sharpeville's George Thabe Stadium became a training facility for the Cote De'voire National Team, captained by Didier Drogba. Sharpeville First hosted the team as well as it business delegation.

WORLD CUP SOCCER 2010 THIS PROPELLED SHARPEVILLE BACK TO ITS INTERNATIONAL STATUS

- 2011 SHARPEVILLE CELEBRATES THE 15th ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF SOUTH AFRICA'S CONSTITUTION

The signing of the constitution celebrations were held in Sharpeville and Vaal University of Technology in 2009, 2010 and 2011.

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- 2012 SHARPEVILLE ERUPTS AGAIN
 - SHARPEVILLE'S DLOMO DAM BECOMES PART OF THE VAAL BIRDING ROUTE
 - SHARPEVILLE LIKENED TO THE MARIKANA MASSACRE

After 21 years of commemorating the Sharpeville Massacre and Human Rights Day in Sharpeville, the 21 March 2012 Human Rights event was taken to Kliptown and Sharpeville erupted again on the 20th of March 2012 in a public display of dissatisfaction with that move.

This event, again shoved Sharpeville back into the newsrooms of the world and reviving the name to the rest of the world and those who never heard of the place ever before. It also revived the memories of the Sharpeville Massacre after being linked to the Marikana tragedy that saw 34 miners killed during their strike at the Lonmin Mine.

Dlomo Dam in Sharpeville became part of the Vaal Birding Route due to the presence of water birds and other species found within the dam precinct.

THIS PROPELLED SHARPEVILLE BACK TO ITS INTERNATIONAL STATUS

- 2013 PEACE AND NON VIOLENCE ENGAGEMENT BEGAN ON SOCIAL ISSUES AND SERVICE DELIVERY
- 2014 MANDELA THE MOVIE OPENED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD WITH A SCENE ABOUT SHARPEVILLE
- 2015 GANDHI LEGACY TOUR TOUCHED ON SHARPEVILLE
- 2016 SHARPEVILLE CELEBRATED THE 20th ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF ITS FIRST DEMOCRATIC CONSTITUTION.
 - GANDHI LEGACY TOUR FIXED SHAPREVILLE ON ITS TOUR ITENARY FOR FUTURE TOURS
- 2017 TRUTH TOURS INTERNATIONAL CELEBRATES 20 YEARS IN OPERATION
 - SHARPEVILLE IS TURNING 75 AS A HUMAN SETTLEMENT
 - THE WORLD FIRST ECONOMIC STUDY OF SHARPEVILLE WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH WEST VAAL CAMPUS
 - SHARPEVILLE VISION202 IS ESTABLISHED WITH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Historically this area has a rich history and is the home of the liberation struggle and The Cradle of Human Rights. The Sharpeville Massacre of 21 March 1960 is regarded by many as the defining moment in South Africa's struggle for liberation. The Boipatong Massacre in 1992 as well as Vaal uprisings in 1984 are further noted events in the liberation from Apartheid. Further history was made as the Vaal is also the site where Nelson Mandela signed the final draft of the constitution into law at Sharpeville, Vereeniging on 10 December 1996.

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LIBERATION - Historically the area has a rich history and is the home of the liberation struggle. The Sharpeville massacre of 21 March 1960 is regarded by many as the defining moment in South Africa's struggle for liberation. The Boipatong massacre in 1992 as well as Vaal uprisings in 1984 are further noted events in the liberation from Apartheid. Further history was made as the Vaal is also the site where Nelson Mandela signed the final draft of the constitution into law at Sharpeville, Vereeniging on 10 December 1996.

Liberation noun [U] according to the Cambridge Dictionary Online

*an **occasion** when something or someone is **released** or made **free**:

*used to refer to **activities connected with removing the disadvantages experienced by particular groups within society**:

CONSCIOUSNESS - The Vaal is home to largely un-acclaimed talent and dedication in the realm of consciousness development. Amongst these are:

Consciousness noun [U] according to the Cambridge Dictionary Online

(UNDERSTANDING)

*the **state of understanding and realizing something**:



GAMAKULU DINISO -

Artist and playwright **Gamakulu Diniso** of Sharpeville has a long and dedicated history of development of consciousness through theatre, drama, art. Iga-Makulu Diniso also known as Gamakulu Diniso is an award winning theatre director and published playwright and also a visual artist with a full portfolio of works. He has been in the arts for more than 30 years and was previously appointed as resident director of the Market Theatre. He was also included in the Financial Mail Annual Guide to the Most Influential Decision Maker. He has worked extensively in the field of art and arts development and set up a school – Busang School of Arts in Sharpeville in the period 1980 to 1990.

He was commissioned to provide his services in theatre and social theatre by many corporate companies and government institutions. Gama Diniso was further commissioned to do the calligraphy plaque awarded to the former President: Nelson Mandela for the Freedom of the Vaal in 1992. I have written several plays which were published by Botsotso Publishers.

He has developed a small community theatre Iva Home Theatre from which he conducts workshops / plays / discussions / art development to develop consciousness and critical thinking. Gamakulu Diniso is an example of a living legacy and resource for consciousness development which has gone largely unrecognized and supported.

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NICHO MOJALEFA NTEMA-

Sharpeville is further the home of **Nicho Mojalefa Ntema**. A person of great knowledge on all events which formed Sharpeville and surrounding communities. Nicho established Truth Tours to raise consciousness about past events which formed the communities but further aimed to translate lessons learnt towards conscious development of all communities affected. Sharpeville is further the home of Nicho Mojalefa Ntema. A person of great knowledge on all events which formed Sharpeville and surrounding communities. Nicho established Truth Tours to raise consciousness about past events which formed the communities but further aimed to translate lessons learnt

towards conscious development of all communities affected.

Nicho Ntema is a thinker and visionary scenario planner.

He is a pioneering Sharpeville-born Tourism Strategist, Author, Concept Developer, Graphics Designer, Media Mogul, Birder, Enterprise Developer, Speaker and environment Protectionist.

He started his first company at the age of 17 at high school and continued to live to this day through his thoughts, ideas and concepts.

For more than fifteen years, he has been playing within the Corporate Social Investment and Responsibility space and has personally founded several initiatives such as Yizo Ke Tsona Fastfoods, Sharpeville Resource Centre, Montemo Education Group, Sharpeville First, Sharpeville Heritage Group, Nicho Ntema Media, Black Bikers Mzansi Magazine, Truth Tours International and Friends of Sharpeville Trust among others.

He was contracted to the Pan African Foundation to develop a Coffee Table Book for the Free State Province ANC Centenary Project in 2011. He also consulted for Birdlife SA for the development of the Vaal Birding Route in 2012.

Nicho Ntema is a Social Entrepreneur who believes in true freedom, networking, linkages and syndication.

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NON VIOLENCE (PEACE) LINKS

Internationally few conflicts of government or people have managed to effect peaceful and lasting resolutions. South African history claims success stories in this realm which have been used to model the path for other countries / peoples / organizations.

PEACEFUL 1994 DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA - The First Democratic Elections in South Africa in 1994 proceeded with peace amongst the many, diverse and previously deeply divided political parties, peoples and communities. The processes towards ensuring a peaceful and fair democratic election were acclaimed internationally.

Non-violence noun [U] according to the Cambridge Dictionary Online

***a situation in which someone avoids fighting or using physical force, especially when trying to make political change:**

Vaal Peace Process Links 1994 & Gandhi Legacy -

In the lead up to the first democratic elections in South Africa the Vaal communities at grassroots levels played key roles in programs to sustain peace and stability as platform for the greatly acclaimed peaceful 1st democratic elections in South Africa.



Arun Gandhi & Gandhi Legacy Tours -

In 1992 / 1993 the then Sebokeng College of Education as part of their student and community empowerment program, established ties with the grandson of Mahatma **GANDHI**; Arun Gandhi of Memphis, Tennessee, USA. Submissions of proposals by the Sebokeng College of Education resulted in the United States Information Services sponsoring Arun Gandhi to conduct a series of workshops on peace and non- violence for the Vaal and surrounding communities in the lead up to the 1994 first democratic elections in South Africa. Nina du Toit visited Arun at his Centre for Non Violence in Memphis Tennessee and he thereafter flew to South Africa to participate in Peace and Reconciliation workshops in the Sharpeville, Sebokeng communities.

Peace & Non Violence Workshops Conducted -

Arun Gandhi continued legacy work of his grandfather and conducted peace and non-violence workshops across the range of political parties and their youth cadres: ANC / PAC / IFP etc. as well as mass student and community empowerment programs which were well received and attended. The Gandhi Peace Programs were supported by peace and reconciliation programs conducted throughout the Vaal communities as coordinated by Sophie Mokoena (SRC – Sebokeng College of Education) and Nina du Toit (TQM / ISE Empowerment Programs & Coordinator).

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Peace/ Non-Violence and the TRC-

These and many other Vaal community programs for peace and reconciliation throughout the Vaal communities supported the later internationally hailed processes and outcomes of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission at community foundation level.

2015 Gandhi Legacy Tour -

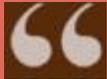
Impromptu tour revision & detour to the Vaal and Sharpeville in association with Afro Ignite Wheel Consortium: Chris Rashoalane and Nina du Toit , Gamakulu Diniso & Nicho Mojalefa Ntema.

2016 -

The tour coordinators and planners decided to incorporate Sharpeville on their tour program for all future tours and to build development relationships with the Sharpeville community. <http://www.gandhitour.info/a-day-in-sharpeville/>

The Treaty of Vereeniging 1902 -

Although this treaty preceded the injustices of the Apartheid Era and the later establishment of an equitable democracy it can be noted as an example of implementation of processes to forge peace between and amongst conflicting parties and entities.



Hate is not pride— just a reaction to a world that excludes you at every level. True consciousness does more than react, it goes into the world and reconstructs African greatness in every area of people activity— especially economics, ethics and culture



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A CENTRE OPPORTUNE TO HISTORY AND NEED

It is opportune to develop a centre of excellence and focus in the Vaal which researches, records and harnesses the rich diversity of recorded and fallow oral history of all its communities and related stakeholders whilst developing and forging “relevant to need” paths for local, national and international communities with regard to liberation, consciousness development and non-violence / peace processes and programs.

ESCALATING VIOLENCE, INTOLERANCE, RACISM AND INJUSTICE

As violence, intolerance, racism, and injustices escalate globally, on our continent Africa and in our own country and communities, more and more people look to lessons from liberation struggles of minorities and majorities here in South Africa and internationally to find relevant philosophies and processes.

Liberation, consciousness is not limited to the sphere of politics. True liberation and consciousness have impact and influence across economic, psychological, spiritual, social, educational, production and innovation spheres of life and the work yet to be undertaken in regard to these has been fractured into independent silos, delivered piecemeal, adhoc; instead of addressed in unity holistically and in a structured programmatic manner.

THE WORK OF LIBERATION, CONSCIOUSNESS, PEACE AND NON-VIOLENCE

The work of liberation thinking and development has traditionally been marginalized to the fringes of society. The heroes of liberation thinking usually hailed only after their demise and most often only as academic exercises for a few students.

The work of consciousness development has been fobbed off as “nice to have” but “non-essential” and relegated as fit for people seeking something other than the “norm”. The task of consciousness development has been relegated to artists, playwrights, philosophy majors, “gurus” to run, often with minimal **endorsement, support or recognition.**

The work of building strategies within individuals, families, communities and nations for greater peace and non-violence have too been brought to bear only once violence, conflict and strife have run riot with accompanying havoc and destruction on societies, communities and individuals.

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COST & IMPACT OF LACK OF LIBERATION, CONSCIOUSNESS, PEACE AND NON-VIOLENCE STRATEGIES

The cost of lack in liberation, consciousness and proactive strategies for peace, non-violence can be seen in every aspect of society locally, nationally and globally. Millions are spent on war and strife mongering whilst strategies to combat proactively through education, training, research and implementation and monitoring remain “low on the agenda”. “unfunded”. “not a priority”.

The perception of Africa as a continent of conflict; the “dark” continent; the ravages of colonialism have perverted and diluted the movement for an African Renaissance.

From the Orange Movements in New York’s Wall Street to the Arab Spring to the #FeesmustFall Movements in South Africa comes a desire to be heard, to be listened to, for greater awareness, tolerance, understanding, insight, consciousness.

From environmental concerns of earth, wind and sea comes a desire to be heard, to be listened to, for greater awareness, tolerance, understanding, insight, consciousness.

ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

To date no academic institutions of excellence in Africa have gathered into their formal curriculum for ALL students such development programs. The lack of such initiative has rung out and across most tertiary institutions with related ripple effect of mirroring the communities in which such tensions, lack of consciousness reside.

VAAL COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE OPPORTUNITY

The Vaal community and its education institutions would be greatly remiss not to build on the direct legacy of our past and establish pro-active programs of sensitization, education and awareness on issues of liberation, consciousness, peace and non- violence. Within these contexts to build out concepts of “graduateness”, Ubuntu, self-worth, respect for diversity.

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THE WORK OF THE CENTRE

Creating a generation of intellectual passion; where our minds are engaged, and not our fist in resolving the issues of this world. Where wisdom and knowledge are the virtues that define our generation. And with this we only have our conscious in a paradoxical way to cure human nature. Consciousness means being aware, consciousness is piecemeal and not global. If consciousness had in 100 parts some may have 10/100 and others may have 70/100. One may be conscious of the environment, but not of politics, of diet but not of self-identity; of history but not of humanity. Some might be conscious of a problem and complicit in it, then that is not true consciousness. All knowledge is confirmed by practice. If this message does not resonate then we might as well part company. And all ideologies need methodologies to transfer their virtues into the real lives of real people – here and now. (African Holocaust – Why No Change?)

The principal work of such a Centre of Excellence for Liberation, Consciousness, Peace and Non-Violence in Africa, as partnered by a tertiary academic institution will be to gather, record history relevant to liberation, consciousness, peace and non-violence from specifically within the Vaal Communities, but linked to the same throughout South Africa and Africa with a view to establishment of programs, process and the related content. Thus key will be:

- Education
- Training
- Development
- Research
- Innovation

INTEGRATION, INFUSING AND SENSITIZATION ACROSS THE CURRICULUM, FACULTIES AND STUDENT BODY

Once developed the centre's focus on campus is to ensure integration and sensitization on issues of liberation, consciousness and peace and non-violence across the varied curriculum, faculties and the entire student body. Thus the continuous questioning and interrogation and raising of awareness for the development of Afro Centric Academic Excellence and the Re-Awakening of the African Renaissance.



Ideally every student, regardless of discipline shall have been exposed to learning modules and programs to ensure their holistic development and the cross cutting value of processes of liberation, consciousness and peace and non-violence strategies.

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TARGET AUDIENCES

The programs developed by the centre with target amongst others the following audiences:

- Direct Student Population
- Direct Faculty Population
- Other Academic Institutions
- Local and National Government, Civic and Community Organizations
- African Organizations of Government, Civic and Community Organizations
- Global Organizations and Movements
- Community Development Processes and Programs
- Individuals

PROPOSED CENTRE STRUCTURE

The centre structure is envisaged as

DIRECTOR

PROGRAMS MANAGER

ADMIN SUPPORT

OUTSOURCED PROGRAMS

CENTRE FOR LIBERATION, CONSCIOUSNESS & PEACE, NON VIOLENCE IN AFRICA

PARTNER INFORMATION

NINA DU TOIT
AFRO IGNITE WHEEL
CONSORTIUM



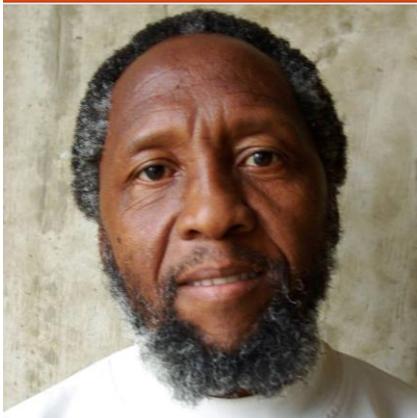
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CENTRE FOR LIBERATION, CONSCIOUSNESS & PEACE, NON VIOLENCE IN AFRICA

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