

January 2017

Fri 13

With the expectation that Jacob Zuma will stand down, as the president of the nation, before the due date for the next election, thoughts of a new candidate have been at the forefront of the Women 's League of the African National Congress.

Support was shown for one of the presidents former wives; sixty seven year old Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma. Such a candidate, if she was to put herself forward, would chime with the present presidents thought that it was time that the ANC had a female leader.

At this present time she is head of the African Union Commssion and has chosen not to stand in its leadership elections for a second spell as head. Speculation that free of her AU responsibilities this new challenge awaits.

During her 4 years as head honcho there has been an increased international profile building on the time spent in various ministerial; foreign affairs and home ministerial positions.

Mon 16

Tales told, principlaly, by Mohamed and his attached group of Somali refugees, who fled the threat of forced miliary service with Isis, and their 4, 000 mile long journey to the Johannesburg suburb of Mayfair.

Overall with the nation bing the most popular destination for those fleeing their born nation, for a better life style, the authorities in Pretoria have as many as one million plus pending asylum claims.

Fri 27

In a closed valley, 20 miles outside the town of Makhado in the north eastern corner of the cluntry; close to its border with Zimbabwe a large amount of coal deposits have been located. The firm behind the discovery, Coal of South Africa Ltd [CoAL] hope to extract 5.5m tons of coking and heating coal both for internal use and export.

Naturally there are many local people who are opposed to such a move as it will destroy areas of natural beauty as well as being invasive in a historic and cultural area of the continent. Others see this type fuel supply as fom a bygone era. More modern ways of producing energy should be encouraged; wind., wave or solar power produce no carbon emmissions. This comes at a time when Pretoria has promised a 42% by 2025.

The Lonmin mining company, owners of the Marikana mine, seem not to be upholding their agreement with their employees as part of the settlemeent after 44 of their employees/ family members were killed at the hands of the police after employers were killed during 2012 industrial action.

As part of the settlement the mine company promised to build homes for 33, 000 staff had gone behind schedule. Also teh 4, 000 rock drill operators basic monthly pay will, by 2018 increase to R12, 500 / £740.

February

Sat 11

Picture caption "Security officials remove members of the Economic Freedom Fighters, in red, during a fracas at President Jacob Zuma's state of the nation address in Cape Town South Africa."

Sun 12

Historic note; this date in 1970 a regrettable decision by the MCC to go ahead with a severely curtailed cricket tour by white South Africa cricketers next summer was inevitable. The London based club work on the principal that their idea of bridge building is the way forward in the apartheid state. To cancel would be seen as losing face.

Sat 25

As in many locations in the world the fear of the migrant, once again comes to the surface within South Africa. On this occasion residents of Pretoria have been on the march in protest at their inability to obtain jobs because of the numbers of foreigners willing to work for below the wage norm.

Rather than the dead of 2015, of 2016, protestors handed in a petition at the foreign ministry building in the capital. During there were sporadic attacks on those thought to be foreigners and calls for them to 'go home or 'learn the language

March

Sat 11

Known is the Long Walk To Freedom publication; the life and times of Nelson Mandela, from birth to ascendency to the presidency of South Africa. Now comes the long planned sequel Dare Not Linger.

While it is known that much of the manuscript had been produced by the president his passing away in 2013. However with the diligent work of Mandla Manga the task has ended. Publication is due in 10/17.

Writups, in detail, will cover the period from 1993 as the ANC formed the government, through the 1994 election and ends as he steps down after five years in office. Published by Macmillan and with a forward by his third wife Graca Machel.

Fri 17

In what may be seen as a 'face saving action' by the president the state has offered to pay compensation to the victims of the police actions at the 2012 Marikana mining disaster (qv). The total pay out, to the families of the 34 miners and other injured victims who were killed will be R1. 8Bn / £75m. Also compensated will be 652 relatives of miners who died.

Mon 20

News item, President Zuma, speaking on ways to make the nation's people more equal, brings up again the issue of land distribution.

Tues 21

News item, Tales told, by both black and white farmers, of the governments ineptitude when their claims that land distribution issues stall the ambitions of would be hopeful individuals wishing to become farmers.

Thurs 23

News item, Land reforms close to the Lesotho border.

Wed 29

From the start, as a 'passive resister' at the age of 17 in 1946 when he joined 2, 000 other Indian nationals of South Africa who were protesting at the laws that restricted their lives, Ahmed Kathrada has been at the heart of the political campaign that brought the country multi racial government in 1994. However the fight left him as he died aged 87.

Throughout his career he has been at the side of Nelson Mandela and other leaders of the African National Congress; a Rivonia trialist, parliamentary council to the then president N Mandela.

Thurs 30

Obituary Ahmed Mohamed Kathrada 21. 8 1929 – 28. 3. 2017 while accepting his his long term of jail time, alongside Nelson Mandela and other members of the ANC detained at the Liliesleaf Farm north of Johannesburg and the 1965 trial saw him jailed on Robben Island.

Once incarcerated off the Cape Town coast his conditions of detention were less severe than his black colleagues. While the Africans were made to wear short trousers, sandals and no socks; he being an ethnic Indian was allowed long trousers and socks and shoes. There was also better quality food served at meal time.

Born in the Transvaal town of Schweizer Reneke as the fourth of six children to immigrant parents from Gujarat state on the sub continent. There being no Indian school in the town he moved to an Indian school in Johannesburg where his political ethos was formed by the Transvaal Indian Congress. From the age of 12, influenced also by the Communists, he began taking part in passive resistance campaigns.

Education ended at the age of 17 and employment began with the Transvaal Passive Resistance Council; becoming heavily involved the governments 1946 'ghetto act' a move to restrict land ownership by ethnic Asians. For his troubles there was a 4 week stay in a Durban jail to be faced.

Attempts at a university education at Witwatersrand in 1951 was interrupted when he led a multi racial group to eastern Europe capitals. Anti apartheid continuing campaigns saw him arrested, along with 155 others [including N Mandela] in 1957. The trial petered out 4 years later the ANC went on the offensive. And he took responsibility for the Congress 's military wing *Umkhonto we Sizwe* which was responsible for kick starting the rise of N Mandela with his being smuggled out of the apartheid state and publicise the work of the ANC to the world stage.

Fri 31

With the momentum, of public / political opinion, that Jacob Zuma should stand down before the end

of his tenure as the nations head of state he himself is coming round to that possibility. Thus a dignified exit, from the role he has occupied for two five year period. Not without precedence has the NEC of the ANC removed a sitting president; Thabo Mbeki in 2008.

The political campaign / deal which would a new president installed in office within the next 12 months 2 years before the next set of elections. For this to happen it would seem that Zuma demands that the present finance minister Pravin Godham should resign from the Cabinet. Although a split Party does not want this to happen.

Even at the funeral of Ahmed Kathrada, on 29/3, the congregation cheered and clapped as a letter written before him calling for the president to resign became part of the service. An indication of the feelings of the 'political notables' towards their party leader.

News item, a top ANC official defends the popularity of president Zuma

April

Sat 1

Much to the chargin of vice president Cyril Ramaphosa and many others, president Zuma has enacted a cabinet reshuffle. Moved from his post of finance minister Pravin Godham has been replaced by Malusi Gigaba who has no experience of dealing with finance matters. Previously he had been interior ministe and was a known Zuma loyalist.

Sun 2

After the 'midnight purge' of cabinet members, deemed necassery by President Zuma, the new finance minister M Gigaba has promised to "radically transform" the countriee economy; and move the economy further to the left than his predecessor.

High on the agenda of the new finance minister, is the aim not to be distracted by issues that are not relevant, and thus move the nations economic policy on a fairer distribution of wealth throughout the whole population. These popular economic measures, the transfer of ownershio of underused farm land , it is hoped will improve political support for the ANC after the parties poor showing in the 2016 local elections

Jacob Zuma on the African people; "As Africans, long before the arrival of religion and [the] gospel, we had our way of doing things. Those were times that the religious people refer to as dark days, but we know that, during those times, there were no orphans or old peoples homes."

What others say "Its painful for us to bear witness to the wheels come off the vehicle of state." Nelson Mandela Foundation.

May

Tues 9

Long has it been known that early man lived throughout the southern regions of the African continent the findings of 2015 (qv 11/9) have been more revealing than at first thought. A deeper examination of the Rising Star cave system, 30 miles outside Johannesburg, has turned perceived knowledge of early evolution of early man on its head.

With 18, whole or partial skeletons of *Homo naledi*, discovered at least 100m deeper into the cave system it is thought that they were laid down respectively between 335,000 and 236,000 years ago. If these dates are correct then it would seem that *H naledi* was still walking the earth at the same time as *Homo sapiens*.

A detailed report written by Lee Berger an anthropologist at Witwatersrand University appears in the online *elife* journal.

Sun 14

Former mercenary Siman Man has taken up fiction writing; *Kass* was suggested by his wife as an exercise to keep his mind active during his expected lengthy jail term after a failed coup to overthrow the president of Equatorial Guinea on the west coast of the African continent. He was inspired to write the book *Kass* based on his favourite spy novel *The 39 Steps* and for his young son who was only 13 the time of his conviction.

Mon 29

With a growing anti Zuma campaign, well established in rural areas of the country, the subject of his stand down as president before the end of his allotted term has brought about a meeting of the African National Congress 's national executive committee. However any such debate was blocked by the executives chairman.

It is well known that the president is losing support from one time allies of the government party. Among these is Cosatu, the SACP and the SACC all of who would have the president leave office before 12/ '19, if the party is to have any chance of winning a further term as the government.

The supposed, voting pattern of the NEC as assumed by Johannesburg Sunday Times, indicated that the 107 strong national executive members voted down a motion of censure 45 : 41 with the remaining twenty one votes not known.

However, in parliament within the next few weeks, the Opposition has been granted a 'no confidence vote debate / vote.

Tues 30

Long has it been known that the rhino population in the country, and elsewhere on the African continent, has been killed for their horn and the government authorities and wildlife protection officers have had little success in ending poaching. However with the initiative of a South African living American former military man things may be about to change.

Rhyan Tate has recruited a number of former United States army veterans who have in recent times served in several theatres of war; Afghanistan and Iraq. Principally the team Tate's Veterans Empowered to Protect Animal Wildlife, led by the former Marine go about their task, seeking out poachers, as if they were searching out foreign force personnel.

As of this time their location is upon the private game reserves in Limpopo province; an area that abutts the Zimbabwe border. In Tate's mind's eye their deployment benefits both game park and former veterans. Hopefully the team's deployment over 200,000 hectares 500,000 acres will give team members a purpose in life rather better than some of their fellow military veterans back in the America. It is well known that once back on civvy street long time members of the military are prone to high levels of unemployment and or psychiatric problems.

June

Fri 23

Long has been the trouble that surrounds Jacob Zuma. The people are often having their say about their president's lifestyle; with his political activities not much thought of in a good light. Now the members of the whole parliament will shortly vote on a motion of no confidence in their president.

After much wrangling the call, which could see the president removed from office, by the Opposition Democratic Party have been granted the right to vote for all members of the parliament to vote on Zuma's future role in South Africa's political scene.

South Africa's chief justice M Mogoeng, has said that all MP's should vote with their consciences and urged the Speaker to make time available as soon as possible for such a vote to happen.

Tues 27

The private initiative, by the owner of a privately owned game park; which houses a large number of the endangered rhino; 1,500, could undermine the illegal poaching industry long favoured by criminal gangs.

It is hoped that the finance raised from the sale of rhino horn, by park owner John Hume in 8/'17, will be used to further fund the breeding and protection of the rhinos.

This first time sale of half a tonne, at auction, comes about after a ruling of the South African constitutional in 2009 that ruled that the sale of rhino horn was banned under a CITES agreement. This international agreement, the court ruled only applied to the international sale of rhino horn. By such methods, if adopted by other game parks, would undercut the prices offered to poachers thus making the trade obsolete.

Wed 28

Obituary Lord Joel Joffe 12. 5. 32 – 18. 6. 2017 a member of the legal team that represented those arrested at the Rivovena Farm hideout of the African National Congress at their trial in 1964. He is most remembered for his work, with Nelson Mandela, on the black liberation leaders mitigation speech to the trial judge. His plea to the judge, in the speech's initial draft, contained the words implying that he was prepared to die for his belief in a 'democratic and non racial South Africa.' After overnight consultations the final statement left out the 'prepared to die' statement. Thus began Nelson Mandela's residence on Robben Island.

This influential lawyer, who in 1965 had the intention of leaving the apartheid state and emigrating to Australia, was born to Johannesburg living Jewish immigrant parents; Abraham from Latvia and Dena Idelson from Palestine, who met and married in South Africa. Educated at a Catholic boarding school, the Marist Brothers College in Johannesburg then studied for a law degree at Witwatersrand University in the city. Solicitor in 1956. In 1962 called to the Bar. Through word of mouth he built up a business based client list and later worked pro bono -; a move that did not please his parents.

Later moved to a law practice and worked with Harold Wolpe and James Kantor, both heavily involved in the anti apartheid struggle. Wolpe, sought by the police fled to Britain. While his business partner was arrested and detained under the 90 day law. Thus, deemed the most skilled up legal team who could offer the recently arrested Nelson Mandela et al had lost a valuable legal asset. Then came an approach, from Hilda Bernstein and Winnie Mandela to defend their husbands.

For his involvement in the defence of who were seen at the time as terrorists, the Australian government refused his application of emigration.

August

Sun 6

Within days, of the much anticipated parliamentary vote of censure of the sitting president, those who have pushed themselves forward as possible new leaders of the African National Congress, have much to consider.

It is not in doubt that there is much division within, and without parliament, that there are a number of people who would step up to the top job; Cyril Ramaphosa, vice president Lindwe Sisulu, Jeff Radebe, Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma and Mkhize M Phosa and Baleka Mbete; speaker of the parliament.

When and if the speaker calls for the vote, now expected within days, those named above will be damned if they do; by members of the ruling party and damned if they don't by those who support Jacob Zuma in his various actions that have brought about this unique situation.

For the call to end early the reign of Zuma 50 ANC MP 's will have to vote to remove the president months before he himself has indicated that he would retire as president at the end of his present term of office.

Tue 8

News item, The speaker of the Cape Town parliament, Baleka Mbete, has set aside time for members to take part in the secret vote that will determine the political future of the president Jacob Zuma. Preparing for this event the area round the parliament building has been cordoned off by the security authorities.

Some may question the need for a censure vote as to oust the president, months before he has already promised to resign his position, will see parliament closed; new elections as well as the election of a new head of the African National Congress.

Obituary, Quett K J Masire 23. 7. 1925 – 22. 6. 2017 since his retirement, as president of Botswana; see diary 20. 7.1980, in 1998 his talents were appreciated as 'wise council' in the genocide that engulfed the eastern DRC. This former school teacher also received a honorary knighthood.

News report it would seem that as many as 30 ANC members of parliament will use their vote as a means of censure for party leader, and president, Jacob Zuma.

Wed 9

The secret ballot among the parliament's MP's, as a censure of the leader of the African National Congress, has resulted in a show of support for Jacob Zuma. With government ministers poised on a three line whip votes cast were 198 : 117 and nine abstentions.

Commenting on the vote party leader Jacob Zuma noted "It is difficult to defeat the ANC but you can try."

Leader Comment, **Zuma survives – but can the ANC have confidence in its future?** seems unlikely if he continues to abuse the finances of office to 'lavishly upgrade the family home' by using state funds. Many of his recent decisions, the sacking of a finance minister, Pravin Gordhan, seemingly on the advice of the influential Gupta family; a dynasty that seems over time has become a great influence in the financial / economic future of South Africa.

"Whoever takes over [as leader of the ANC] will have to answer for Mr Zuma and the ANC decisions to go along with him – however unhappily – when the electorate gets its say – in 2019. Despite the party's continued dominance, it is already being started to be at the ballot box. The opposition will do its best to ensure that no one forgets Yesterday's vote. The result was a kind of victory for Mr Zuma. But no one could call it a win for the ANC."

Sun 13

Programme notes, direct from the Market Street Theatre in Johannesburg, a gathering; before an audience, of politicians from the African National Congress, opposition Freedom Front MP's and those who would hope to take over as the leader of the government which has been in power since 1994,

The whole issue of the implications of the loss of the censure motion tabled against Jacob Zuma and the future ability to win the 2019 general election was discussed, questioned and derided by the audience.

Fri 18

Programme notes, discussion concerning the 1/4 sacked finance minister Pravin Gordhan, who was said to have been replaced at the request of the influential Gupta family. Also the far reaching effects in the aftermath of outcome of the censure vote of president Zuma and the future of the ANC winning the 2019 general election.

Sun 20

President Jose dos Santos aged 74 has, after serving as president of Angola for the last 38 years, had decided not to stand for re election on 23/8. Although the Mpla will once again become the ruling party the new man at its head Joao Lourenco, the present defence minister, will have to do much to combat claims that nepotism, cronyism and corruption are endemic within the party that has led the nation from its days of being a Portuguese colony.

Tues 22

News report, despite the imminent elections that will bring forth a new president of Angola the departing dos Santos will, in some peoples opinion, still loom large over Lourenco administration. For the next eight years there can be no changes at the top of the army or navy without the say so of the nations first president.

News item, South Africa has held its first sale of 'farmed rhino horn' taken from the horns of 300 animals brought up on a privately owned ranch. The aim, in selling this allowed 'crop' is to end the illegal trade and protect the endangered species by only taking a small amount of horn without causing the rhino's death.

Fri 25

The disciplinary arm of the of the United Kingdom 's public relations industry has charged the London based firm Bell Pottinger of bringing the industry bad publicity as a result of the work that the company took on in South Africa.

In the view of the Democratic Alliance the actions of the PR firm, seemingly to heighten the social tension between the ethnic groups during the run up to the recent election. This was seen as a 'smokescreen' manoeuvre to hide president Zuma 's associations with the Gupta family who, with their untold wealth seemed to have a great influence on the policy decisions pushed through parliament by the ANC.

In its ruling the court, of the Public Relations and Communications Association, found that the DP accusations of a white monopoly and economic apartheid were upheld. A decision on any sanction; the most severe would be expelling BP from the PRCA, will be given on 4/9.

September

Wed 13

The ruling of the PRCA, concerning the actions of Bell Pottinger (qv 25/8), has been handed down by its ruling committee, has seen the PR company expelled from the professions administrative body. Further more such has been the loss of clients; at least twelve including Waitrose, HSBC and Talk Talk and other household names, that the PR company has placed itself in administration.

All hopes for the company remain with those now responsible for running the company, BDO, who will take on the responsibility of securing the future of the 250 Bell Pottinger employees and financing the repayment of the £5m of losses with some of them relating to payments made to management including the companies co founder Lord Bell.

All told 24, 000 tickets have been purchased for their owners to attend the opening of the Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa in Cape Town. The building, deemed the largest gallery in Africa, located in an old grain silo on the waterfront and built at a cost of \$38m / £24m; all of which were finance by private individuals, is dedicated to the art collection of German businessman Jochen Zeitz. Over its nine floors and eighty galleries other well known contemporary artists; Chris Ofili and Edson Chagas, will be invited to exhibit their works.

There has been claims that this new centre for the arts is elitist and its style is very different from the art found in Johannesburg notes Mbadi Mdlull a 40 year old fine arts student at the cities Witwatersrand University, says he knows little about this new gallery. Defending its location the Zimbabwean artist Kudzai Churai, says Cape Town 's Mokka building is 'really significant, not just

for my lifetime but for the next 300 or 300 years.

Sat 16

Detailing the architectural necessities that were needed to turn the 1920 's built grain silos, located on the Cape Town waterfront, into the South Africa 's Museum of Contemporary African Art (qv 13/9). Designed by the British Thomas Heatherington there was much use of poured concrete to reinforce the original grain silos. The Zeit Mocca building opens on 22/9.

October

Fri 13

Historical fact; at least 73 political detainees died while in the hands of the apartheid state police between 1963 and 1990.

One such; Ahmed Timol aged 29, met such a fate in 10/71. while a coroner at the time recorded that the anti government activist took his own life family members were not believing this. In the intervening 46 years a vigorous campaign, led by Imtiaz Cajee the activists nephew, for the state to make further enquiries to right this wrong.

This chance came with the recent ruling, in the Pretoria hight court when Justice Billy Mothe ruled that this was a case of murder carried out by police officers. Throughout the long running campaign through the legal system persons, who were detained at the same time, among them Salim Essoop gave evidence of the brutality metered out to political prisoners. The judge recommended that a policeman in the security branch Joao Rodrigues be prosecuted after admitting that he helped cover up the crime although it was unlikely it will ever be known who caused Ahmed 's death.

While the first multi racial government set up the Truth and Reconciliation Commission did good works to understand the depth of the atrocities perpetrated by the warring factions the thinking, at this time, among the younger 'post conflict ' generation is that their needs to be a whole new examination of the 1980 – 1994 period.

Thurs 19

Named banking establishments, with their headquarters in London, have been dragged into the ongoing South African financial authorities inquiry into the links between Jacob Zuma and the Indian family at the head of the Gupta business conglomerate.

The call for an inquiry, at the London end of the money trail, if there is one, came from Peter Hain a prominent anti apartheid campaigner; MP and one time resident the the then parhia state at the tip of the African continent. As a person with great concerns about the land of his birth Hain passed on his concerns to the chancellor Philip Hammond who has tasked the UK 's enforcement agencies to look and see if the financial actions of both the Midland and Standard Charter Banks were within the guidelines of the Serious Fraud Office, National Crime Agency and the Financial Conduct Authority.

Sun 29

With the known fact that the Sans people, who have roamed the lands of present day, Botswana, Namibia and South Africa for at least 100, 000 years there right to roam has been severely restricted since diamonds were found in the Central Kalahari 's game reserve. Even when they won the right to

return in 2006 (qv 14/12) the Botswana government were heavily criticised for failing to respect the courts ruling.

November

Thurs 2

Remembrances of times past in KwaZulu Natal provinces; 1990 - '94, when members of the African National Congress fought with Inkatha supporters prior to the election of Nelson Mandela, have come back to haunt the present leadership.

The province, in the recent past, has seen a number of 'notables' from the government party gunned down by those from within the ANC who oppose any change in the status qua. With Jacob Zuma expected to relinquish his position of president of the Congress shortly the battle is on to replace him with one who would still favour his style of government; alleged acts of corruption. Such moves are opposed by the second generation of political hopefuls who have no real link to the times of struggle that brought the first multi racial government to South Africa.

Sun 12

With the lasting knowledge that he suffers from inoperable lung cancer Dennis Goldberg, a co trailaist, with Nelson Mandela and other leading members of the ANC jailed for life after the Rivoena incident in 1964, has one lasting wish.

Now living in Hout Bay, outside Cape Town, he hopes to muster enough funding to build a centre for the arts to be named House of Hope. As he says 'culture is the best way to heal his nations wounds.

Mon 13

News item, a 60 carat diamond, mined out in Angola in 2016, is to be auctioned in the very near future. Experts believe that it could retail at £60m.

Fri 24

News item, the supreme court has increased the sentence, passed by a lower court, of Oscar Pistorius jail term for the murder of his girl friend.

December

Sat 16

News item, the national executive of the African National Congress meet to determine who will become its next leader as Jacob Zuma makes good his promise and resigns his post. As of this time there are only 2 contenders; the vice president Cyril Ramaphosa and an ex wife of the president.

Sun 17

Those 'principals' each offer a different choices as to how to bring economic success to the nation. Vice president Cyril Ramaphosa, who having spent much time out of politics in the world of business. During this time the 65 year old has built up an understanding of how the internal and international community works. He has also made a promise to end the endemic corruption throughout the

industrial / commercial business world.

The ex spouse of president Zuma, Nkosazans Dlamini Zuma promises radical measures to redistribute wealth in this deeply unequal nation. According to an academic from the University of Cape Town her support is expected to come from voters in the rural areas. Her main policy is to re distribute white owned farm land among the black farming nation.

Tues 19

Only a small number of votes separated the two 'notable' candidates for the post of leader of the African National Congress ; C Ramaphosa 2, 440 : 2, 261 N D Zuma. Great things will be expected of the one time anti apartheid union leader activist lawyer cum minister in the Mandela era then only leaving to turn his hand to the business world when he was overlooked party leader as Thabo Mbeki took the position of president.

Leader Comment **The ANC 's new leader can regain a moral authority his nation lost** with this outcome “Mr Ramaphosa is almost certain to take over as the country 's president in 2019” and right the wrongs that the yeas of rule by Jacob Zuma that has led the country almost to the level of a 'failed state.'

The new president 's greatest challenge will be to stem the growth of the Democratic Party and that of the Economic Freedom Party; challengers from the mid line and the black dominated political party which as risen in popularity as the ANC 's problems increased.

“Mr Ramaphosa represents the best chance since his mentor Mr Mandela departed politics ...”

Sat 30

In a final ruling, by the nations constitutional court, that determined the repayments to be paid by president Zuma in 2016 (qv 27/7) the nations highest legal body has ordered the countries parliament to amend the constitution; section 89, such that the former leader of the African National Congress can face impeachment.

In its ruling it noted that the attitude of the Speaker Baleka Mbete had tried to protect the party leader over the financial demands after she said “in the African tradition you don 't interfere with a man 's kraal.”