

1. A Tribute to Denis Goldberg

By Makhenkesi Arnold Stofile

To reach 80 years is a good achievement for any human being. To be 80 and of good health is an even greater achievement. Comrade Denis Goldberg has achieved both feats. We take our hats off for him.

This veteran of the struggle for liberation of South Africa from Apartheid and colonialism is actually more of a Leader than a Comrade to our generation. When our history is properly recorded, Comrade Denis Goldberg will be portrayed as a strong leader, a revolutionary, who saw fit to associate himself with the liberation of the oppressed. This saw him bear the brunt of the apartheid regime alongside the professionals, intellectuals and revolutionaries of our struggle: the best known of these is President Rolihlahla Nelson Mandela.

Many young South Africans and many people in the world make the mistake of thinking that all white people supported Apartheid. Comrade Goldberg is living proof of the fallacy of such views. By the same token not every black person supported the struggle for liberation.

Comrade Denis Goldberg is acutely aware of how racial stereotypes can distort our history and poison the future of our children. Even at 80 he spends most of his energy trying to reconcile people, especially young people. His choice of music and cultural activities is bearing fruit. Music and culture know no boundaries.

Congratulations and Happy Birthday Young Man! You made us very proud and you are a source of great inspiration to us.

Forward ever!
Backward never!
Makhenkesi Stofile
Ambassador of the Republic of South Africa
Berlin, Germany

Rev Makhenkesi Arnold Stofile born 27 December 1944.

Accredited Ambassador 1 June 2011

Minister of Sport and Recreation April 2004 - 2010. Premier of Eastern Cape 1997 until 2004. Member of Parliament 1994 - 1996. BA 1971, BD(Hons) 1975 MD 1979 Fort Hare; Higher Dipl Technology, Tübingen; MA 1983 Princeton; D.Phil (hc) 2000 UPE.

Chairperson of ANC Eastern Cape from 1996; NEC 1990. Was a machine operator at a textile factory. Minister Presbyterian Church 1975. Lecturer in various theological institutions. Led protests that stopped Springbok tour to New Zealand in 1984. Sentenced to 11 years imprisonment under Ciskei Internal Security Act 1987. A founder member of UDF and on its NEC 1963-1986. Co-author *Kairos Document* 1985. Member of ANC underground leadership 1986 – 1991



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