

Mandela rises up again

SIPHO MASOMBUKA

NELSON Mandela rose up again at the Union Buildings in Pretoria yesterday. Towering 9m in bronze, the newest statue is of Mandela with his arms outstretched and his feet in stride.

"We laid Tata to rest yesterday. Today, he rises majestically at the seat of government, as a symbol of peace, reconciliation, unity and progress," President Jacob Zuma said after unveiling the statue. "... in our view, this is a fitting tribute to the contribution he has

made to our country, Africa and the world. It is the least we can do for a man who dedicated his entire life to this country and its people."

In a reconciliatory move, grandchildren of South Africa's third prime minister, Barry Hertzog, agreed to his statue making way for Mandela's.

Spokesman Gert Opperman said: "There was an understanding that times are changing and they have great admiration for Mandela and for what he stood for."

The family was grateful Herzog's statue was not removed but re-

located to the lower level of the grounds, he said.

Zuma expressed gratitude to Herzog's six grandchildren, who could not attend the ceremony, for their cooperation.

The Mandela statue was designed by sculptors André Prinsloo and Ruhan Janse van Vuuren.

Janse van Vuuren said the figure was reinforced with stainless steel, with copper running through it to protect it from lightning damage.

"It was a great honour to work on Madiba's statue and it was poignant last week when we

worked on the statue as he lay in state above, in the amphitheatre."

Scores of people watching the unveiling on big screens on the lawns below erupted in song and ululation as Zuma pulled down the black cloth to reveal the R8.3-million artwork, which took six months to complete.

The unveiling coincided with the centenary of the Union Buildings, the Day of Reconciliation and the anniversary of the formation of the ANC's military wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe. Zuma declared the Union Buildings a national heritage site.

Statue of Madiba saves Zuma

● From Page 1

Presidency Collins Chabane heaped praise on Zuma, assuring him that "the people are behind" his administration.

Chabane recounted achievements under Zuma's tenure, including the successful hosting of the 2010 soccer World Cup.

The marquee erupted in loud cheers and singing as Chabane called Zuma to the podium.

Earlier, ANC deputy president Cyril Ramaphosa thanked "Zuma's government" for the dignified send-off of Mandela. Even Inkatha Freedom Party leader Prince Mangosuthu Buthelezi ended his speech by saying "Viva Msholoz!"

Zuma spoke about unity, peace and tolerance.

"Today, as we mark a special day in the country's calendar, National Reconciliation Day, we recommit ourselves to peace, forgiveness, tolerance and reconciliation. These values were the hallmarks of the presidency of Madiba," he said.

"It is therefore of great historical significance that we are marking National Reconciliation Day 2013 by officially unveiling the 9m statue of Madiba, the man who encouraged us to look beyond our differences and become one nation, united in our diversity."

Political analyst Professor Steven Friedman said the unveiling appeared to have been a carefully managed affair.

"The whole point of the gathering at FNB [stadium] was that it was widely advertised, as opposed to the unveiling. No surprise [then] that you were not likely to have a repeat of Tuesday [booing]," he said.

"The event at FNB Stadium was much more representative [of the unhappiness of some ANC members]."

LONG WALK TO PARTY

Capetonians take part in the Reconciliation Walk from Bo-Kaap to the Cape Town Stadium where a free concert awaited them as part of the Day of Reconciliation celebrations. Picture: ESA ALEXANDER



● From Page 1

Makaziwe — who led a campaign to exhume the remains of Mandela's children in Mvezo — could not be reached for comment yesterday.

In June, Mandla was accused of moving the remains of Mandela's three children from Qunu in 2011 and taking them to Mvezo in an effort to ensure that the statesman would be buried in Mvezo.

Makaziwe, Graça Machel and 14 other family members took Mandla to court, petitioning for an order that he return the remains.

Yesterday, a source said that family members were shocked that Makaziwe was seen walking around the estate, giving orders, instead of confining herself to the house, as is customary.

Fresh feud ripping the family apart

"I've never seen anything like it. It was like she was possessed. She was all over the place and didn't care who anyone was," the source said.

The source related the circumstances of the failure to arrange transport to the funeral for Mandla's mother.

"There were five people there, including her, when they were told to walk. What she [Makaziwe] did to Mandla was the most disrespectful thing," the source said.

Last week, the UK Sunday Times reported that, when the statesman's former adviser, Jakes Ger-

wel, visited the family home last year he was surprised and disgusted to find two of Mandela's daughters noisily arguing over who would get which piece of furniture and which kitchen appliances when he died.

The two unnamed daughters, according to the UK newspaper, seemed to care little that Mandela was sitting nearby.

His children and grandchildren have for months been engaged in toxic disputes about who will inherit not just his chattels but also the lucrative "Mandela brand" and the right to use it for profit.

Mandela's estate, which includes a trust partly funded from the sale of his handprints and of the 46664 brand — his prison number on Robben Island — are believed to be worth millions.

The future of his Qunu home-stead could also be a focus of the family dispute.

The fighting, which continued on Friday and Saturday, contradicts media reports on Sunday that the family had agreed to put their differences aside until after the funeral.

Family sources said that the morning after Mandela's death

Machel called most of the family to a meeting at which "she was clear and frank [and said that there must be] no more fighting".

On Saturday, Bizos told journalists that "every one of them expresses regret for the differences there may have been among them ... and I heard all of them say that [Mandela's] passing is a good opportunity for them to shake hands and be a united family".

Earlier this year, Makaziwe and Zenani, two of Mandela's daughters, took Bizos to court in an attempt to seize control of a trust fund under his management.

The fund, set up to care for Mandela's heirs in perpetuity, generated millions of rands from his handprints, which reportedly sell for more than \$35 900 each.