



verve
SEX IS
TV'S NEW
FRONTIER
► 14

The Star

LEADS A

**PIRATES
RANSACK
PALACE**
► 28



www.star.co.za

TUESDAY DECEMBER 17 2013

Established October 17 1887

R7,00 inc VAT

Annual subscribers: R5,86

For subscriptions contact: gautengsubs@star.co.za

LASTING EMBRACE



66
There should be no
more tears. We must
celebrate his legacy
99

REACHING OUT: SAAF helicopters do a fly-past during the unveiling of the statue of Nelson Mandela at the Union Buildings in Pretoria yesterday. **PICTURE: CHRIS COUGHS/GOE**

Plea for Mandela's legacy to endure

LIBONGANG SEALE
libongang.seale@star.co.za

NELSON Mandela's 9m-tall bronze statue at the Union Buildings will serve as a symbolic reminder to South Africans that they must try to emulate his legacy of peace, reconciliation and nation-building.

On the day the R8 million statue was unveiled, President Jacob Zuma and leaders of various political parties echoed this sentiment.

Mandela – whose remains were interred at his ancestral village of Qunu, Eastern Cape, on Sunday – was inaugurated at the Union Buildings in 1994 as the first president of

a democratic South Africa.

The unveiling of the statue also coincided with the centenary celebration of the Union Buildings.

To mark the occasion, Zuma declared the Union Buildings a national heritage site.

The statue, made by sculptors Andre Prinsloo and Ruhan Janse van Vuuren, depicts a smiling Mandela with his arms outstretched – a gesture of embracing all people. This is a departure from his conventional pose of a raised, clenched fist.

"This one is different from many. He is standing, stretching out his hands. He is embracing the whole nation. You shouldn't say this is not Madiba because we know (him) with his one (raised) hand," Zuma

quipped.

He added, though, that the Madiba footprint – symbolising South Africa as being on the move and changing from an oppressive apartheid regime to a democratic state – was the same.

Mandela's statue was placed on the exact spot where former apartheid regime prime minister JBM Hertzog's statue once stood. This comes after the government successfully negotiated with Hertzog's family that his statue be relocated to another spot at the Union Buildings.

Similar to Madiba's funeral service, the unveiling of his statue was followed by a 21-gun salute and a fly-past by SA Air Force jets.

Former president Thabo Mbeki,

Deputy President Kgalema Motlanthe, US civil rights activist Reverend Jesse Jackson and representatives of Mandela's family led by Maseko Mandela, were among the dignitaries at yesterday's event.

Zuma said the unveiling of Mandela's statue was part of a symbolic gesture of the departure from South Africa's racially segregated past, which was represented by the two Boer Republics and two colonies, to a unified nation.

"The Union Buildings was therefore built on a shaky foundation of racial discrimination and oppression... At this institution, many racial laws were signed which entrenched deep racial divisions against black people, culminating in



the adoption of apartheid in 1948.

Zuma and leaders of various political parties were unanimous in calling for the furtherance of Mandela's legacy.

Zuma appealed to South Africans

to immortalise Mandela's spirit through their deeds.

"There should now be no more tears. We must celebrate Madiba and take forward his legacy. He should live in our hearts and inspire

us to do something good every single day," said Zuma, who was received with rapturous applause and chants of "Zuma my president".

The chants contrasted with last Tuesday's embarrassing scenes at Mandela's memorial service at Joburg's FNB Stadium, where Zuma was repeatedly booed.

Azanian People's Organisation deputy president Strike Thokozane said: "Our concern today is that politics is no longer the politics of nation-building (leadership). So many people are talking rhetoric that sounds progressive when it's in fact not."

DA federal chairman Willem Jacobus said: "Madiba embodied the possibility of sharing and hope that political leaders will put the interests of people first and not themselves."

See Page 4

No closure for some close to the icon

SIPHO KAZI FORAKI

THE WORLD watched when South Africa laid to rest one of its greatest leaders, Nelson Mandela, but the people of Qunu, from where he hailed, say they're yet to find closure.

As throngs of dignitaries and members of the Mandela family attended his funeral, his former neighbours and other villagers carried on with their daily chores.

Other Madiba mourners and relatives, who had travelled from

Cape Town, Gauteng and Port Elizabeth, got only as far as the gate of the Mandela household after failing to secure accreditation for the much-awaited state funeral.

Outside Mandela's home sat Onica Nyembazi Mthoa, 66, the woman who claims to be Mandela's love child. Mthoa, who is a daughter of Sophie Majeni, claimed that despite attempts to see the family, she had never been able to get past the bodyguards.

Holding back tears outside the

home on Sunday, she said all she wanted was to "bury my father".

"All I want is to be part of my father's funeral. I'm not here for money or fame or my father's inheritance. I just want the family to recognise me," she said.

After getting an access badge from an M&L veteran, Mthoa thought her dream of meeting the Mandela family would finally become a reality, but police turned her away, saying she had used unauthorised accreditation.

"I'm really hurt... I can't explain how empty I feel inside after such rejection," she said.

Nomvule Gqabantshi, 71, who lives 3km from the Mandela home, watched the funeral on television. The grandmother, who worked at Mandela's home as a cleaner, watched the funeral procession in the morning but then went back to her domestic chores.

"The people of Qunu feel so left out that we feel like outsiders. We were told that we won't get in

without accreditation, but nobody told us about that," she said.

"We are very hurt and we will never find closure about Tat'uMandela's death."

Although Nomvule Gqabantshi, 72, was Mandela's cousin, she wasn't admitted to the funeral ceremony.

"My mother is a Mandela, and when Madiba was alive he always made sure that I attended every family ceremony. I went for accreditation, but somehow my name didn't appear in the system. I am very sad," she said.

"We've spent the whole week mourning with his children, but on the day of his funeral, we were nobodies. That really hurts."



WHAT ABOUT ME? Onica Nyembazi Mthoa, with pink scarf, travelled with her family to attend Nelson Mandela's funeral at Qunu. She claims Madiba is her biological father. **PICTURE: CHRIS WOOD**