ADDRESS BY ETHEKWINI MUNICIPALITY MAYOR, CLLR MXOLISI KAUNDA AT THE FUNERAL SERVICE OF LUYANDA CELE, UMLAZI CINEMA HALL, W-SECTION, 31 MARCH 202

- Programme Director
- Cele Family
- Councillors and community leaders
- Abefundisi
- Officials from the Municipality
- Ladies and Gentlemen

Siyabingelela egameni lenkosi uJesu

On behalf of the people of eThekwini Municipality, we would like to convey our heartfelt condolences to the family, relatives, and friends of Luyanda Cele.

We were deeply saddened when we learned about the untimely passing of this young woman who was just beginning to realise her dreams of becoming a professional and an independent woman.

Siphatheke kabi kakhulu uma sizwa isihluku abulawe ngaso okukhombisa ngokusobala ukuthi abanye abantu sebephenduke izilwane. Singubuholi bomkhandlu weTheku sithi emndenini dudu, okwehlanga lungehlanga. Lalani ngenxeba boNdosi, Magaye.

As we all know, when you complete your studies, the next step is to look forward to a permanent job. As an intern in the municipality, Luyanda was on the right path to use her skills to contribute towards building a better country for all our citizens.

Sifuna ukuthi mndeni wakwaCele kanye nezihlobo nazi ukuthi nathi silahlekelwe futhi sikhalisana nani ngalesikhathi esinzima. Siyaqhubeka nokunxusa abezomthetho ukuthi basebenze ngokuzikhandla kuthalakale izigilamkhuba ezenze lesisehlo. Lokho kuyosilekelela ekutheni sithole neizimpendulo emibuzweni eminingi esinayo. Ikakhulukazi nokubuyisa ithemba ngokusebenza komthetho wezwe.

Yize noma singenayo yonke imininingwano okwamanje, kodwa lesisehlo sinezimpawu zesihlava esibhekene naso njengesizwe sokuhlukunyezwa kwabantu besimame kanye nezingane.

The issue of Gender Based Violence continues to be a stain in our efforts to build a safe and secure environment for all our citizens. While we work with all the law enforcement agencies to put behind bars the perpetrators of this heinous crime, we urge community members to be in the forefront in the fight against this scourge.

Sihlaba umkhosi kobaba, omalume, obhuti kanye nabobonke abantu besilisa emphakithini esihlala kuyona ukuthi sihlangane silwisane nalesihlava. Kufanele sisho ngazwi linye ukuthi ngeke kuqhubeke ukuhlunyezwa kwezingane nabantu besifazane egameni lethu singamadoda.

Singumasipala weTheku siyasebenzisana nezinhlaka ezahlukeni zomphakathi ukuququzela ukuziphatha kanye nobuqotho kubantu besilisa abancane nabadala.

Ladies and gentlemen, we have been robbed of a young and promising South African and her passing is not only a loss for the Cele family, but to the municipality as a whole.

Again, to the Cele family, we hope you will find strength in knowing that we all share in your loss, and you are in our thoughts during this difficult period.

UNkulunkulu uyena owaziyo ukuthi isikhathi sethu sonke sinini. Yize noma uLuyanda ebesemncane, umndeni usabheke lukhulu kuyena, siyathemba ukuthi uMdali ngokwezinhlelo zakhe, uzoduduza umndeni, aphinde abuyise ithemba.

To the friends and colleagues, let us remember Luyanda for the positive impact she has had in our lives and celebrate the wonderful memories she has left us with.

Lastly, on behalf of the eThekwini Municipality, we would like to say farewell to Luyanda. Those of us who are left behind, let us fight for justice

for Luyanda so that no other family has to go through this painful experience again.

May your soul rest in peace.

I thank you.