



PWMSA

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“WOMEN MARCHING FOR EQUALITY, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE”

30th May 2021

Media Statement

Attention: News editors

For immediate release

PWMSA saddened by the passing of her majesty Queen Shiyiwe Mantfombi Dlamini-Zulu

The Progressive Movement of South Africa led by National Convenor Professor Hlengiwe Mkhize has learned with great sadness of the sudden passing of her majesty Queen Shiyiwe Mantfombi Dlamini-Zulu (64), the third wife of the late King Goodwill Zwelithini KaBhekuZulu.

The news of the Queen’s passing was announced on Thursday evening, 29th May 2021 by Prime Minister of the Zulu Nation, Prince Mangosuthu Buthelezi. The passing of Queen Mantfombi came as a shock and has taken us by surprise as the country, Zulu nation and the Royal family are still mourning the passing of his majesty King Goodwill Zwelithini KaBhekuZulu, the longest-reigning Zulu Monarch who passed on the 12th March 2021.

Following the death of her husband his majesty King Goodwill Zwelithini KaBhekuZulu, Queen Shiyiwe Mantfombi Zulu was appointed as the interim leader of the Zulu Kingdom, under the title of Zulu Nation Queen Regent, on 24th March 2021, which is the position she was going to occupy until she appoints the next Zulu King.

Culturally, Queens have a huge role to play as advisors through social and agricultural programmes of empowering women particularly rural women and the responsibility to teach young women values of life and how to preserve themselves. As a Queen, mama Shiyiwe Mantfombi Zulu was a backbone of the Zulu Nation and a great source of information. Her appointment as Zulu Nation Queen Regent raised high hopes that women will benefit especially when it comes to having access to means of production and valuable assets such as land. Through her leadership, women had expected that there would be transformation which could lead to the realization of women's rights. Dismantling patriarchy is urgent as male domination retard women empowerment and development in democracy. Indeed, her passing is a great loss to women and to the nation.

As PMWSA we send our deepest condolences to the Zulu Royal family, Zulu Nation and the country. Our prayers are with the Royal family to be strengthened through this difficult period.

May her majesty Queen Shiyiwe Mantfombi Zulu's soul rest in peace.

Issued by

Prof Hlengiwe Mkhize
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