

DAY OF RECONCILIATION EVENT 16 DEC. 2022 at ROB BEN ISLAND (by MT).

Thank you for this opportunity to express Solidarity, on behalf of the Local Jewish Community on this Historic Day of Reconciliation on Robben Island.

This iconic heritage site is sacred to expose the truth of our National Heritage.

Our ancient life origins link us as people of the Earth and although we evolved different cultures, it is essential that our common humanity respect each form of living Heritage, tangible & intangible. We must protect Our Heritage Stories!

All should stand together to protect Sacred Indigenous Sites to Heal our Earth.

In the distant ocean backdrop, are Sacred Places of our people: 'Hoerikwaggo', 'Camissa' & 'IGAMIRODI KHAES!' the life generating Confluence of Two Rivers.

Historical Cultural Landscapes affirm Our Heritage Story over thousands of years

The broadest Consultation is needed to recognise and protect our unique sacred Cultural Landscapes that reveal the fullest traces of Pre-Colonial Heritage.

It's also essential to acknowledge the Colonial Pain that has not yet been Healed, by revealing the full Intangible Truth, buried over hundreds of years, so that Reconciliation can be achieved as deep Healing for us all!

Our vision of building a non-racist, non-sexist, respectful inclusive democratic culture is a process still to be realised. Our Southern African indigenous heritage origins must be recognised inclusively in Our Constitution as National Heritage.

Effective Rule of Law is essential for Justice to protect the rights of all in Peace!

Our Heritage places of integrated indigenous life were in natural sustainable harmony over thousands of years. The Kung or San and the Khoena people, and our Nguni Heritage are an integral part of Robben Island site of Liberation.

The defensive victory over d'Almeida's invading Portuguese in 1510 (512 years ago) inspires our people that we can be healed by protecting ourselves. These places of first dispossession and where the First Frontier War, the sin of slavery, colonial plunder all first exploded. This severe history, is still needing to be HEALED! These sacred places inspire us all in our struggle for liberation that

turns recognition into deep reconciliation, restoration and as inclusive peace! Full respect following a Co-Design Vision is urgently needed to end many years of disrespect towards other cultures! There is no place for abuse or hate!

Policy calls for protection of significant Cultural Landscapes to ensure we protect our sacred heritage so we can share it all with our Future Generations, as an essential restored Natural Biodiversity of our Planet in Perpetuity!

Crimes against humanity, must not remain uncorrected. The dignity of our ancestors must restore the story of who we are. It's Our heritage and Memory.

Our Torah (Instructions for Living) implores us 'not to do unto others as we would not want them do unto us'! We need to learn to strive lovingly for peace.

We Pray for Truth & Reconciliation toward Healing.

Lord of the Universe, who hast made the world and gives life to all its inhabitants, who by Thy providence, dost weave the tapestry of history on the loom of time, bestow, we beseech Thee, Thy bountiful benisons -spiritual and material upon our beloved country, Southern Africa & our unique living Planet.

In Thy grace & mercy, bless our Leaders to act with required integrity, building leadership capacity, to attain full public benefit and prosperity for all.

We pray Thee, O God of our salvation, shield our people & planet from all danger, Prosper the work of our hands: grant us vision in our planning, courage towards inclusive wellbeing, commitment for our urgent tasks.

Teach us the way of duty & unity, to dwell together in goodwill & in peace.

Help us to make justice, truth and restorative FREEDOM the strength of our land, blessed with respectful fellowship and realisation of deep healing, freed of the cruel colonial and apartheid past, blessed with restored calm, in tranquillity.

For "Not by might, nor by power, but by My spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts."

Yea, spread Thou the tabernacle of peace over all the dwellers on earth and may we all find protection and redemption soon, restored under the 'Rainbow'.

Amen. (Adapted, based on a "prayer for South Africa" by Chief Rabbi Prof. I Abrahams).