



Red Voice

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REMEMBERING HUGO CHAVEZ



1954-2013



Red Voice

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2013

The Year that was

2012



Inside: The Year 2012 - Socialism is our lifetime!

Previous Edition

YCLSA PEC Lekgotla:

**“TAKING RESPONSIBILITY
FOR OUR REVOLUTION:
SOCIALISM IN OUR
LIFETIME”**

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Inside: Socialism in our Lifetime!



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"the only path we have to get out of the spot to which the right has sunken us. Socialism builds and capitalism destroys."

— Hugo Chávez





Editor's Voice



We would like to dedicate this issue to the organization itself, the Young Communist League of South Africa (YCLSA) as it prepares to celebrate its 91 Years of existence. The YCLSA banned in 1950 and re-launched in 2002. The re-launch of the YCLSA dates back to the unbanning of the SACP in 1990 of which at the 1991 Congress there were extensive debates on how the Party should organise and mobilise young people. This debate continued in the 1995 and 1998 Congresses and culminated in the 2002 Congress Resolution for the re-establishment of the YCLSA. Young communists in the party were at the centre of these discussions as well as other related political, ideological and organizational elaborations.

During the celebration of its 11th year of its re-launch and/or its 91st Anniversary this year, the YCLSA will also remember the cowardly assassination of communist heroes and heroines, like Ruth First, who was a member and of the Young Communist League in the 1940s. Because of this, there is a very heavy responsibility on us as the re-launched YCLSA to carry on the proud tradition of Ruth First, and indeed all other communists, particularly those who perished in their youth struggling for the ideals of national liberation and socialism. Joe Slovo himself, Esther Barsel, Brian Bunting and many others joined the Communist Party via this school of aspiring communists, the YCL.

Borrowing from their slogan of “study, work and rifle” the YCL of Cuba has proven that socialism does not come on a silver platter and while strong global imperialist forces continue to expand and exploit the working class we, as young people armed with the SACP’s vision and our collective energies must strive on.

Addressing the 45th anniversary of the YCL of Cuba, Cde President Raul Castro said “Young Cuban revolutionaries understand perfectly well that to preserve the Revolution and socialism, and to continue being dignified and free, they have many more years of struggle and sacrifices ahead of them”. As the YCLSA in the Northern Cape, these words encourage us in our campaigns against corruption, exploitative labour practices, for free education and the emancipation of women from triple oppression. We pride ourselves that we are dedicating this issue on behalf of this historical youth organization in pursuit of an alternative, humane and just world.

Cde Kabelo Mohibidu

YCLSA Provincial Secretary





Remembering Hugo Chavez

By Chris Matlhako

Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez died on the 05th of March 2013 after a long bout with cancer and respiratory infections.

His passing is particularly regretted in the context of his electoral victory for another term in October 2012. Chavez's death will be severely felt in his native Venezuela as the Bolivarian Revolution reaches a level where its' very tenets will be tested in a post-Chavez Bolivarian Venezuela and the PSUV party.



Chavez represents hope and was in many ways the embodiment of the aspirations of ordinary people and the underclass in his country, region and the world. He was supported by the poor, who are the majority in Venezuela.

His death has robbed the left-wing and progressive forces the world over of a symbol and a voice in a perilous world yearning for an unwavering leadership to articulate an alternative trajectory for socio-economic development that addresses the most pertinent issues of the people - food, water, education and health, at a time of the worst systemic crisis of the system of capitalism.

Chavez – the leader of one of the most powerful economies in Latin America was determined to try to use his country's wealth to help the poor majority.

The Chavez that we have come to know from our excursions to Venezuela since the 2005 (attended the 16th World Youth and Students Festival and

subsequent engagements with the Foreign Relations Ministry – Africa Division), is neither a tyrant nor a saint.

We were privileged to have shared some thoughts with the foreign relations ministry senior leadership on an approach with regard to Africa. Bolivarian Venezuela subsequently opened a number of diplomatic representative offices on the continent in part, as recognition of the critical importance of forging closer ties with a continent that shares much in common with Latin America and battles the yoke of under-development, backwardness and misery.

In the first instance, Chavez is a democratically elected president. He won six presidential elections and these series of elections confirmed this – the last in October 2012 presidential elections. Chavez was an inspired improviser, a Bolivarian nationalist and an unashamed socialist, who coined the term 'Socialism for the 21st Century'.

He has over the years traversed the full-circle of political treachery – his impoverished childhood, military career, and the decade of clandestine political activity that ended in a failed attempt to seize power in 1992, the elections campaign against former Miss Universe that finally won Chavez the presidency, and the dramatic reversal of fortune that have marked it: the struggle to reform the Venezuelan economy, the coup attempt of 2002 in which he was kidnapped and faced summary execution, and the oil industry strike that followed.

It is his leadership role and function which is an important contribution for many, in particular in Africa, where political leadership and single-minded commitment to make a difference in the quality of life of ordinary people, the rural peasantry, women and youth is so visibly lacking. Many Latin American Presidents count amongst the poorest presidents of the world in comparison to their counterparts elsewhere, and in Africa in particular.



Remembering Hugo Chavez

Continues...

Hugo Chavez inspires ordinary people to yearn for a kind of leadership that places at the centre of the leadership of the state, the aspiration and hopes of the underclass in single-minded effort to bring about a better quality life for the majority of the poor, marginalised and underclass. It is his postulation of the 21st Century Socialism that has cajoled many left-wing forces, and those aspiring for radical social transformation trajectory, away from the ravaging features of capitalism, neo-colonialism and imperialist devastating consequences, that entrenched him deeper on the world stage. It may be a long time before we see another personality of comparable charisma on the political scale – we know that with the tragic murder of Chris Hani in South Africa.

“...history-loving, book-addicted, fire-spewing workaholic...”

“Chavez’s idea of a new economy did not rely on traditional notions of trade among nations based simply on extracting the most profit for oneself. He introduced the idea of solidarity. Instead of competition, he fostered cooperation”; argues Jones, B (The Hugo Chavez Story: From Mud Hut to Perpetual Revolution. 2007). The most obvious example was the oil pacts he signed with countries throughout Latin America.

Some agreements offered discounted financing that allowed countries to pay up to 40% of the bill over periods as long as twenty-five years. Interest rates were as low as 1%. In return, Chavez received everything from Cuban doctors to Argentine cows to Caribbean rice. He was not simply giving oil away. As he said; “How much would 20 000 Cuban doctors cost?” he among others used oil to foster his vision of a united Latin America as his hero Simon Bolivar had proposed nearly two centuries earlier.

The October 2012 presidential elections victory of Chavez was not only important for Venezuela, but for many countries in Latin America – not only those governments closely associated with Venezuela, such as Cuba, Bolivia and Ecuador but also governments strengthened by Venezuela’s insistence under Chavez upon a sovereign Latin America. And certainly, too for the social movements elsewhere in Latin America (and not only Latin America), for which the Bolivarian revolution has provided hope.

In particular, he has channelled resource revenues from oil into education and health – something so critically needed by the poor, who are the overwhelming majority of the population. These are measures that can be understood as populist but also as meeting the real needs of people and which can permit their capacities to develop.

There has also been a very significant process of empowering people - of creating institutions that permit people to function democratically and to make decisions that affect their lives.

The Bolivarian Revolution has been creating people with a sense of dignity, patriotism, social consciousness, internationalist and pride. These are very important achievements.

However, Chavismo is in better shape than a few years ago and the Bolivarian Revolution looks set to even further entrench itself and make the trajectory socialism irreversible in Venezuela and contribute towards humanity efforts of making a better world for all!

Foremost, Chavez was a role model to millions of the oppressed people across the world. A history-loving, book-addicted, fire-spewing workaholic from the underclass and indigenous population who died fighting to overturn decades of injustice in his homeland.

Aluta continua...! Venceremos!

Cde Chris Matlhako
SACP Politburo Member





Heroes and Heroines

By Norman Shushu

This year on the 1st May 2013 marks the 10th Anniversary since the tragic passing on of 51 municipal workers and members of the South African Municipal Workers Union (SAMWU). It is therefore appropriate that we honour these workers of the SACP and the broad working class movement.

The Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), in honouring the memory of these workers will be hosting the Annual May Day Celebration in Kimberley, in order to pay tribute to the memory of the 51 comrades who perished on the 1st May 2003 in the Saulspoort Dam Bus Disaster.

On our part as the South African Communist Party in the Northern Cape, we lost 2 members of the Young Communist League (YCL) being Comrade Thys and Comrade Senyatso and some of our members lost their fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, cousins and aunts. But above all of this, we lost committed workers and shop stewards and members of a progressive trade union SAMWU. We believe that SAMWU and COSATU together with the broader working class are much poorer without the contribution of these martyrs who died in the course of advancing the interests of the workers.

The majority of these workers, who perished in the Saulspoort Bus Disaster, which has now been appropriately renamed the Sol Plaatje Dam, were among the lowest paid workers in the municipality. These workers were responsible for providing services to, in the main, the working class within the Sol Plaatje Municipality. **For an example, my sister, who also perished during this disaster, was responsible for the cleaning of municipal public toilets at the Kimberley Taxi Rank; some were responsible for the removal of buckets of night soil from the informal settlements within Kimberley.**

It is these blue collar workers who suffer the brunt of arrogance from managers in our municipalities who regard them as not being key personnel but rather providing inferior service often with no skills or very low levels of literacy. Some of these workers were on suspension after having invaded the offices of senior managers at the municipality demanding better working conditions. A clear deduction can be made that these ordinary workers, organised under SAMWU, were conscious cadres of the working class movement.

It is therefore no surprise that they perished on their way to the May Day Celebrations in the Free State, QwaQwa, a day celebrated internationally and recognised by the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

WHAT IS THE STATE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT? GOVERNANCE AND SERVICE DELIVERY?

A lot has been achieved since the dawn of democracy in our country in 1994. Since the democratic breakthrough of 1994 our movement and government has delivered housing, electricity, water, sanitation and a plethora of services to the majority of our people. Our government has transferred many resources to the working class and the poor. However, all this has happened side by side with a lot of challenges at the local government level. These challenges include, but are not limited to the following issues:

- Lack of technical, administrative and management skills;
- Inadequate or non-involvement of communities or community based organisations in the developmental issues of communities;
- Privatisation and outsourcing of key municipal and basic services to tenderpreneurs and other predators;



Heroes and Heroines

Continues...

- Inadequate and unsustainable provision of services to communities as a result of ageing municipal infrastructure;
- Serious governance and leadership deficiencies as well as financial mismanagement, corruption and lack of accountability.

The SACP, COSATU together with SAMWU must intensify our work in communities and at the level of the local state.

This means that greater effort must be put into strengthening local government by putting an end to the outsourcing of basic municipal services. There is a need to build and sustain local skills development for municipalities as part of our overall commitment to enhance the developmental capacity of the local state.

Democratise local government by involving communities, the workers and the poor as well as other local stakeholders and community based organisations in deciding on local development priorities. A strong SAMWU and SACP/COSATU/ANC axis must commit all councillors to interface dynamically with all communities on a continuous basis by ensuring that regular ward meetings are called including in wards controlled by the opposition.

In conclusion, it is important that, consistent with our South African Road to Socialism we must strengthen the trade union movement. It also means that all cadres should join the unions and support their struggles, even when it seems that there are contradictions between these interests and the broader interests of the movement. These contradictions need to be resolved, but in a manner that strengthens the trade union movement as a whole.

There seems to develop an under-current of gravitation towards the extreme left and retrogression to workerist syndicalism. This current is, however, not hegemonic and dominant in COSATU.

The majority of affiliates of COSATU are not confused on what is to be done in the current political conjuncture, where the working class is facing the rapt of the global capitalist crisis.

We must continue to engage robustly in our Alliance on areas where we hold divergent views with the aim of arriving at some convergence on what is to be done given the challenges facing our National Democratic Revolution in the current conjuncture.

We must continue to engage robustly in our Alliance...

The working class must also connect our community struggles to improve service delivery and to isolate the right wing elements in our municipalities who are hell bent at abusing challenges relating to historical infrastructure backlogs in order to collapse our system of local government. We believe that fostering unity in the Alliance can be greatly enhanced if we engage in a joint program of action aimed at fundamentally changing the living conditions of the working class and poor for the better.



Cde Norman Shushu
SACP Provincial Secretary



Socialism in our lifetime



PEC Lekgotla

By Lebo Olyn



The Young Communist League of South Africa in the province held its PEC Lekgotla from the 02nd – 03rd of February 2013 in Kimberley under the theme: **“TAKING RESPONSIBILITY FOR OUR REVOLUTION: SOCIALISM IN OUR LIFETIME”**.

The Lekgotla received both the Political, Organizational and Treasurer’s reports and also discussed in great detail the outcomes of the Census 2011 in context of the Province. The Lekgotla believes the unpacking of the census report more closely will assist policy choices for our progressive government in making decisions in many areas based on the reasonably hard and contradictory facts.

The Lekgotla also made an analysis on the state of service delivery as a result of challenges within the municipalities which remain a concern for the YCLSA. These weaknesses range from lack of quality leadership, sound management and technical abilities among others, and which lead to service delivery protests in certain areas. We call on our government to develop a closer relation with the Local Government Sector Education and Training Authorities (LGSETA) as part of capacitating these municipalities.

The Lekgotla further received presentations from the Department of Health and the Department of Education with a focus on the state of Education and Health within the province. The Lekgotla concluded to embark on a mass illiteracy campaign, by expanding the capacity of mobile libraries and ABET Centers in partnership with the Department of Education. Through our Right to Learn Campaign experiences we call for the legislation of one uniform for all public schools and the singing of the national anthem at assemblies by all schools.

We will intensify our campaign towards the establishment and funding of cooperatives led by parents and young people to produce and supply school uniforms in their communities.

We welcome the disbandment of the Premiers Trust Fund Board and hope for a representative and consultative board. The new Board must ensure that it works towards offering comprehensive bursaries based on the primary skills demand of the province while focusing on the poor of the poorest in the context of the skills revolution.

The YCLSA further calls for the expansion of mobile clinics to reach more remote areas and the farms, distribution of sanitary towels, promotion of maternal health, and intensification of HIV/AIDS campaigns in partnership with the Department of Health. The Lekgotla send a warning to those who are currently abusing the platforms borrowed to them by progressive organizations of the people and the use of the media to attack the Party, and its leadership.

We call on these individuals to stop blaming their misfortunes and inability to use both the YCLSA and the SACP as launching pads to enrich themselves through tenders and thieving state resources. This worst form of lumpenism will not be unmatched and we urge them to stop pursuing their naked personal agenda and rather use their time and energy to rehabilitate themselves.

The Lekgotla further wishes to reiterate the fact that we are the Young Communist League of the South African Communist Party and we will defend the Party with everything we have. If there are issues to be raised by any member of the MDM formation in relation to the life of the Party, our doors are open.

The Lekgotla also announced the launch of the first ever online newsletter of the YCLSA;

The RED VOICE...Congratulations!!!

Cde Lebogang Olyn
Deputy Provincial Secretary





Parks Leburu

District Focus...

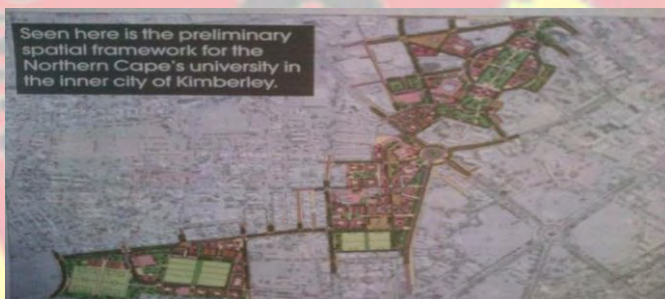
By Modise Letselebe

The activism and youth representation as well as its involvement in the processes of our envisaged university..... its 'success' will not be measured like young people will measure their 'success' based on sleek cars our youth drive, by the bulge of their bank accounts, or material things which have no value in their lives. Power and success goes beyond a mere pronouncement, the knowledge that will be acquired from our envisaged university should ignite some critical philosophic essence on the type of knowledge it seeks to impart, and who will benefit out of its substantive initiatives for real success and knowledge power. The other question that is relevant to ask is does contemporary knowledge offered by current Institution of higher learning benefit the toiling poor, is the knowledge transmittable to the society or our growth path and development. We constitute the front liners and foot soldiers of Higher Education transformation but we still struggling with universal access to higher education, and therefore our battle must be well orientated toward resolving the contradictions that the university will be bringing. A rhetorical question that one can also pose, Is that do we strengthen our policy and lobby to capacitated ourselves or deprive the next generation unnoticed, is our strategic and tactical influence there to break all deadlocks or obstacles that stand in the realisation of our vision. The history of not having a university in Northern Cape presented the youth of Northern Cape with further challenges to define their role as young people of this province. As the confidence of being young begins to blossom because of this huge opportunity, it will be their task to respond to all challenges facing the province. The NATIONAL PLAN ON HIGHER EDUCATION identified the reality that there is a need for provision of an institution of Higher learning in Northern Cape. Our terrain of the struggle as young people of Northern Cape remains on the Education sector. We need to agree that Institutions of Higher learning are an ideological centre of power.

This pronouncement by the Ministry of Higher Education invited engagement, especially Northern Cape youth, because as young people we have two main challenges.

Firstly, we believe that a university is the most basic organized and accessible institution of societal construction (organization). It is at this level where we can test our theoretical content of a sustainable initiatives and justify our growth path. But most importantly, it is at this level that intellectuals and academic development emerges. We have also have observed that, it is also there were most student fail to complete their studies or access institutions of higher to pursue career-path.

Secondly, we have been so much overwhelmed by the market forces to an extent that we end up undermining our ability and efforts in ensuring that we engage prevalent structures for the realization of our dream of a university in the Northern Cape. The minimum intellectual capital is produced through the current arrangement of the National Institute for Higher Education. It is time that we join forces with those who have realized this unforgivable mistake of the lack of a University in the Northern Cape. As we pursue the above challenges, we must equally pay attention to the effects of negative criticism, lack of thinking, lack of rational, rigorous and vigorous debate, status quo, marginalization and discrimination. It is however, not enough to highlight questions than answers. We must also have the audacity to take a pause and reflect on those things that curtail our intellectual freedom. In the final analysis, we might expect much from those we give the mandate and responsibility to lead us in this process without us being actively involved and that will be another unforgivable mistake and let us not commit it. Let us join the rolling ball in the debate engage and actively participate!



Cde Modise Letselebe
District Chairperson





Basil February

District Focus...

By Darren Engelbrecht

Hondeklipbay BAGM

The Hondeklipbay YCLSA held its BAGM on the 02nd of March 2013. The BAGM was combined with a political education programme. The lecture was about how to be a good communist, what is the role of the YCLSA and how the International Political Climate affect the South African Community and local communities.



Hondeklipbay BEC

Robunie Youth Garden Project

The YCLSA from Calvinia branch engaged the Department of Agriculture for assistance for the construction of a vegetable tunnel.

With funding made available the project could start with tunnel construction.

Eight temporary jobs were created during the construction phase of this project.



Construction phase

Seven YCLSA cadres will be structured in a cooperative to ensure fresh food and the surplus will be donated to the working class and the poor from the community.

The comrades have their own nursery on site and will produce their own seedlings for the tunnel. Currently winter is starting and therefore they will, if seedling is ready, then start with planting.



Construction successfully completed

Socialist Forum – 21 March 2013

The topic was Communist Cadres and their role in the community. The forum was lively and had good participation from the members in attendance. In the past as the District we struggled to build structures, develop cadreship and branches that are functional but persistence and perseverance under the leadership of the SACP has helped us to build an exciting, organic and vibrant YCLSA! We are proud to be part of it.



YCLers attending the Socialist Forum

Cde Darren Engelbrecht
District Secretary





Dora Tamana

District Focus...

By Trompie Renier

“Towards Congress to build capacity for, momentum towards and the elements of socialism”.

The launch of the YCLSA in the District was a significant milestone and an opportunity to intensify the militancy, vibrancy, extensive and open debate and full participation by the Youth in the District. The Congress was a clear declaration to all that capitalism, tenderpreneurship, unemployment, poverty and inequality has no future for the youth in the District, and that future was directed towards ushering in a humane and better society for the youth in particular and society in general.

It is only under socialism, that the youth will be able to realise its aspirations, abilities and maximum developmental potentials. The current crises ridden system of capitalism has continued to place our youth in the periphery. However as we prepare for the 4th District Congress of Dora Tamana we, are faced by other challenges that need our immediate response.



The eradication of poverty, exploitation, all forms of inequality cannot be achieved under the current conditions. There is a need to make huge advances towards the eradication of poverty, but it is only a socialist dispensation that will finally eradicate poverty.

Illiteracy remains a capitalist tool that continues to reproduce, cheap, exploitable youth who work the vineyards and farms only to be retrenched for profit maximization. Capital does, however not operate alone, as it continuously co-opt some amongst us, only to have the youth divided and destitute because of short-cuts (Tenderpreneurship, BBBEEE Fronting, Skhotanism, Lumpen Proletarianism, etc.) in life.

As the YCLSA, our task is to ensure that we provide the organizational base and leadership for the youth of the country and the district. It is our revolutionary task, given to us by those who once led this revolutionary organization. The declaration of the launching last congress spoke on our ability to build a strong, vibrant, disciplined YCLSA that will work towards uniting the youth behind the goal of achieving socialism and of shaping the very future of the South African Communist Party.

Moving towards the 4th District Congress we wish to declare proudly to our detractors and capital that the revolution is intact and has gained momentum. Our structures are intact. The bedrock of the YCLSA remains young workers working in alliance with students and young unemployed workers, both in the urban and rural areas. Ours is to immerse ourselves in struggles to defend jobs and to fight retrenchments and to struggle for workplace skills development for young workers.

To us this reflects our commitment to BUILD CAPACITY FOR, MOMENTUM TOWARDS AND ELEMENTS FOR SOCIALISM IN OUR LIFETIME.

Cde Trompie Renier
District Secretary





Joe Slovo

District Focus...

By Nokuthula Tyutyu

It is no secret that, when the South African Communist Party resolved to re-launch the YCLSA, it was guided by the contemporary tasks facing the party and what key elements, capacities, and momentum it needs in the pursuance of its strategic vision. It was a re-launch followed by the absence of the YCLSA for 53 years in our country, after it was dissolved together with the SACP in 1950, just prior to the passage of the Suppression of Communism Act, 1950 hardly two years after the victory of the National Party in 1948.

The SACP, together with the YCLSA, was the first organization to be banned by the apartheid regime after its ascendancy into power. At the center of the banning of the then CPSA by the apartheid regime, was the fact that in the 1940s the SACP had emerged as the foremost weapon of mass struggle, with the working class at the head, against capitalist exploitation and colonial oppression of the black majority.

The SACP had, since the 1920s, led the building of progressive black trade unions, and the YCLSA had played a leading role during the Second World War, in opposing and exposing the in collusion of elements within the National Party and the Nazis in Germany and Italy. The YCL had also played an important role in mobilizing youth against Nazi aggression and in solidarity with the Soviet Union. The SACP played a critical role in the launching of YCLSA branches, districts and PECs. The current leadership of the YCLSA continues oppose and expose elements that have emerged in the current conjuncture.

The emergence of the new tendency, tenderpreneurship and the anti-majoritarian

onslaught have been jointly dislodged by the unity and mutual relations of the YCLSA and the SACP, and its allies through key programs and campaigns.

The slogan, “Socialism for the Youth and Youth for Socialism” remains even more relevant today for a number of reasons. Our relations with the, SACP is not an accidental act or a mis-happening of some sort, as often said by our detractors. Like the youth of the 1920s, our relations with the SACP remain intact and are even stronger, both politically and organizationally.

Our campaigns continue to complement the role of the vanguard party in the country and ensure that we develop and build conscious young Marxist. The distinct relation between the SACP and the YCLSA is one that is dialectical, and is understood by all members. There are many young cadres, who are now serving in the Party, who are products of this mutual relationship that has existed for more than 90 years.

Through its work, the YCLSA continues to drive SACP Campaigns on the land and agrarian reform, financial sector campaign, health campaign, ID campaign, etc. This reflects the strong and dynamic relations that exist between the YCLSA and the SACP. It reflects our ability to deal scientifically with the inter and intra-contradictions that emerge at various conjunctures, a clear sign that our YCLSA is the YCLSA of the Party.

We can therefore declare that, our relation with the South African Communist Party evolves and strengthens with time.

Amandla!

Cde Nokuthula Tyutyu
District Secretary





Braam Fischer

District Focus...

By Tshepiso Boihang

History has placed an enormous responsibility on all revolutionaries worldwide and our struggle is internationalist in character, shape and content. The continued onslaught by a crisis-ridden capitalist system that reproduces poverty, inequality and unemployment must be fought tirelessly.

The Young Communist League of South Africa committed itself to make education fashionable, through its Joe Slovo Right to Learn Campaign. This campaign is in line with the Free Education Campaign to promote access to basic education through visiting schools. The YCLSA continuously encourages its branches to adopt schools and play a significant role in ensuring that there is collective encouragement between, teachers, parents and learners to promote peoples education for peoples power.



Maikalelo Primary School

The SACP and YCLSA in the Braam Fischer District launched this campaign in Olifantshoek. The community was brought to a standstill by service delivery protests in 2012, which affected schooling for the better part of the year and on the socio-economic activities of the community.

We identified and visited Maikalelo Primary School, Noordkaap Primary School and Langeberg Hoerskool as part of the 2013 Joe Slovo Right to Learn Campaign. The visit included a hand over of school uniforms and shoes (60 pairs in total) to the poor and needy learners. As part of the campaign, the District assessed the schools, using the Joe Slovo Assessment Form to better understand the challenges that are facing the schools.

The schools are faced with critical challenges of child headed house-holds, lack of parent participation in the lives of learners and ensuring that schooling is not disrupted this year as many learners could not write examinations in 2012. Many learners have had to repeat their grades. We noted the high levels of poverty and unemployment in the community and the need for more strategic interventions, by the Alliance and all stakeholders.

The District has resolved to adopt the schools and will continue to strengthen the relations with all the schools. The YCLSA and the SACP have committed to visit the schools every term and work towards building branches in the community, that will be able to work much closer with the schools in building a better and humane society.

**WE ARE NOT BUILDING
SOCIALSIM FOR OUR
PEOPLE BUT SIDE BY
SIDE WITH THEM.**

Cde Tshepiso Boihang
District Secretary





Gender Struggle for a Classless Society

By Nobantu Mpanga

On the 14th of March 2013 the **“Your Child is my Child”** campaign was launched at Bantu-Hall, in Kimberley. The provincial launch followed the national launch under the theme **“Celebrating 100 years of Women Participation within the Struggle for Classless Society.”**



Launch of the “Your Child is my Child” campaign

Cde Samora Machel said that **“women’s emancipation is not an act of charity but a precondition for the liberation of society”**. Our society cannot be free if half of the population is still oppressed”. History has taught us that women were leading without fear and fighting for the abolishment of the doom pass law. We are now fighting for equality of women and the oppressed; women are the ones that suffer most than men, and the central objective in this struggle is the emancipation of women.

It has been correctly identified that the community is a site of patriarchy, but we must not lose sight of the fact that patriarchy and unequal gender relations are prevalent in all sites of struggle and must be tackled. Historically for the majority of women, access to housing has been largely through a relationship with a man. While access is a Constitutional right that women can demand, it is certainly not the case that the right to access to resources and services is one that has been realised for the majority of working class women. The dependence of women is not yet challenged.

South Africa has within it both the seeds of gender transformation and the seeds of entrenched gender oppression. The neo-liberal option or the modernising route of the democratic transition permit a kind of solution to racial and gender oppression. It can make the upper strata of society more representative in terms of race and gender. But along with this goes a widening of the socio-economic gap between women of the middle and bourgeois classes and those of the working class.

The challenge of the Party and the left is to ensure that the gains made in the struggles do not only benefit the elite women, but empower working class and poor women in rural and urban areas. The seeds of transformation can liberate the lives of working class women. Which seeds eventually become rooted and nurtured depends on strategy and struggle based on the correct understanding of the interconnection between oppressive gender social relations and women's oppression. Such strategy and struggle must go along with the appropriate organisational forms to carry out these tasks.



Media Launch of the Campaign

Cde Nobantu Mpanga
PEC Member





Announcements

Let your voice be heard write to the *Red Voice* at yclsa.nc@gmail.com!



Please send your letters/views/comments to the Editorial Team, we want to publish your contributions in the next edition of the *Red Voice*

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**Socialism won't
come on a plate**



Pay your monthly debit

Next edition...



Delportshoop Revolution!



**CHRIS HANI
20TH ANNIVERSARY
10 APRIL
1993 – 2013**



YCLSA Northern Cape

"I am convinced that the path to a new, better and possible world is not capitalism, the path to socialism."

– Hugo Chávez



Gallery





Gallery

January

Parks Leburu SACP & YCLSA DEC's received Induction from Cde Che
(19 January 2013)



Joe Slovo Right to Learn Campaign (JSR2L) held in Ritchie



February



YCLSA PEC 02-03 February 2013 (above)
Post PEC Press Conference (left)



Calendar 2013



2013

Northern Cape Province YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE OF SOUTH AFRICA Socialism in our lifetime

January 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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February 2013						
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March 2013						
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31						

April 2013						
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May 2013						
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June 2013						
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July 2013						
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August 2013						
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September 2013						
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October 2013						
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November 2013						
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December 2013						
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

1 January - New Year's Day
21 March - Human Rights Day
22 March - School Holiday
29 March - Good Friday
1 April - Family Day

27 April - Freedom Day
1 May - Workers' Day
16 June - Youth Day
17 June - Public Holiday
9 August - Women's Day

24 September - Heritage Day
16 December - Day of Reconciliation
25 December - Christmas Day
26 December - Day of Goodwill



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'Towards 2013: Marking ten years
of building momentum towards,
capacity for, elements for
socialism in our lifetime!'



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