The Star Monday March 20 2017

NEWS

## Public urged to visit museums

ENTRANCE to all City of Joburg museums tomorrow is free.

The city says it is doing this to commemorate Human Rights Day.

"Our museums not only serve as a reminder of our painful and unjust past of oppression and racism, but are also there to inspire each of us in a renewed commitment to ensuring everyone's human rights are protected," said the Joburg's member of the mayoral committee for community development, Nonhlanhla Sifumba.

"On this Human Rights Day, everyone should remember those who fought and gave their lives for our freedom, and actively reflect on ways that we can honour their sacrifice in our daily lives," she pointed out.

Friends and family can enjoy the historic and aesthetic offerings of the city's museums during this and every other public holiday, Sifumba said.

The following museums will be open to the public tomorrow from 10am to 5pm:



- Transport Museum
- Roodepoort Museum
- Museum Africa
- Geology Museum
- Bernberg Museum of Fashion
- Hector Pieterson Memorial, pictured
- Kliptown Open Air Museum
- Bensusan Museum of Photography
- June 16 Interpretation Centre
- Credo Mutwa Cultural Village
- \_ Staff Reporter

## Make your pledge against racism

## Human Rights Day reminds us of sacrifices

## ΚΔΡΙζΗΜΑ DΙΡΔ

karishma.dipa@inl.co.za

RACISM has the ability to undermine the democratic progress of the country and can single-handedly cause deeper divides between race groups.

World leaders have often preached about the dangers of racism, including former President Nelson Mandela, who said: "No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin, or his background or religion. People must learn to hate and if they can learn to hate they can be taught to love for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite."

The SA Human Rights Commission (SAHRC) has urged people from all walks of life to take an Anti-Racism pledge this Human Rights Day. This involves making a personal promise to refrain from hate speech and to embrace diversity.

The SAHRC said the pledge involves an individual agreeing to six simple statements, including:

●I commit to building a South Africa free of

racism and hate speech.

● I pledge to reject hate speech, intolerance and all forms of discrimination.

• I pledge to embrace the diversity, differences and shared humanity that enrich us all.

 $\bullet$  I affirm that our diversity should unite us, not divide us.

• I pledge to fight against racism.

● I affirm that hate speech and bigotry should have no place in our society.

South Africa celebrates Human Rights Day tomorrow, a public holiday which aims to remind us about the sacrifices that accompanied the Struggle for the attainment of democracy.

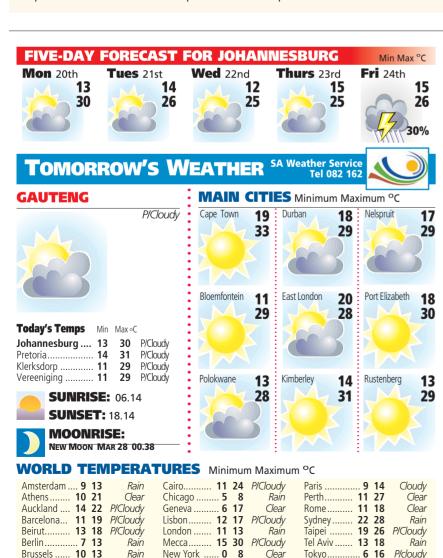
Although it has been 23 years since apartheid officially ended, the SAHRC said that they still receive several racism-related complaints.

According to their 2015/2016 Trends Analysis Report, the commission received 749 equality-related complaints, 505 related to unfair discrimination on the basis of race. The report also showed that the top three equality rights most violated were race, disability and ethnic or social origin.

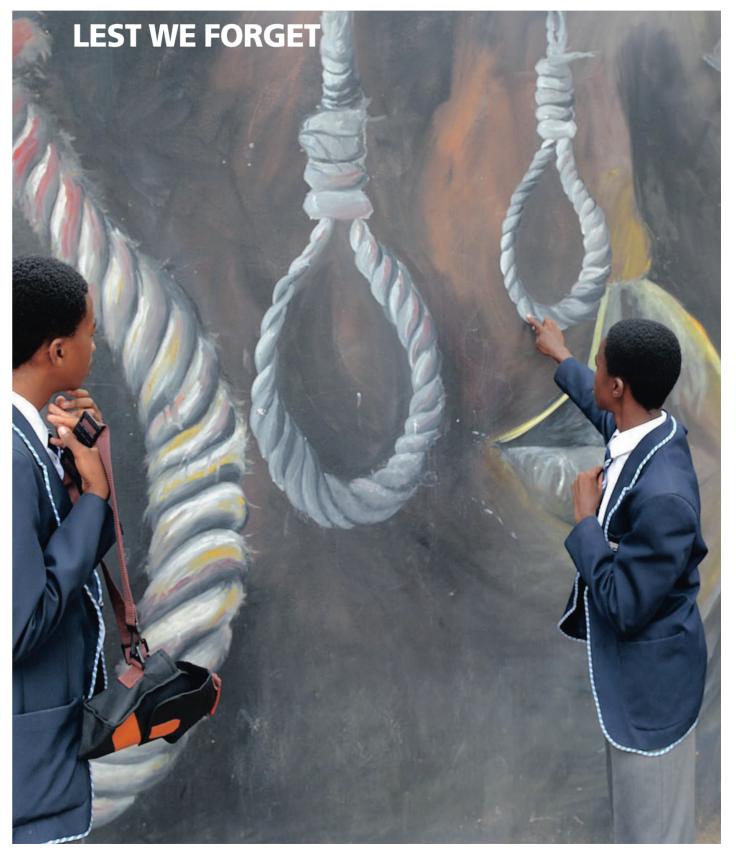
It added that most of the Equality Court cases involve the use of the "K-word" and other derogatory comments with racial undertones such as use of the terms baboon or monkey.

"Despite the establishment of the constitution of the Republic of South Africa in 1996 and the plethora of anti-racism laws, racism remains endemic in South Africa," the report read.

The SAHRC also found that, in 2015/2016, most of the complaints came from Gauteng, with 1 110 grievances; the Western Cape followed with 670, while KwaZulu-Natal ranked third with 581. The Northern Cape recorded the lowest number of complaints with 134.



VISIT THE WEBSITE AT WWW.WEATHERSA.CO.ZA



Tumo Makhetha and Nyama Makhuparetjia from Fundulazwi Secondary School in Sebokeng, look at a mural at the Sharpville memorial site.

PICTURE: DUMISANI DUBE