



INTRODUCING SAHRC COMMISSIONERS



Professor Bongani Christopher Majola

Chairperson of the South African Human Rights Commission

Professor Bongani Christopher Majola holds a Masters of Law Degree (LLM) from Harvard Law School, USA. Before graduating with an LLM from Harvard Law School in 1988, Prof. Majola obtained a Public Service Law Diploma in 1975, a Public Service Senior Law Certificate (Diploma Legum) in 1977, B. Juris Degree in 1980, and a Bachelor of Laws Degree in 1982. All qualifications before the Professor's LLM were obtained at the University of Zululand. [Read more](#)



Devikarani Priscilla Sewpal Jana

Deputy Chairperson of the South African Human Rights Commission

Priscilla Jana was granted a Government of India Scholarship to study Medicine in India where she completed studies in Inter-Science and returned to South Africa in 1965. Mrs. Jana completed a Bachelor of Laws Degree at the University of South Africa (UNISA). In 1979 Mrs. Jana opened her own law practice with a focus on civil liberties and human rights. [Read more](#)



Adv Mohamed Shafie Ameermia

Commissioner of the South African Human Rights Commission

Adv Mohamed Shafie Ameermia was appointed Commissioner in 2014. His focus areas are: Access to Justice and Access to the Right to Housing. Prior to joining the Commission, he served in various senior executive managerial positions in the education sector. [Read more](#)

Advocate Bokankatla Joseph Malatji

Commissioner of the South African Human Rights Commission

Advocate Bokankatla Joseph Malatji made history by being the first black, blind student to be admitted at



the University of the North in 1971 and then the first black, blind person to be admitted as an Advocate of the Supreme Court of South Africa in 1977. Advocate Malatji, during his first seven year term as a Commissioner of the South African Human Rights Commission, was very active in the field of disability rights as this was one of his Focus Areas. At international, regional and domestic level, Advocate Malatji has participated in numerous platforms. [Read more](#)

Advocate Andre Hurtle Gaum

Commissioner of the South African Human Rights Commission responsible for Basic Education

Advocate André Hurtle Gaum obtained the BA, (Law) LLB and LLM (in Constitutional Law) degrees from the University of Stellenbosch. He was admitted as an Attorney and thereafter as Advocate of the High Court of South Africa. [Read more](#)



Matlhodi Angelina Makwetla

Commissioner of the South African Human Rights Commission

Matlhodi Angelina Makwetla holds a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Social Work from the University of the North, a Management Certificate from the Arthur D Little Management School in Cambridge, Massachusetts and an SMME Management Certificate from Galilee College in Israel.

Ms Makwetla has received much publicised recognition for her work as a social entrepreneur. In August 2001, she was a finalist in the Shoprite/Checkers Woman of the Year Award, in the Media and Communications category. During the same month, she also received a Woman of Strategy Award from the Soweto Empowerment Development Project. [Read more](#)



Advocate Jonas Ben Sibanyoni

Part-Time Commissioner of the South African Human Rights Commission

Advocate Jonas Ben Sibanyoni obtained a B. Proc degree from the University of Zululand in 1981 and was admitted as an Attorney on the 10th July 1984. In 1995, the High Court of the Republic of South Africa granted him a Right of Audience. In March 1998, he served as a Member of the Amnesty Committee, Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), until February 2001. [Read more](#)

SAHRC IN THE MEDIA

SAHRC investigating woman in cage incident

The SA Human Rights Commission is investigating whether the rights of a woman who was photographed sitting in a cage in the back of a bakkie, were violated. A motorist

took a photo of Linda Steenkamp who was in the back of a van near Cradock in the Eastern Cape.

The photo was then circulated online - with many expressing their anger. In a video shared on Facebook - Steenkamp says she chose to get into the cage and wasn't forced to. [Read more](#)

[Home](#) > [News](#) > [South Africa](#) > [Escape](#)

Transporting woman in bakkie's cage 'extremely offensive'

EASTERN CAPE / 20 January 2017, 07:00am

 Sandiso Phaliso



Source: IOL

Human rights commission slams desecration of Cape Town mosques

The comes after a pig snout was left on the gate of Simon's Town Mosque and an intruder smeared blood inside Kalk Bay Mosque. Police confirmed that they were investigating both incidents, which have also been condemned by City of Cape Town mayor Patricia de Lille and Western Cape Premier Helen Zille.

Commission Chairman Prof Bongani Majola said on Tuesday evening that these actions displayed a "flagrant disregard for constitutionally enshrined rights to freedom of religion, dignity, and equality for all".

Human rights commission slams desecration of Cape Town mosques

TMG Digital | 11 January, 2017 08:52



Photo file.

Image by: Abdus Salaam Cader

Source: Timeslive

South African pastor feeds congregants 'Engine Cleaning Fluid'

A South African pastor namely Prophet Theo Bongani Maseko, allegedly made his congregants drink 'Engine Cleaning Fluid' in order to demonstrate God's power to them. Photos of the incident appeared on Facebook, showing congregants drinking the fluid with the caption: "The fullness of Christ is in this bottle. Healing and strange deliverance #Mark16:17 -18."

Prophet Theo Bongani Maseko from the Breath of Christ Ministries in Daveyton had allegedly made his congregants drink the detrimental fluid, maintain: “When we pray over anything, its poison dies. So it can’t harm people. Nothing happened, no one has been to hospital.” [Read more](#)

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Source: Christian in Pakistan

MEC promises to accommodate unplaced learners by end of month

Western Cape education MEC Debbie Schafer has promised to accommodate 7,900 unplaced learners in schools by the end of the month.

She also agreed to report to the South African Human Rights Commission on a weekly basis on progress made to accommodate the learners. She made this undertaking on Tuesday when she met commissioners Andre Gaum and Chris Nissen.

Schafer said the number of unaccommodated learners in the province had now been reduced from more than 18,000 to 7,900 learners. [Read more](#)

MEC promises to accommodate unplaced learners by end of month

Ernest Mabuza | 17 January, 2017 18:43



Source: Times Live

SAHRC: Brakpan restaurant's 'date night' policy disturbing

JOHANNESBURG - The South African Human Rights Commission says it's disturbed by reports of an East Rand restaurant which refuses to allow same-sex couples to dine at their establishment on certain days.

This morning an Eyewitness News (EWN) investigation revealed how the Lake Restaurant in Brakpan doesn't allow same-sex couples on Thursdays for an event known as date night. [Read more](#)

SAHRC: BRAKPAN RESTAURANT'S 'DATE NIGHT' POLICY DISTURBING

An EWN investigation revealed how the Lake Restaurant doesn't allow same-sex couples on Thursdays for "date night".



Source: EWN

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS



SAHRCCommission @SAHRCCommission · Jan 24

SAHRC considering inquiry into desecration of mosques via SABC:
youtu.be/ttq6DWRfS8?a via @YouTube



SAHRC considering inquiry into desecration of mo...
youtube.com



SAHRCCommission @SAHRCCommission · Jan 24

SAHRC to take legal action over textbooks issue via SABC:
youtu.be/zayFNPB6_JE?a via @YouTube

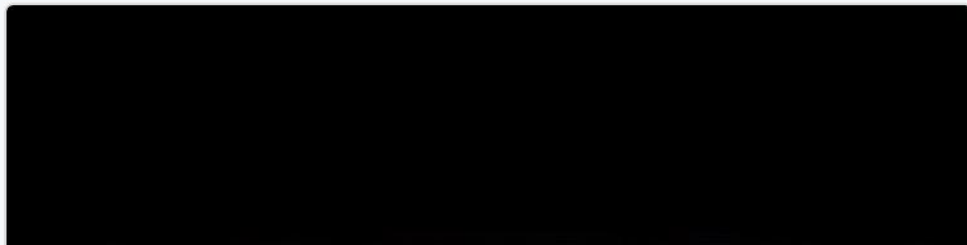


SAHRC to take legal action over textbooks issue vi...
youtube.com



SAHRCCommission @SAHRCCommission · Jan 23

Today the SAHRC is in the Seshego Equality court for final argument on its transgender matter.





HUMAN RIGHTS DAYS

International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation, 6 February

Female genital mutilation (FGM) comprises all procedures that involve altering or injuring the female genitalia for non-medical reasons and is recognised internationally as a violation of the human rights of girls and women.

To promote the abandonment of FGM, coordinated and systematic efforts are needed, and they must engage whole communities and focus on human rights and gender equality. These efforts should emphasize societal dialogue and the empowerment of communities to act collectively to end the practice. They must also address the sexual and reproductive health needs of women and girls who suffer from its consequences.

Birthdays

The following colleagues are celebrating their birthdays in February.

Kenneth Machevele (HO) – 02nd

Mpho Tsoku (HO) & Katiso Molati (HO) – 04th

Shirley Gouws (NC) – 11th

Joyce Moloi (HO) - 13th

Commissioner Ameerma (HO) – 14th

Gabisile Khoza (MP) – 16th

Mankese Thema (LMP) – 17th

Ntombenhle Ngwane (HO) – 18th

Lesego Raphalalane (NC) – 22nd

Thenjiwe Dlamini (HO) – 25th



Top row: Mankese Thema, Ntombenhle Ngwane and Joyce Moloi
Bottom row: Thenjiwe Dlamini and Mpho Tsoku

TALK TO US...



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Forum 3 Braampark Offices,
33 Hoofd Street,
Braamfontein, 2017

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