



OFFICE of THE Sec for Information & Publicity MDC Youth Assembly

CHINJA MAITIRO - MAITIRO CHINJA - GUQULA IZENZO - IZENZO GUQULA- DEEDS CHANGE- CHANGE DEEDS

Together to the End... Building a Youth with a Difference

44 Nelson Mandela Ave
Harare

Cell: +263 773 011 599

Email:
infomdcyouthassembly@gmail.com
www.mdcyouthassembly.co.zw

Sunday, 11 September 2011

Celebrating 12 years of young people's commitment to a new Zimbabwe

Today is the 11th of September, the same day 12 years ago, the youth embarked on a journey. A journey that has claimed many lives and has had traumatising experiences for those that still live but none the less a journey worth being part of. Samuel Johnson says, "Great works are performed not by great strength but by perseverance" so we will soldier on.

We as the youth realize the importance of our participation in making a New Zimbabwe a reality. A new Zimbabwe where each citizen has a voice and the colour of one's skin, age and even tribe does not make them any less of a citizen. A Zimbabwe we can all be proud of, the bread basket of Africa. We also realize that we are not yet there but we acknowledge how far we've come. At the same time it should not end with just a new Zimbabwe but a Zimbabwe that will have an impact in Africa as a whole, a model of Democracy.

As the MDCYA, when we look at the state of our country today our heart bleeds for our people. We still have a long way to go. Unemployment is still a huge threat to our society. Our industries are shrinking while universities are producing more and more graduates. Corruption preys on progress and cripples creativity and innovation.

Having electricity and clean water has become a privilege and society has simply accepted all this as their fate. Hope has left our people and ambitions of even owning a house has been reduced to a fantasy.

Our health care delivery system is crumbling and most of our people are seeking refuge all around the world. Children are being brought up by other members of the family while parents are in other countries trying to work and provide for their families. There are more children on the streets than there are roads without potholes.

John F Kennedy said, "Ask not what your country can do for you but what you can do for your country."

That is how we move forward, by being the change we wish to see in our country. It will not take one person to change our nation but each and every individual who inhabits it. It will never be enough to sit down and discuss the way forward but action is vital. Let us stand up and be counted, **register to vote**. Let us inform our peers of what is going on in our country and encourage them to take part in our struggle for freedom, democracy and peace. Let us give our people our vision so they can begin to have hope and faith that a New Zimbabwe is possible.

Meanwhile, a group of ZANU PF thugs, some of them in police uniforms were abducting and dragging MDC supporters in their Machipisa offices yesterday. Trymore Zhandu and Buhle Sibanda from Chegutu and Mbizo respectively were among the victims. They were seriously beaten while at the 12th Anniversary celebration rally at Machipisa. The case was reported to JOMIC. This is a clear testimony that ZANU PF is a terrorist organisation that should not exist neither in Zimbabwe nor anywhere in sub Saharan Africa. MDC is a non violent party, that believes in coexistence, unity, people's freedoms and respect of the rule of law.

Addressing thousands of MDC supporters yesterday in Gwanzura stadium at Machipisa shopping centre, MDCYA president Solomon Madzore encouraged all the youth to remain resolute as we are still not there. He reiterated that " as the young people of Zimbabwe, we are committed to make a New Zimbabwe a reality. We are going to vote in our numbers at the forthcoming elections and that will be the end of Mugabe and ZANU Pf."

In conclusion, we encourage every individual to start leading their peers and communities and to start paving the way to progress. To be filled with courage and hope that not only will we get there but we will actually achieve more than what we set out to achieve. Lastly and most importantly to realize that each and every person's involvement is imperative. We all have something great to offer our nation so never fade into the shadows.

Driven by Pride, Determination and Resilience as we are building a youth with a Difference...Together to the End.

For and on behalf of the youth of Zimbabwe

MDCYA Secretary for Information & Publicity