



rural development & land reform

Department:
Rural Development and Land Reform
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Land Act exhibition moves to North West

By Mary-Jane Mabula

“This land will no longer be a land known for anything that pierces through flesh, so that we bleed negativity. This land from today on will be known as a land of a concurring people, this land will be known as a land for a concurring people.” poet Kabomo said while residing his poem.

The Department of Rural Development and Land Reform and the Gauteng Provincial Government handed over the 1913 Natives Land Act exhibition to the North West Provincial Government on 4 August 2013. In an intimate closing ceremony of the 1913 Natives Land Act exhibition that was showing since 26 July 2013, the public was serenaded by the National Rural Youth Service Corps (NARYSEC) choir, musician\poet Kabomo and the exhibition actors with song, dance and poetry.

The distinctive exhibition offered the public an interactive sight of the past 100 years of the country’s history since the 1913 Natives Land Act was conceded. The exhibition had live performances by a team of professional actors who brought the past alive of forced removals, unfairness and despair and highlighted progress made by the department in distributing land back to its rightful owners.

Minister Gugile Nkwinti explained that the exhibition was also meant to get people who lived 100 years ago to tell their story about what they went through as the 1913 Natives Land Act was passed, so that the current generation can learn from their ordeal. He also stressed that people should be patient enough for success because nation building takes time. “Nation building is built on the most painful past, and this is our moment now, to expand the horizons of the democracy of freedom of justice for our country,” the minister said.

Programme director Peter Ndoro urged the public to take the departments pledge to heart and internalise it. He said he believed if the youth can understand the pledge it will make a difference in reversing the legacy.

On behalf of the premier’s office MEC Agriculture and Rural Development in Gauteng Nandi Mayatula-Khoza thanked all parties including the minister whom she referred to as “the champion of land reform”, that worked on the exhibition and wished the North West Province all the best with the exhibition said to start late September. She shared that her experience through the exhibition was sad yet she felt better knowing that the legacy is being reversed. Officials from the North West Provincial Government accepted the exhibition.

**For more information on the 1913 Natives’ Land Act Exhibition, go to
www.reversingthelegacy.org**