

## Christmas and New Years messages of the CDP

21 DECEMBER 2011

### **Christmas message**

“The Christian Democratic Party (CDP) wishes all South Africans a blessed Christmas in the spirit of ‘Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among people with whom he is pleased!’ So says CDP leader, Rev. Theunis Botha.

“The past year has been a challenging one for Christians in the country, where Christians and churches were often exposed to blatant secular politicking using the name of the Lord.

“Many Christians, accustomed to having an open hand to the less fortunate, especially during Christmas, find themselves in need this year.

“We pray that all Christian South Africans will celebrate Christmas in the true spirit of Christmas rather than the secular ‘Happy holidays’ promoted as a commercial enterprise to further increase the economic hardship of the people.”

### **New Year’s message**

“The year 2012 will face major challenges of economic recovery with numerous indications that the ANC is bent on escalating polarisation by intensifying the racial aspects of especially employment legislation. This almost certainly means that we will witness an increased frequency of constitutional challenge and the undermining of the independence and professionalism of the courts.

“We repeat our call for a dialogue and probably even a renegotiated settlement ensuring a constitutional dispensation with better safeguards against the abuse of power. We believe that if all who have, over the years, called for a new dialogue unite their efforts, government will find it difficult to ignore, especially should international pressure continue to increase. There are clear indications that international agencies and media are taking the scourge of farm murders and attacks more seriously than either the government or the official opposition does.

“The fact that South African has dropped even further on the Transparency International’s corruption perception index, is a clear indication that the government’s reassurances in respect to corruption, are no longer taken seriously by the international community.”

**Theunis Botha (Party Leader)**

## Kers- en Nuwejaarsboodskappe van die CDP

### **Boodskap vir die Christusfees**

“Die Christen-Demokratiese Party (CDP) wens alle Suid-Afrikaners ‘n geseënde Christusfees toe in die gees van “Ere aan God in die Hoogste, en vrede op aarde en in die mense ‘n welbehae.” So sê die leier van die CDP, ds. Theunis Botha.

“Die afgelope jaar was ‘n uitdagende jaar vir Christene in die land waar Christene en hul kerke gereeld uitgedaag is deur die blatante misbruik van godsdiens vir sekulêre politieke doeleindes.

“Baie Christene wat gewoon was daaraan om ‘n oop hand te hê vir diegene wat minder bevoorreg is, veral oor Kerstyd, is vanjaar self in die knyp.

“Ons bid dat alle Christen Suid-Afrikaners Kersfees sal vier in die ware gees van ‘n Christusfees, eerder as om meegesleur te word deur die sekulêre ‘Happy Holidays’ wat vir kommersiële uitbuiting bevorder word en so mense in groter geldelike verknorsings dompel.”

### **Nuwejaarsboodskap**

“Ons gaan die jaar 2012 tegemoet met groot uitdagings vir ekonomiese herstel, terwyl verskeie faktore daarop dui dat die ANC vasbeslote is om polarisasie te eskaleer deur die rasse-aspek van veral arbeidswetgewing te verskerp. Dit sal in alle waarskynlikheid beteken dat ons nog meer gevalle sal sien waar die grondwetlikheid uitgedaag sal word en die onafhanklikheid en professionalisme van die howe ondermyn gaan word.

“Ons herhaal dus ons versoek vir dialoog en selfs moontlik ‘n heronderhandelde skikking vir ‘n grondwetlike bedeling met beter waarborge teen mags misbruik. Ons glo dat as almal wat oor die jare beroepe op ‘n nuwe dialoog gedoen het saamspan, sal die regering dit moeilik vind om die rug hierteen styf te maak, veral as buitelandse druk bly toeneem. Daar is duidelike aanduidings dat internasionale agentskappe en media die plaag van plaasmoorde en plaasaanvalle ernstiger opneem as wat die regering of die amptelike opposisie dit opneem.

“Die feit dat die land nog verder op Transparency International se korrupsiepersepsie-indeks teruggesak het toon duidelik dat die regering se anti-korrupsie pogings en uitlatings nie meer ernstig deur die internasionale gemeenskap opgeneem word nie.”

**Theunis Botha (CDP Leier)**