MEDIA RELEASE
by CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (CDP)

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CDP reageer op Zuma se jongste stellings

"Dit het duidelik geword dat daar sedert die post-1994-bedeling 'n agenda was om Christenskap in Suid-Afrika te ondermyn," aldus ds. Theunis Botha, leier van die Christen-Demokratiese Party (CDP). "Christenskap is vanuit die staanspoor uit die skoolleerplanne verwyder asook uit die gebed in die Nasionale Vergadering. Christelike radiostasies is ook beperk en hul invloed so geneutraliseer. Christelike gebede in regeringskringe is met 'n minuut van stilte vervang, terwyl Hemelvaartdag heeltemal afgeskaf is. Die amptelike opposisie (die DA) wil op die oog af hiervan nie 'n kwessie maak nie, en hul stilswye laat dit eintlik klink of hulle met die ANC saamstem. Daar was egter vele wat van die voetsoolvlak af wat standvastig gebly het en hulle nie laat intimideer het nie.

Tot met die vorige sensus was daar 'n vraag oor Christenskap op die vorm, wat aangetoon het dat 79% van die Suid-Afrikaners die Christendom aangehang het. Met die jongste sensus is die vraag weggelaat en 'n mens kan maar net spekuleer oor die redes daarvoor.

Pres. Zuma, wat 'n Christelike fasade voorgehou het, het duidelik nou besluit dat niemand hom meer glo nie, en dat hy eerder die Christenskap gaan aanval deur hulle te blameer vir die nodigheid dat daar weeshuise en ouetehuise bestaan. Hy het so ver gegaan deur te sê voor godsdienstige mense ingemeng het was die situasie beter omdat hulle hul eie maniere gehad het om die situasie te hanteer. Wanneer Christene instellings oprig, is dit gewoonlik omdat daar 'n behoefte daaraan is en dan iets doen om 'n slegte situasie aan te spreek. Vir Zuma om die ellende voor die deur van Christenskap te lê is om die vinger na iemand anders te wys terwyl almal die vinger na hom wys.

"Is dit die laaste stuiptrekkings van 'n president wat probeer voortstrompel terwyl die skrif reeds vir hom aan die muur is? Of miskien is dit die laaste stuiptrekkings van die ganse ANC. Dis veral betekenisvol as 'n top ANC-ampsdraer soos Mathole Motshekga, wat skynbaar 'n sterk voorstander vir Afrikagodsdiens en voorvaderaanbidding is sê die ANC moet standvastig as die regeerder van Suid-Afrika bly tot Jesus se wederkoms (20 Des 2011).

CDP reacts to Zuma's latest statements

"It has become obvious, since the post-apartheid ANC government came into power, that there has been an agenda to undermined Christianity in South Africa." Says Rev Theunis Botha, Leader of the Christian Democratic Party (CDP). "They have, from the start, taken Christianity out of the school syllabus and prayer from the assembly. They have also restricted Christian Radio Stations thus neutralizing their influence. Christian prayer in government circles have been substituted with a minute of silence, while the Christian Ascension day has totally disappeared. The official opposition (DA) does not appear to want to make this an issue, and their silence actually makes it seem as if they agree with the ANC. There have however been many from grass roots level, who have taken their stand and refused to bow to this form of intimidation.

"Until this last census, there was a question concerning our religious persuasion which proved that over 79% of the people residing in South Africa adhere to Christianity. With our latest census this question was omitted. One can only speculate as to the reason for this.

"President Zuma, who has in the past put on a Christian facade, has now obviously decided that no one believed him, so he is rather going the route of attacking Christianity by inferring that they are at fault for the woes of South Africa as they established old aged homes and are looking after orphans. He actually says that before religious people interfered, the situation was better because "we had our own way of doing things. When Christians develop institutions, it is usually because there is a need which they recognise and then do something about improving the bad situation. For President Zuma to blame all our woes on Christianity, seems to be pointing the finger at someone else, when everyone is pointing their fingers at him.

“Are these the last dying protests of a President who is trying to keep on going while he can see the writing on the wall? Or maybe it is the entire ANC party that is breathing its last breath? Especially when a top ANC official such as Mathole Motshekga, who is apparently a strong proponent of traditional African religion and ancestral worship says “the ANC needed to remain steadfast as the ruler of South Africa until Jesus returned to the world” (Tuesday 20th December 2011).