

## OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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Mrs Phoebe Gerwel  
c/o The Nelson Mandela Centre of Memory  
via email [leed@nelsonmandela.org](mailto:leed@nelsonmandela.org)

Dear Mrs Gerwel,

It was with great sadness that I received news this morning of the passing of your husband, Professor Jakes Gerwel, following heart surgery. Our country has lost a champion and a humble servant of the people. He will be sorely missed.

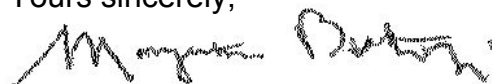
Our thoughts are with you and your family in this difficult time, for as much as any of us will miss Professor Gerwel, the deepest pain is reserved for those who loved him and lived with him every day. Nothing can fill the gap he leaves behind, but I pray that friends will bring comfort and support, while the Almighty heals this wound.

Our nation will forever remember Professor Gerwel for his immense contribution to our political history and the business arena, the quality of his leadership which he exuded through his chairmanship of many major organizations, and his passion and commitment to uplifting the people of our country.

Professor Gerwel worked tirelessly to build a united South Africa amongst our diverse cultural, ethnic and political groups. That is part of the legacy he leaves behind. We will honour his legacy by continuing our fight against crime, unemployment and social inequality.

On behalf of my family and my Party, please accept our heartfelt condolences.

Yours sincerely,



**PRINCE MANGOSUTHU BUTHELEZI MP**  
**PRESIDENT: INKATHA FREEDOM PARTY**

