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THE NAKED TRUTH OF CORRUPTION IN LESOTHO

This is not an ordinary statement. This is a cry of a wounded nation.

Basotho have been patient. Basotho have believed. Basotho have hoped. But today, hope is turning into anger, and patience into pain. The truth we speak today is not comfortable—but it is necessary.

This government, led by Sam Matekane under the Revolution for Prosperity (RFP), together with its coalition partners—the Alliance of Democrats led by Ntoi Rapapa and the Movement for Economic Change under Selibe Mochoboroane—has betrayed the trust of the people of Lesotho.

1. THE BETRAYAL BY RFP MEMBERS

RFP came into power with bold promises—to abolish the M5,000 allowances that symbolized greed and abuse of public funds. Instead of removing them, they legalized them.

This is betrayal in its purest form.

They promised to uproot nepotism, yet today they are its chief architects. The census recruitment process has exposed a government that rewards loyalty over merit. Individuals already employed in government—many aligned to RFP—have been unlawfully recruited again, drawing double salaries from the Consolidated Fund.

Lerato..... La Naha.....

This is unconstitutional. It violates the spirit and letter of Sections 18 and 20, which guarantee equality and protection from discrimination, and undermines Section 29 on principles of public service.

We ask a painful but necessary question:

What stops us, as the Yearn for Economic Sustainability (YES), from approaching the courts of law to nullify this entire corrupt and unconstitutional recruitment process?

If the Constitution is ignored by those sworn to protect it, then it is the duty of the people to defend it.

2. CORRUPTION IN THE LABOUR COURT

The injustice has spread into the Labour Court—an institution meant to protect workers, now failing them.

Basotho workers are being sacrificed to protect foreign employers and politically connected elites. Even more painful is that some Basotho lawyers have chosen to stand against their own people.

There are cases where judges issue orders that are never enforced. There are cases of clear contempt of court by foreign employers and government officials—yet nothing happens.

If judges themselves fail to ensure their own orders are respected, why would anyone else respect them?

The Labour Court is collapsing under the weight of its own contradictions. And as it collapses, it crushes the hopes of the very workers it was meant to protect.

3. DEATH CAUSED BY DEPRESSION DUE TO UNEMPLOYMENT

While leaders debate and enrich themselves, Basotho are dying.

Young men and women—full of dreams, full of potential—are sinking into depression because there are no jobs, no opportunities, no hope. Families are burying their children not because of disease, but because of despair.

We were promised 70,000 jobs.

Where are they?

Nowhere.

What we see instead is rising unemployment, deepening poverty, and a generation that feels abandoned. The youth of this country are not just disappointed—they are broken. Their hearts are bleeding with anger, with frustration, with betrayal.

RFP, AD, and MEC have failed them.

They lied—not by mistake, but by design—to capture power. And in doing so, they have stolen the future of an entire generation.

O re soabisitse Ntate Matekane le puso ea hao.

You have disappointed a nation that trusted you.

4. DICTATORSHIP OVER THE CONSTITUTION

What we are witnessing today is dangerous.

The Constitution of Lesotho guarantees freedom of expression and peaceful assembly. Yet in practice, Basotho are denied these rights. To organize a peaceful march, citizens are told to seek permission from the very authorities they wish to protest against.

This is not democracy. This is control.

To protest against government injustice has become nearly impossible—like searching for a diamond in bare rock. Yet to march in praise of the same government is made easy—like being handed gold on a silver platter.

This is selective justice. This is abuse of power.

When those in authority no longer respect the law, they lose the moral right to demand that citizens respect them.

Lesotho is not collapsing because of lack of resources.

Lesotho is collapsing because of lack of leadership, integrity, and accountability.

A government that lies to its people, protects corruption, ignores the law, and crushes the hopes of its youth is not just failing—it is destroying the nation.

Basotho are hurting. Basotho are angry. Basotho are tired.

But above all, Basotho are watching.

History will remember this moment. It will remember those who chose power over people. It will remember those who remained silent while the country suffered.

And it will also remember those who stood up and spoke the truth—no matter how painful it was.

Lerato..... La Naha.....

The naked truth is that;

A government that feeds on corruption will one day be consumed by the anger of its people.

The tears of this nation are not silent.

They are gathering.

And one day—they will speak.

Issued in defense of justice, the Constitution, and the dignity of every Mosotho.

Issued by:

Yearn for Economic Sustainability (YES)

Molefi Ntsonyana

