



Celebrating Human Rights for all, commemorating the 52nd Anniversary of the Sharpeville Massacrelest we forget

“Working together to
promote unity in diversity
and human dignity for all”



The Cradle of
Human Rights Struggles



Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng
Executive Mayor
Sedibeng District
Municipality

Dear people of Sharpeville and Sedibeng,

We are pleased to once again communicate with you during this month that has since been declared the Human Rights Month. This is the month on which we celebrate the 21st March as the Human Rights Day, a public holiday in South Africa.

This public holiday came as a result of what happened in Sharpeville on the 21st March 1960. As we commemorate the massacre which took place on this day, 52 years ago, we have thought it important to paint the life changing developments in Sharpeville in pictures. This is in the spirit and understanding that pictures tell a story and with these ones, we are telling a real story, one by the people for the people.

Working together with you we have achieved more in improving the image and the lives of the people of Sharpeville and believe that more still needs to be done.



Sharpeville Memorial Site

The long standing
memorial site underwent
some renovations.

Started 30.05.2010
Completed 30.07.2011



Memorial Site

In Sharpeville's
Phelindaba Cemetery.

Started 15.04.2010
Completed 04.03.2011

Sharpeville Phelindaba Cemetery

Construction completed
on several new features
and the memorial site.





Sharpeville Hall

Recaptures it's former glory
in the heart of Sharpeville.

Started 19.07.2010
Completed 30.11.2011

These pictures represent our endeavours as the ANC lead district Municipality to make Sharpeville an attractive tourist destination.

We commemorate the 52nd Anniversary of the Sharpeville Massacre during the year in which the ruling party, the African National Congress celebrates its centenary, selfless struggle to liberate South Africa and the continent, from colonial rule, "oppression of man by man", making it a historic moment for all the people of South Africa.

Working together with you in our quest to renew our communities, an objective informed by our election manifesto commitments and our Municipal IDP, we have so far managed to build the Sharpeville Hall; Exhibition Centre; Constitution Walk; a memorial site at the Phelindaba Cemetery and many others as demonstrated through the pictures. We have installed four CCTV Cameras in Sharpeville to ensure safety & security for our people and that of our visitors and tourists visiting Sharpeville.

We continue to honour the country's fallen heroes and heroines who resisted the then apartheid government's unjust pass laws and to highlight the importance of upholding human fundamental values and rights, as underpinned by our country's Constitution in the new dispensation.



It is during a period like this one that we take a moment and remember our struggle heroes & heroines in the Region and the country. We believe that we are where we are today as a Region & as a nation because of their selfless sacrifices. Everything that we do for our people, we continue to strive to do it better for we know that the democracy we enjoy today did not come easy and cheap. But our people paid dearly as our history is now written with their blood.

Sharpeville Massacre is the second major political event in our region after the Peace Treaty of Vereeniging. Just like the treaty led to the formation of the Union of South Africa and subsequent disenfranchisement of black majority, Sharpeville Massacre led to the formation of underground movement and militarization of our struggle.

The Constitution of South Africa has a physical address rooted in the Vaal as it was signed into law on the 10th of December 1996 by former President Nelson Mandela. The signing of the Constitution into law took place at the George Thabe

Stadium in Sharpeville. This venue was chosen owing to its historical significance. After the signing of the Constitution into law, the first democratically elected State President, Nelson Mandela, said:

This signing of the Constitution goes down as the fifth major political event where our region got directly involved in the history of our struggle. It brought closure to an era that was opened in the Vaal region.

It was as a result of the heroic acts of our communities in Sedibeng and Emfuleni that the first democratic President Nelson Mandela named Sedibeng the Cradle of Human Rights struggles.

In addition, all these are done in pursuit of our commitment emanating from the 1st Generation Sedibeng Growth & Development Strategy's service delivery objective: Releasing Human Potential, which finds its expression in our IDP and the strategy to promote heritage of our Region.



Artist impression of the Constitutional Walk

The completion of the proposed statue is dependant on funding. The statue resembles former President Nelson Mandela and Mr. Cyril Ramaphosa during the signing of the constitution.

Started 30.06.2010 | Completed 20.03.2012



Constitutional Walk

Leading form the Sharpeville Hall
to the George Thabe Stadium.

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Constitutional Walk

Constitutional Walk building site.

Started 30.06.2010
Completed 20.03.2012

Upcoming developments in Sharpeville, the future looks brighter!

Working together, we will speed up the declaration, preservation and promotion of the Heritage Sites - Phelindaba and Vuka Cemeteries, Sharpeville Exhibition and Memorial Sites, Sharpeville Roman Catholic Church, Kwa – Dlomo Dam.

Subject to securing funding, we plan to upgrade the Sharpeville Sports Precinct, Cricket Pitch, George Thabe Stadium and the adjacent soccer fields. We further plan to convert the Old Sharpeville Police Station into a Regional Craft Hub and upgrade the Vuka Cemetery.

Mahole Simon Mofokeng
Executive Mayor
Sedibeng District Municipality

Sharpeville Exhibition Centre

Underwent major renovations.

Started 30.05.2010
Completed 30.07.2011



Signing of the South African Constitution

President Nelson Mandela signed the new constitution of the Republic of South Africa into law at Sharpeville Stadium in December of 1996.

CCTV Cameras

An extensive network of CCTV cameras have been installed in and around Sharpeville.

This is one of the 2010 World Cup legacy projects.

