



President Samora Machel 1933 — 1986

The African National Congress and the people of South Africa dip their revolutionary banners in homage to this indefatigable freedom fighter and African revolutionary. Our movement draws inspiration from his example. We are confident that under the sterling leadership of the central committee of the FRELIMO Party the Mozambican people will rise beyond this tragedy and together with their compatriots in the region will redouble their efforts in defence of their sovereignty and for the realisation of the ideals for which Samora Moises Machel has striven and laid down his life.

To the bereaved family, our comrades in FRELIMO and the Mozambican people we offer our heartfelt condolences in this hour of great sorrow.

**The Spear of the Warrior
has fallen.**

Let us pick it up as we say:

A Luta Continua!

A Vittoria e Certa!

Extract from the statement of the National Executive Committee of the ANC on the death of Comrade Samora Machel.

JOSINA, YOU ARE NOT DEAD

Josina you are not dead because we have assumed your responsibilities and they live in us. You have not died, for the causes you championed were inherited by us in their entirety. You have gone from us, but the weapon and rucksack that you left, your tools of work, are part of my burden.

The blood you shed is but a small drop in the flood we have already given and still have to give. The earth must be nourished and the more fertile it is the better do its trees flourish, the bigger are the shadows they cast, the sweeter are their fruits.

Out of your memory I will fashion a hoe to turn the sod enriched by your sacrifice ... And new fruits will grow.

The Revolution renews itself from its best and most beloved children.

This is the meaning of your sacrifice: It will be a living example to be followed.

My joy is that as patriot and woman you died doubly free in this time when the new power and the new woman are emerging.

In your last moments you apologised to the doctors for not being able to help them.

The manner in which you accepted the sacrifice is an inexhaustible source of inspiration and courage.

When a comrade so completely assumes the new values she wins our hearts, becomes our banner.

Thus more than wife, you were to me a sister, friend and comrade-in-arms.

How can we mourn a comrade but by holding the fallen gun and continuing the combat.

My tears will flow from the same source that gave birth to our love, our will and our revolutionary life.

Thus these tears are both a token and a vow of combat.

The flowers which fall from the tree are to prepare the land for new and more beautiful flowers to bloom in the next season.

Your life continues in those who continue in the Revolution.

A poem by Samora Machel to his wife, Josina, who died during the liberation war.



Comrade President O R Tambo with Comrade President Samora Machel at the funeral in Maputo of Comrade Moses Mabhida, March 1986