MEDIA RELEASE
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Pretoria moet Pretoria Bly

"Moenie krap waar dit nie jeuk nie, maar meer belangrik nog – die land het beslis nie nog méér polarisasie nodig deur dade en woorde nie." So reageer die leier van die Christen-Demokratiese Party (CDP) en waarnemende voorsitter van die Christen-Demokratiese Alliansie (CDA), ds. Theunis Botha.

"Dit sal die ANC loon om die aanhef van die grondwet te gaan lees, sodat almal wat gewerk het aan die opbou en ontwikkeling van die land gerespekteer moet word, en dat Suid-Afrika aan almal behoort."

"Die praktyk om munisipaliteite een naam en die stede en dorpe 'n ander te gee, is juis ontwikkel om polarisasie te voorkom. Tog is dit die een terrein waarvan die ANC nie sy hande kan afhou nie, en dit het selde iets met apartheid te make, soos die IVP-verbandhoudende name wat in Durban met name uit die ANC-dampkring vervang is."

"Pretoria is die nasionale uitvoerende hoofstad, en as sodanig het elke Suid-Afrikaner 'n belang by die stad se naam, maar min is geraadpleeg. Boonop het die ANC in die Tshwane-streek die saak deurgaans so gedryf dat dit in emosionaliteit toegeneem het en dat 'n stomp hantering nou sake net kan vererger."

"Met amptelike voorvadervereringsgeleenthede, 'n president wat poligamie beoefen, 'n jeugleier wat spesialiseer in polariserende uitlatings en as toekomstige president gesalf is, is die frustrasies - en vervreemdingsvlakke in die land al op uiters ongewenste vlakke. Die Pretoria-naamkwessie is nou so nodig soos strignien in die kos."

Pretoria must stay Pretoria

"Do not scratch where it doesn't itch. But even more importantly – the country does not need additional polarisation through words and deeds." So says Christian Democratic Party (CDP) leader and acting chair of the Christian Democratic Alliance (CDA), Rev. Theunis Botha.

"It will do the ANC well to read the preamble to the Constitution, including those stipulations requiring respect for all who have worked to develop and build the country, and South Africa belongs to all who live in it."

"The practise of giving municipalities one name, and towns or cities another, was precisely designed to prevent confrontation and polarisation. Yet, this is the one aspect where the ANC can not resist involving itself in, and this seldom has anything to do with apartheid, as the changing of IFP associated names in Durban, and replacing them with ANC related names clearly indicates."

"Pretoria is the executive capital of the entire country, and as such the entire nation has a stake in the name, yet few are being consulted. The ANC has also driven the process in such a way in the past that emotions are at breaking point, and a blunt handling of the matter will only increase tensions."

"With official forefather honouring action, a president engaging in polygamy, a youth leader increasing polarisation each time he opens his mouth but yet 'appointed' crown prince, frustration levels are becoming increasingly high. To ramrod the name issue would be like adding poison to the food."