MEDIA RELEASE
by CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (CDP)

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Weiering van mediese parool aan Derby-Lewis

"Dit lyk ongelukkig of daar dubbele politieke maatstawwe is wie mediese parool en selfs volle amnestie kry," sê ds Theunis Botha, leier van die Christen-Demokratiese Party (CDP).

Botha het gereageer op die nuus dat mediese parool aan die 77-jarige siek Derby-Lewis geweier is, wat aan die moord op die kommunistiese leier, Chris Hani skuldig bevind en lewenslank tronk toe gestuur is.

"Die mediese parool wat aan die bedrieër Shabir Shaik toegestaan is, wat daarna weer onder meer gholf gaan speel het, beteken dat daar nou 'n wolk van agterdog aan elke moontlike paroolgeval kleef. Dit begin ook al meer lyk of Derby-Lewis nie net straf uitdien weens sy betrokkenheid by 'n moord nie, maar oor wie dit is wat vermoor is – 'n ongelykheid wat deur die grondwet verbied word.

"Ons doen 'n beroep op die regering om ook na die konteks te kyk van wat die politieke inkleurdery van parool aan gemeenskapsverhoudinge in die land doen. Die land kan nie 'n onvergewingsgesindheid en verdere polarisasie bekostig nie."

Turning down of medical parole for Derby-Lewis

"Unfortunately it appears as though double 'political' standards are applied, when it comes to who will receive medical parole or even amnesty," says Rev. Theunis Botha, leader of the Christian Democratic Party (CDP).

Botha reacted to the news that medical parole had once again been refused for the 77 year old Derby Lewis, who suffers from various ailments, including cancer. He was found guilty for involvement with the murder of SACP leader, Chris Hani, and was sentenced to life imprisonment.

"The medical parole granted to the fraudster Shabir Shaik, after which he was shown playing golf, means that any medical parole will now have a cloud of political favouritism hanging over it. It appears more and more evident that Derby-Lewis is not being kept in jail for his involvement in a murder, but rather whom it was that was murdered – this sort of inequality is prohibited by the constitution.

"We call on government to also look at what politicking in parole does to community relations in the country. We cannot afford to exclude fairness and forgiveness, thus creating more polarisation."