

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**by CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (CDP)**

**15 DECEMBER 2011**

**Reconciliation Day: ANC must scrap appeal against dubula ibhunu**

“We call on the ANC to utilise Reconciliation Day tomorrow to withdraw the appeal on the declaring of dubula ibhunu as hate speech,” says Christian Democratic Party (CDP) leader, Rev. Theunis Botha.

“If the ANC stands by its decision to fight for the singing of a song causing immeasurable polarisation in the country, the ANC’s celebration of the Day of Reconciliation will be a farce.

“There can be no doubt that Julius Malema’s singing of the song and the ANC’s decision to judicially side with him, has caused the country much harm. Unfortunately this was not the only contributing factor to the increased levels of polarisation, but Pres. Jacob Zuma’s continued blatant usage of religion in a way in which he seemingly attempts to utilise the Lord as his political tool, also offends many.

“Our call to the people of South Africa is to consider Reconciliation day as a pinnacle in preparation for Christmas where not only the commandment of love for the neighbour is highlighted, but also to God. “In both instances every day in South Africa should be a day of reconciliation.”

**Versoeningsdag: ANC moet appèl teen dubula ibhunu laat vaar**

“Ons doen ‘n beroep op die ANC om Versoeningsdag môre te benut om aan te kondig dat die appèl teen die verklaar van die lied, dubula ibhunu, as haatspraak onttrek word,” sê ds. Theunis Botha, leier van die Christen-Demokratiese party (CDP).

“As die ANC rug styfmaak om te bly veg om die lied wat onmeetbare polarisasei in die land veroorsaak het te kan sing, sal enige deelname van dié organisasies aan Versoeningsdag ‘n klug wees. Daar kan geen twyfel wees nie dat Julius Malema se sing van die lied en die ANC se besluit om hom juridies hierin te ondersteun die land erge skade berokke het nie. Ongelukkig is dit ook nie die enigste saak wat polarisasie verskerp het nie. Pres. Jacob Zuma se volgehoue blatante aanwending van godsdiens vir politieke doeleindes waar hy klaarblyklik die Here as politieke instrument inspan, gee ook aan baie aanstoot.

“Ons doen ‘n beroep op die mense van Suid-Afrika om Versoeningsdag as belangrike stap te beskou in die aanloop na Kersfees waar die gebod van naasteliefde met liefde vir God volledig gemaak word. Elke dag behoort ‘n versoeningsdag te wees.

“Vir die Afrikaners wat Geloftegedag gedenk, is ons bede dat onthou sal word dat die Gelofte nie los staan van die Nuwe Verbond nie, waar Christene in ‘n Verbond met die Here tree om Sy Koninkryk te dien.”