

ORATION AT THE FUNERAL OF MRS CONSTANCE SETAE

GANYESA VILLAGE, SATURDAY 01 DECEMBER 2012

ISAAC SIPHO MFUNDISI

PRESIDENT: UCDP

To the Programme Director

Rre Vincent Tebogo Setae and children

The Families of Setae and

All Pastors who have graced this occasion

Kgosi of the village

Colleagues in the party

And all people who came to mourn with us in this sad loss

Death is something we cannot wish away. It comes when least expected as in this case.

I wish to convey our commiserations to Mr Setae, the national Deputy Chair of our party and his children and all next of kin.

We have come to bury a devotee of the United Christian Democratic Party. If a woman newlywed could allow her husband to leave a job as a teacher and go to serve as an organiser for the party way back in 1987, as Mrs Setae did then, it speaks volumes about her devotion to the party.

Mr Setae was one of the 12 regional organisers who were appointed to recruit members for the party back then and Mr Setae did well. It is no surprise that even at this funeral the attendance of UCDP members; mainly from the Ganyesa region is notable.

Mrs Setae as a staunch member did not complain that her newly found husband would be away for days on end. Supreme in her mind was that the party would grow and deliver a better life for the people of the then Bophuthatswana.

Connie showed her mettle in 1994 and the years to follow when Vincent lost a job as organiser of the party. This was occasioned by the fall of the Bophuthatswana government and because of the unfortunate circumstances under which the demise of the government came, Vincent got a very meagre pension but the big hearted woman, Constance kept closer to him.

They raised their five children on her teacher's salary and still managed to see them through school up to tertiary level.

Even under those circumstances, Constance never prevailed upon her husband to leave the party. It is very unfortunate that after all such sacrifices of educating their children in hardship, the children find it difficult to be employed. One is holding a Masters degree in Financial Management but she is home, unemployed.

I am tempted to believe that they can't find work because they and their parents are members of the UCDP. It is difficult to accept that in a municipal area like Kagisano- Molopo where qualified people are hard to come by, a highly qualified young lass like her can be twitching her fingers jobless.

Mrs Setae supported her husband and she herself dies holding the position of the regional chair of the Women's League.

It is common knowledge that Mr Setae was made offers to join this or that party but he believed that good things happen to those who wait. Despite lucrative positions offered, the Setaes maintained that they would rather be door keepers in the house of the Lord, the UCDP, than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

They wisely remained in the UCDP until Vincent won a seat in the local municipal elections and because of his ability he has turned to be an asset to the municipality.

All praise goes to this jewel lying in front of me, the late Mrs Constance Setae, because if she had decided otherwise, Vincent would have been lost to the UCDP.

We shall miss her in our midst, we shall miss her counsel. One only hopes that the women left behind will take a leaf out of her book.

May her soul rest in peace.