



PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

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Hon C Ramaphosa MP
President of the Republic of South Africa
Parliament of the Republic of South Africa
P.O. Box 15
Cape Town
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15 August 2018

Dear Mr President,

REQUEST TO DECLARE 16 AUGUST MARIKANA MEMORIAL DAY

I am writing to you to request that you declare the 16th of August Marikana Memorial Day to commemorate annually in honour of the 34 mineworkers who were killed by South African Police Service (SAPS) members.

You have the power, via a proclamation, to declare any day to be observed and commemorated. Tomorrow is one such day.

In your State of the Nation Address earlier this year, you committed to *'play whatever role [you] can.'* As President of the Republic, you can declare 16 August Marikana Memorial Day and it is in the interest of justice and national unity for you to do so.

Hundreds of millions of Rands settlement offered by the government for general damages to families of the victims is no 'settlement' and nothing about the damage done is 'general.' Entire families were ripped apart and healing requires more than a six-year-late attempt to buy closure.

The tragedy that happened six years ago at Marikana is a permanent scar on our country's conscience. South Africa longs for tomorrow to be observed and commemorated and it is well within your power to give this to the nation.

I look forward to your consideration of this request and your favourable response.

Yours faithfully,

Mmusi Maimane MP
Leader of the Official Opposition