

South Africa National Day Special

Continuing to consolidate democratic gains

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AMBASSADOR OF SOUTH AFRICA



The first democratic elections on April 27, 1994, gave birth to South Africa's constitutional democracy. For the majority of South Africans who had never voted before, their dignity was

restored, and the country was transformed into a nonracial, nonsexist and democratic society. This was underscored by the country's first democratically elected president, Nelson Mandela, in his inaugural State of the Nation Address on May 10, 1994.

Through the power of the vote, South Africans made their stand against social, political and economic injustice and changed the course of the nation.

South Africa celebrates its 28th Freedom Day under the theme "Consolidate our Democratic Gains."

The Freedom Day celebration accords us the opportunity to reflect on the progress made thus far to transform South African society. South Africa has made remarkable progress since 1994, but some challenges

still persist. Inequality, poverty and unemployment remain impediments to South Africa's goal of national unity and social cohesion. The South African government, however, remains committed to serving all the people of South Africa and ensuring that everyone's right to freedom and democracy is respected.

South Africa celebrates its national day with all its international partners, not least of which, the government and citizens of Japan, with whom South Africa enjoys well-established ties in many economic, social and technical areas of coopera-

tion, including a consistent flow of new Japanese investment into its economy for which South Africa is deeply grateful.

Through the platform accorded to us by the Tokyo International Conference on African Development, South Africa is further certain that by working together as partners, with Japan and the African continent, it will be possible to achieve the common goal of building an equitable world order and ensuring the fair distribution of the world's resources.

As the world begins to emerge from under the weight of COVID-19, South

Africa calls upon the international community to continue to work together across the various multilateral platforms to strengthen global collaboration. This will better position the international community to overcome the challenges before us and achieve the objectives of the United Nations sustainable development goals, thus ensuring that no global citizen is left behind.

In celebrating its 28th Freedom Day, South Africa reiterates its commitment to building a better South Africa and realizing a better Africa and a better world.



Zulu warriors in KwaZulu-Natal
SOUTH AFRICAN TOURISM

This content was compiled in collaboration with the Embassy of South Africa. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of the newspaper.



Tourists view a lion from a distance on safari. SOUTH AFRICAN TOURISM

Congratulations
on the anniversary of
Freedom Day:
27th April 2022

*Honouring the anniversary of
South Africa's first
democratic elections in 1994.*

KOMATSU
Creating value together

Congratulations
*on the Anniversary of
the Freedom Day of
the Republic of South Africa*

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Mitsubishi Corporation

Congratulations
*on the Anniversary of
the Freedom Day of
the Republic of South Africa*

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