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### **LAW SOCIETY PAYS TRIBUTE TO MAMA ALBERTINA SISULU**

The Law Society of South Africa (LSSA), on behalf of the attorneys' profession, conveys its profound condolences to the Sisulu family on the passing of Albertina Sisulu, affectionately known to South Africans as 'Mama Sisulu'.

'Her passing is indeed a sad day for South Africa, for no one who helped shape our beloved country was loved more than Mama Sisulu by such a broad spectrum of South Africans. This was reflected at a meeting during the early 1980s in Lenasia, when the vast audience gave her a seemingly endless standing ovation,' say LSSA Co-Chairpersons Nano Matlala and Praveen Sham.

Mama Sisulu played a central role in the struggle against apartheid and was the first woman to serve solitary confinement under the infamous 90-day detention legislation.

When she faced treason charges in Durban in 1984 she displayed great strength of leadership by uniting all 16 trialists. She was the last political detainee in the women's section of the Durban prison where the International Convention Centre now stands.

She was loved by all for the way she unashamedly showed her affection for her beloved Walter.

'Mama Albertina Sisulu was a unifying force for all internal political organisations in the eighties. It is for this reason that all South Africans across the political spectrum are mourning her death. South Africa needs more people of her caliber,' say Mr Matlala and Mr Sham.

The LSSA calls on attorneys to respect the national period of mourning announced by the President to run from 4 June until the burial, and in addition, if they fly the national flag at their offices, to respect the President's call to fly flags at half-mast during the period of national mourning until the evening of the burial.

Mr Matlala and Mr Sham add: Mama Sisulu will be sorely missed because she gave so much of herself selflessly for the liberation of all the people of South Africa.

Lalangoxolo Mama.

**ISSUED ON BEHALF OF THE CO-CHAIRPERSONS OF THE LAW SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA, PRAVEEN SHAM AND NANO MATLALA**

by Barbara Whittle  
Communication Manager, Law Society of South Africa  
Tel: (012) 366 8800 or 083 380 1307  
E-mail: [barbara@lssa.org.za](mailto:barbara@lssa.org.za) Website: [www.lssa.org.za](http://www.lssa.org.za)

**Editor's note:**

The Law Society of South Africa brings together its six constituent members – the Cape Law Society, the KwaZulu-Natal Law Society, the Law Society of the Free State, the Law Society of the Northern Provinces, the Black Lawyers Association and the National Association of Democratic Lawyers – in representing South Africa's 20 000 attorneys and 5 000 candidate attorneys.

In Afrikaans items, please refer to the 'Prokureursorde van Suid-Afrika'.