



EFF MARKS THE 47th ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1976 YOUTH UPRISING

Friday, 16 June 2023

The Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) marks the 47th Anniversary of one of the most significant and revolutionary youth uprisings in the history of the continent and the world, what is popularly known as the June 16 Soweto Uprisings.

On the 16th of June 1976, learners inspired by the ideals of the Black Consciousness Movement (BCM) headed into the streets of Soweto and demanded the end to the anti-black Bantu Education system, which saw black children subjected to inferior education than their white counterparts. The likes of Tsietsi Mashinini, Onkgopotse Tiro, Khotso Seatlholo led from the front, and at the core of what they stood for was that the Apartheid system was an evil that required the youth to organise and defeat it.

The peaceful protests in Soweto were in a typical fashion met with provocation and violence by the Apartheid Police, leading to the unnecessary shooting of learners who were marching peacefully expressing their dissatisfaction with the status quo. The provocation led to a popular uprising across the country, and the protests led to the killing of an estimated 575 people nationwide, and thousands of injuries.

The youth of 1976 sit amongst the ranks of the most inspirational and defiant revolutionary youths the world has ever known, and were the spark that led to the ultimate defeat of the Apartheid system. At a time when political organisations of African people were banned, and leaders were either arrested, tortured or assassinated by the regime for their political activity, the 1976 youth confronted the brutal Apartheid machinery with stones in their hands. Their sacrifice and determination even led them to the camps in exile, where many pursued military and political education to overthrow the Apartheid government.

The EFF remains inspired by the 1976 generation and calls on the youth of South Africa to emulate their bravery and selflessness. The Youth of South Africa today is confronted by massive unemployment, lack of access to education and neglect by the ruling elite, which has led to concerning levels of substance abuse and crime amongst the youth. We call on the youth to reignite its defiant spirit and have a passion for education, as well as draw inspiration from the 1976 generation which called for “less alcohol, more education”.

It is only through activism, education and the fearless confrontation of the regime that perpetuates the misery of the youth today, that the future of our nation can be secured.

We call on all young people in South Africa to observe the 47th Anniversary of the June 16 Uprisings, by watching the EFF June 16 Rally which will be addressed by the Commander In Chief and President of the EFF Julius Malema today at 15:00, at the Durban University of Technology in KwaZulu-Natal. The address will be streamed live on all EFF social media platforms.

Furthermore, the EFF calls on all young people to Register To Vote, and Register to Vote For The EFF ahead of the 2024 National and Provincial Elections. The youth of South Africa must flood the ballot boxes and show mass power towards the attainment of Economic Freedom In Our Lifetime!



ISSUED BY THE ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS

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 Economic Freedom Fighters

THE YEAR OF MASSIVE

POLITICAL EDUCATION AND VOTER REGISTRATION

TO REGISTER TO VOTE: **DIAL: *134*20024#**