



EFF COMMEMORATES THE 135TH ANNIVERSARY OF INTERNATIONAL WORKERS' DAY

Saturday, 01 May 2021

The EFF stands with the international working-class community, as it remembers and honours the labour union movement of the 1800s which waged a successful struggle against long work weeks and exploitatively long working hours. In honour, the 1st of May was declared the International Workers' Day, also known as May Day.

Today, many take weekends and 8-hour workdays for granted, without knowing and appreciating the fact that the vicious and inhumane capitalist system had to be fought to allow for something which appears to be so normal and acceptable today. At the time, this demand appeared unreasonable, insane, and unfeasible to profit driven minds.

It is for this reason that the EFF remains committed and ever more determined to the struggle of all workers in South Africa and Africa. We do this because we understand that had the labour union movement listened to the doomsayers, pseudo intellectuals and capitalist economists, we would still be enslaved in endless work weeks and days.

The unfortunate reality is that the trade union movement of South Africa has abandoned the struggle of workers. Under the administration of Cyril Ramaphosa, we have seen mass retrenchments, an increase in exploitative labour practices, and many companies continue to claim UIF and TERS on behalf of workers without the knowledge of workers. The arrogance of the white financial sector has heightened.

White workers who only possess Matric certificates are managing, leading, treated and even paid better wages than black professionals with tertiary qualifications. The President of "concomitant action" which saw 34 Marikana workers massacred has

captured the Union Buildings to further protect the interests and profits of the capitalist establishment.

The EFF Labour Desk emerges out of these realities. To revive the fight against worker exploitation and alienation. The EFF Labour Desk, through its sustained programs and pressure, seeks to remind workers that they have nothing to lose but their chains. To fight with them, as they reclaim their rightful place in the factories, the farms, retail, mines and all production processes.

To remind the South African worker that they, too, deserve and must enjoy the fruits of their labour. The ANC government, through the Freedom Charter, dishonestly declares that South Africa belongs to all those who work it. The question we must all ask is, who works the land in South Africa? Is it not those who turn and toil the soil, those you dig, clean, build, transport, distribute, nurse, bleed and sweat for the sustenance and development of our country?

The struggle for Economic Freedom is a struggle to give to the worker what is rightfully theirs - the fruits of their labour. Workers must also eat the food that they cook, live in the mansions that they build, enjoy the cleanliness of the neighbourhoods that they clean and protect, wear the clothes that they sew and sell. Send their children to the schools and hospitals that they safeguard.

May Day, to us, is not only a day of commemoration, but, also a constant reminder that the worker struggle will only realize its ultimate objective when we defeat the capitalist system in its entirety. We echo the Communist Manifesto when we say; Proletarier aller Länder vereinigt Euch! - Workers of all countries, unite!

ISSUED BY THE ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS

Vuyani Pambo (National Spokesperson): 066 082 0889

Delisile Ngwenya (National Spokesperson): 066 388 8779

Sixelise Gcilishe (National Communications Manager): 071 142 1663

✉ communications@effonline.org

🌐 <http://www.effonline.org>

🐦 @EFFSouthAfrica

📷 @EFFSouthAfrica

📘 Economic Freedom Fighters