



EFF STATEMENT ON THE BOYCOTT OF eSWATINI CULTURAL FESTIVAL

Sunday, 28 November 2021

The EFF salutes the steadfastness of the South African music artists who, out of empathy for the oppressed and brutalized people of eSwatini, voluntarily withdrew from participating in a handsome financial rewarding gig at the kingdom of the autocratic pervert King Mswati. There can never be merry festivals in time of mourning for those who lost their lives and limbs since June this year when the military of King Mswati unleashed terror and murder against pro-democracy protesters.

The act of solidarity with the marginalized and pained people of eSwatini out of volition without political pressure is most welcome. The names and brands of Sjava and Mafikizolo bands alongside the revolutionary poet Mzwakhe Mbuli will always remain engraved in the scroll of genuine international fighters and sympathizers with the victims of the murderous regime of despotic King Mswati and his Dlamini family.

We reiterate the call by EFF that NO cultural workers, artists, sportspersons or academics should to travel to eSwatini to perform or impart their services and their expertise, save and except in those instances where such travel is in the furtherance of the struggle for democratization of the kingdom or any of the objectives of the prodemocracy movements.

The EFF calls on all service providers invited to this two days Luju festival meant to prop up the public relations of nonsensical King Mswati to withdraw instantly for the love and solidarity with the widows, orphans, children and the youth left with gun bullets and scars for the rest of their lives. Those who died, injured and arrested in the struggle for democratization of eSwatini deserve international solidarity in their fight for justice.

The main anchor and sponsor, Standard Bank of eSwatini and the those reported to have sold out for pieces of silver will soon account to the people of a democratic eSwatini. We call on Standard Bank South Africa Group CEO, Mr. Simphiwe Tshabalala to reign on their counterpart in eSwatini to prevent the brand Standard Bank from being directly or indirectly associated with the brutality of the despotic regime of King Mswati. Now is the time for economic disinvestment from eSwatini by all corporate that has appreciation of universal human rights culture.

We call on the artists, cultural workers, academics and sportsperson of South Africa, as Artist Against Absolute eSwatini Monarchy to intensify the struggle for a free, peaceful and democratic society in eSwatini.

ISSUED BY THE ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS

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