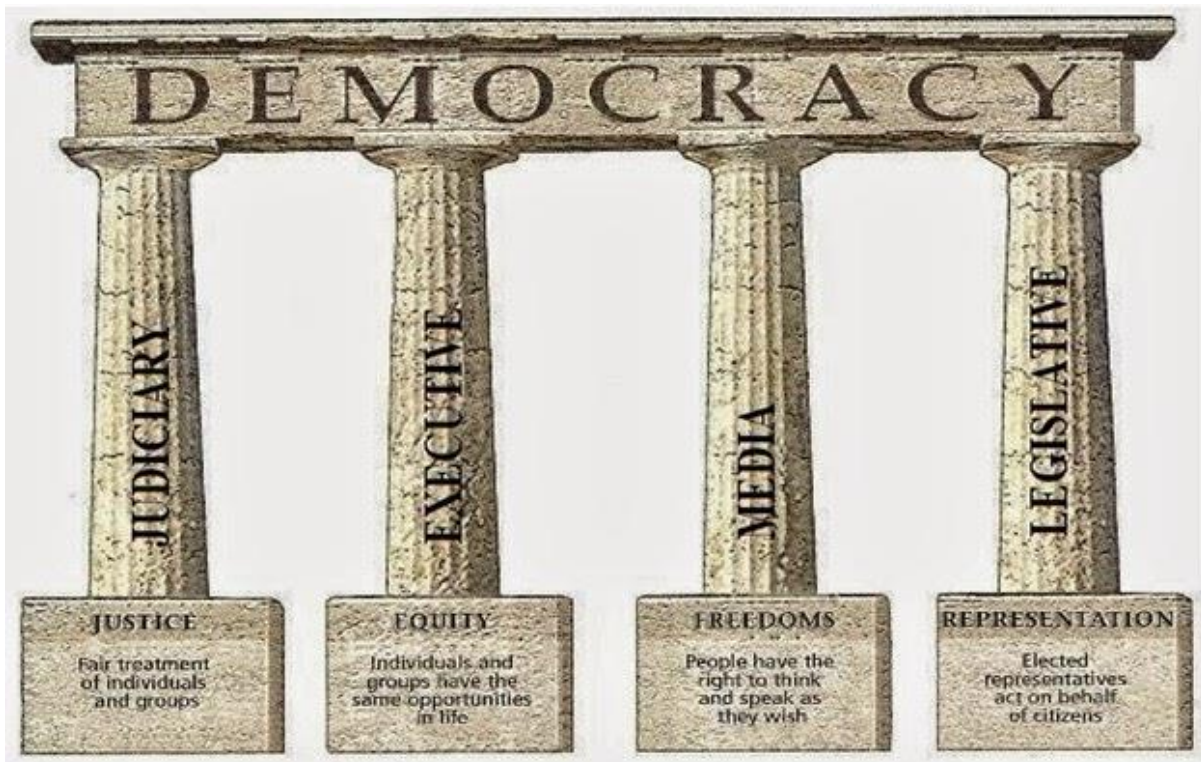


SINKING OF A NATION



In discussions about ancient Greek democracy, the most often referenced text is the 'Politics' of Aristotle.

He believed that someone who is virtuous in ruling a democracy, must be able to put the common good above their own individual good.

He also believed that a democracy is a failure where the majority is poor and non-virtuous. This means that whomever is in office, and all have equal access to office because of democracy's concept of equality, may not act in the best interests of the State and its citizens.

Aristotle famously said: 'When there is no middle class, and the poor greatly exceed in number, troubles arise, and the State soon comes to an end'.

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SINKING OF A NATION

FOREWORD

After spending two years with Commercial & Industrial Computer Services, a Deloitte & Touche subsidiary company specialising in computer software systems for the South African municipal and local government market, I suffered a stroke and was placed on permanent disability pension.

I had been appalled by the decline in morality and business ethics, which I experienced on my travels around South Africa in the Local Government environment. So, once confined under my disability conditions, I began writing the book 'Stepping Stones' which was published in South Africa in 2010 and later in America in 2014.

My concern was for the future of South Africa as a country, given the atrocious level of education evident in the young people encountered in my far-flung travels.

My writing started about the time Jacob Zuma took over the leadership of the ANC from Thabo Mbeki. Ten years later I have written some fifty published articles and nine books, all with the decline of South Africa under the ANC, as a backdrop.

This tenth publication 'Sinking of a Nation' includes all the articles written over those ten years and as such presents an historical chronology of the decline of our beloved nation from darling of the democratic world, to pariah and tenth most potent threat to world peace.

Rated now as economic junk, the most disparate nation on earth and a slime bath of kleptocracy, greed and corruption, the last ten years under Jacob Zuma and the captured ANC will go down as South Africa's most disgraceful decade in history.

As a result, my children, brought up to play in any multi-racial team, have been left sitting on the bench, while the side chosen loses match after match. These children, have, of necessity, sought to play for another side where their skills can be of best benefit to themselves and their young families.

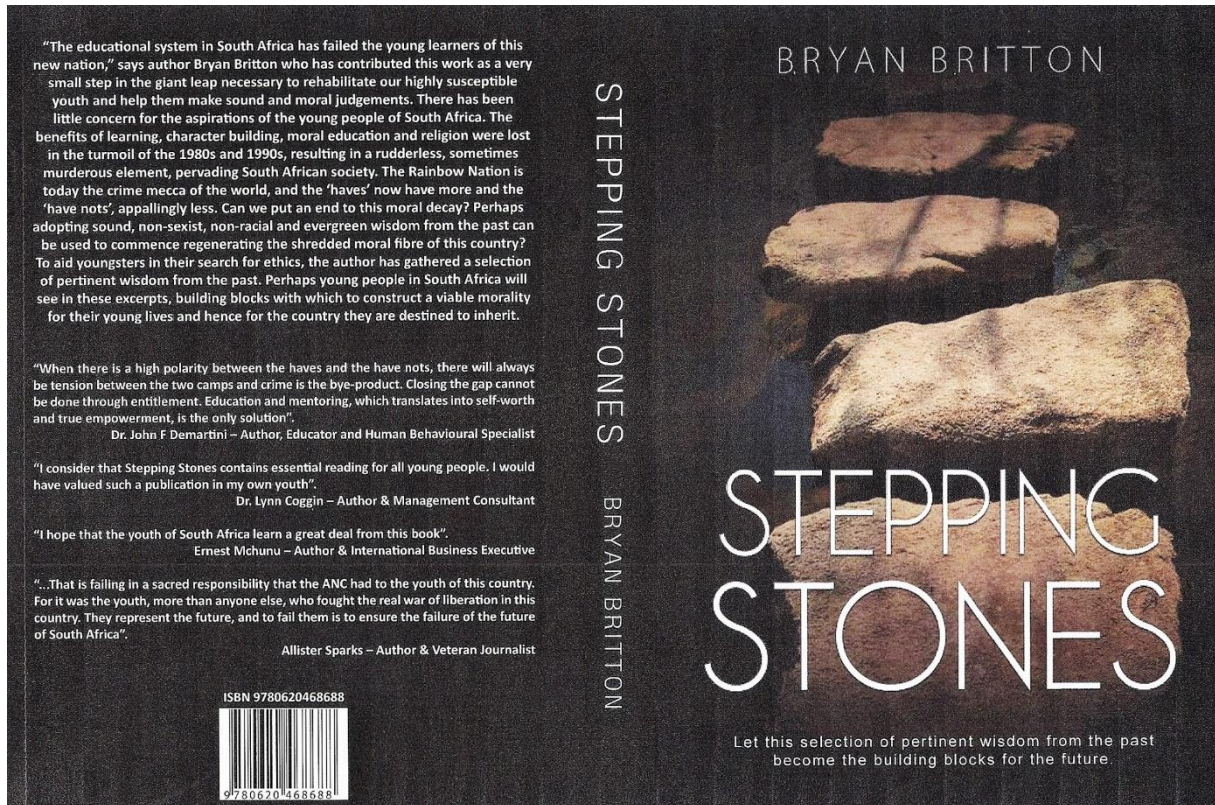
The Communist dogma in the ANC Bill of Rights, so revered, is outdated and not workable in modern society and presents no solution to the level of disparity in South Africa. Nelson Mandela would be appalled at the current South African democracy.

The African National Congress and the desperate citizens of this tormented country require an honest Messiah.

SINKING OF A NATION

STEPPING STONES

Published on June 12, 2010



The issue of morality in schools: I guess that refers to moral education in the classroom, in the system, or even in the home. When that issue does come up: in debates, in conferences or in books, the intent is somewhat nebulous. Most writers and speakers seem rather vague about the intended application of their offering: Are they providing structured guidance that can be used by educators in the classroom to awaken a moral sensitivity in the youth; or, are they just lamenting what is missing? Then I come across a book titled, Stepping Stones, by Bryan Britton. Published in 2010 and available from Xlibris, Loot, Amazon, Google, Kindle, Barnes & Noble and eBay.

This 'anthology of moral wisdom' is a well categorized collection of ethical common sense. And that's what I like about it. This book is not offering a trite technique to transcend temptation – there are enough self-help soft covers out there. This book is not a whiney whinge of what is not working; it is not a critical cacophony of complaints – there is enough senseless sensationalism out there. This book is not entirely neutral either; it is neither unbiased nor reserved – the author has his say.

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And that is what I like about the book.

It is a record of ancient, classical and contemporary moral quotes and anecdotes – a reminder of the lessons never learned. As the author states, “The benefits of learning, character building, moral education and religion were lost in the turmoil of the 1980s and 1990s, resulting in a rudderless, sometimes murderous element, pervading South African society.” Stepping Stones serves as a reminder – it serves as a silver lining. It tells us what we can and could – and it refrains from preachy prattle about what we shall and should.

That is why I enjoyed reading the book.

The structure and content of Stepping Stones • Ancient lessons: Includes the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes and the Deadly Sins. • Classic lessons: Includes Buddha, Isaac Newton and Mahatma Gandhi. • Modern lessons: Includes Martin Luther King, Eckhart Tolle and John Demartini. • Youth topics: Includes success, happiness and education. • South African topics: Includes Nelson Mandela, evil managers and the youth.

Bryan Britton, was educated in South Africa, at Christian Brothers College and the University of the Witwatersrand, and has spent 40 years in the field of financial management. During this time, he was involved in a wide variety of industries, ranging from beverages, security, banking, design, advertising, venture capital, healthcare, auditing, stock-broking and software. Having suffered a stroke in 2005, he retired from active business and dedicated himself to writing on topics of youth, motivation and education.

The author has pledged 75% of the proceeds from the book to I Care. This non-profit organization is devoted to finding meaningful and sustainable solutions to the challenge of street children in South Africa. The over-riding motive is to change street kids from being dependent on society, into productive members of that society. I Care

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raises and channels funds into awareness, outreach, rehabilitation, housing/shelter and education.

I strongly urge teachers, learners and students (even the parents) to purchase a copy of Stepping Stones. The money goes for a good cause – and the content conveys a message we are all sorely lacking.

Janos Bozsik – Editor Education Southern Africa Magazine May 2011 Issue

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UMHLANGA ROCKS

Published on LinkedIn on April 12, 2015



Bryan Britton, author of the books 'Last Gasp', 'Stepping Stones, and 'A Bridge Too Far' has released a new work of fiction titled 'Umhlanga Rocks: sunny place for shady people' You can download a free copy at the following link:

<https://www.free-ebooks.net/ebook/Umhlanga-Rocks>

Jacques Perot is an ex-executive turned beach bum living in the bohemian sub-tropical paradise known as Umhlanga Rocks. He finds new zest for life in meeting the lovely Linda, a newcomer to the village. By chance he uncovers a plot that can disturb the frivolity and fun of this unique place on the eastern shores of South Africa. Together with Captain de Villiers he unravels a plot that seems to lead to the Premiers of both South Africa and China. As the clock ticks down to the May 7, 2014 elections in South Africa, the two intrepid investigators with the help of the free press, attempt to bring the magnitude of the kleptocracy and neo-colonialism being perpetrated to attention of the South African voters.

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LAST GASP

Published on LinkedIn on December 25, 2015



Bryan Britton, author of the books 'Stepping Stones', 'A Bridge Too Far' and 'Umhlanga Rocks' has just released another novel called 'Last Gasp'.

The jury is out. The judgement is awaited. The tension is palpable. The journalists wait, pens poised, to see whether African Kleptocracy or Western Democracy will prevail. The importance of the judgement is that it will determine the future of South Africa and its citizens.

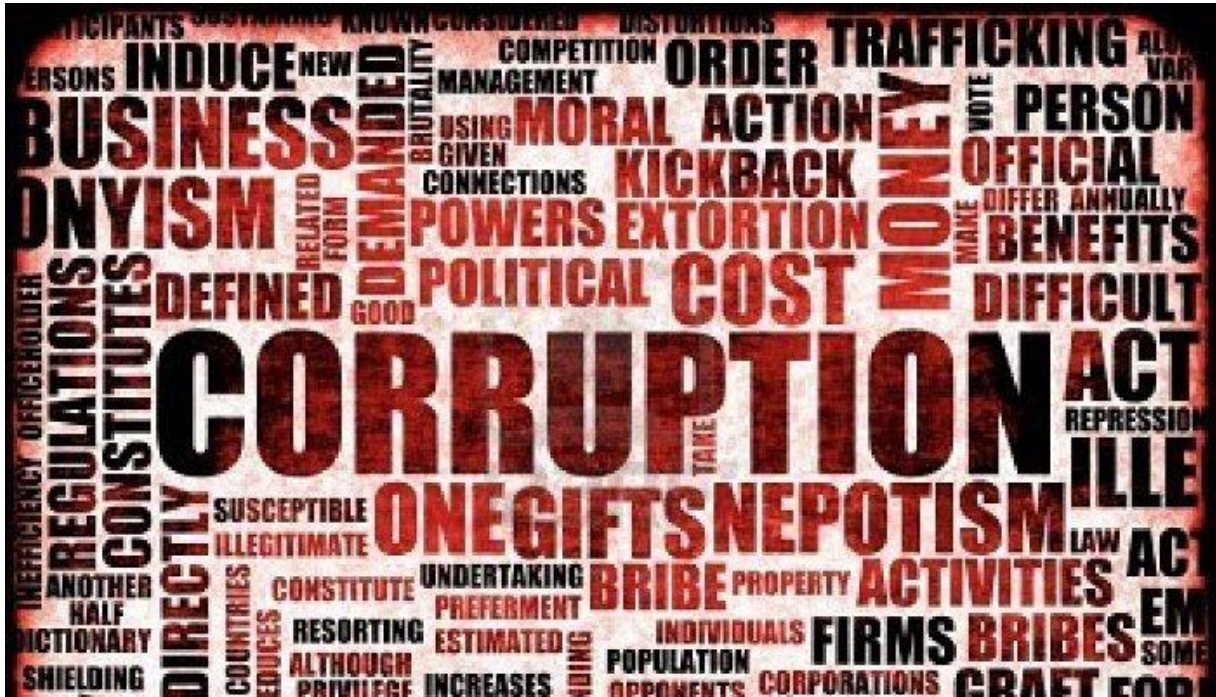
Over-dramatization? I think not. But while we wait what do the pundits say as the country teeters precariously on the edge of a fiscal cliff that may set it back twenty years.....or worse.

Get a free copy: <https://www.free-ebooks.net/ebook/Last-Gasp>

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KLEPTOCRACY IN SOUTH AFRICA

Published on LinkedIn on February 23, 2016



'Today it is regarded as one of the most corrupt countries in the world. In the past number of years, the leaders of this country have stolen more than two and a half trillion rand. The average citizen, on the other hand, today only receives about R100 in income per week.

Recently, administration has been making concerted efforts to tackle corruption. Ministers have been dismissed and the government is committed to change. The money is being ring-fenced to tackle poverty and this spending is very closely monitored. The government has committed that the money should go to the very poorest. The country, with the most dangerous slums in Africa, is seen as having the greatest natural resources on the continent. It is also the one with the highest potential for development.

One can be excused for thinking that we are talking here about South Africa.

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The country in question is, of course, Nigeria. South Africa has yet to go through the quagmire that is Nigeria's recent history; a history of untold shame, sorrow and suffering – all at the hands of the kleptocrats.

Kleptocracy derives from the Greek words kleptes, meaning 'thief', and kratos, meaning 'rule'. It is a word used to describe a government widely engaged in corruption to extend the personal wealth and political power of individuals in the ruling class.

A corrupt and dishonest government, characterised by greed, is described as kleptocratic. Such a government is typically run by rulers who are thieves and who pillage public funds to the detriment of the poor, sometimes without the pretence of offering any form of honest public service. These kleptocrats then exploit a country's natural resources for their own greedy benefit.

The money on which these evil managers of men prey is almost always funds earmarked for the building of public amenities, schools, hospitals, roads, parks and public facilities. Thus, the ordinary citizen is prejudiced, inconvenienced and deprived by these selfish kleptocrats.

The term 'kleptocrat' was first used in the 1960s to describe the activities of the ruler of the independent Congo, Colonel Joseph Mobutu, who plundered the rich natural resources of that country for his personal benefit. However, the term could equally have applied to his colonial predecessor, King Leopold II of Belgium. It is said that the megacity of Brussels, a European Union bastion, was built with the kleptocratic proceeds of the resources of the Congo Basin.

The story of Africa is one of the Europeans plundering the natural resources of the continent and then, when caught with their hands in the cookie jar, hastily effecting a democratic handover to the most likely African kleptocrat.

This book has urged you young South Africans to develop your own sense of right and wrong, your own morality, your own ethics and your own zone of indifference. This is in the absence of a reliable schooling and education system. It is a ploy of all kleptocrats known to man, to restrain the emerging youth from education, thus guaranteeing for themselves a stratum of humanity upon which to prey. Be warned.

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Be alert. Be careful. Be your own person and be democratic. It has taken Nigeria 40 years to learn this painful lesson.

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EVIL MANAGERS

Published on LinkedIn on March 1, 2016



This article is an extract from Bryan Britton's 2010 book – 'Stepping Stones'
<https://www.free-ebooks.net/ebook/Stepping-Stones>

I have pointed to the evil managers of men in several chapters in this book. These evil individuals are not always visible. They employ foot soldiers who carry out their work. You sometimes only find out about them from the results of their handiwork. They are often confused with a 'third force'. They create a mystery over their motivations. They live all over the world.

A recent tragedy, however, exposed the evil managers in a laboratory environment. By this I mean that the political motivations that we normally assume to be at play were in this instance, entirely absent. The tragedy, which occurred in Asia, was caused by a monsoon hurricane. The inhabitants of the area were mainly poor subsistence farmers, trying to eke out a living under extremely difficult circumstances. These poor farmers and their families were driven from their land by destructive winds, swiftly rising waters and rodents. The diseased rodents were also fleeing the floods. Housed in temporary camps, at least dry and warm, these poor villagers huddled around temporary fires recounting the tragic events, counting lives lost and pondering

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their hopeless future. At least for the moment they had food to sustain them. The food, courtesy of relief agencies, was sufficient to keep them alive for a couple of weeks, while they sought rehabilitation.

After two days the food ran out. Caring and embarrassed, the food agencies again arranged for food supplies to be flown in. To ensure proportionate distribution this time, they arranged vouchers to be distributed so that each family would be assured of their share. But after two days the food ran out once more. From this poor, tragedy-stricken community, the food donors had appointed a few individuals to distribute the food. These individuals had seen in the plight of their own community, an opportunity to uplift themselves. They had stolen the food. And they had stolen the vouchers.

The evil managers of men are not always third forces or agents of political beliefs or political chiefs. The evil managers of men reside in each one of us. It is our choice whether we hear the evil managers' voices that broadcast endless propaganda in our heads. It is our choice, every one of us; Black, White, Coloured, Asian, man, woman, Catholic, Muslim, Protestant, Hindu or Jew, whether we obey those broadcasts, or whether we silence those broadcasts with prayer, with thoughts of 'good' instead. Whether we silence those broadcasts with deeds and actions founded in compassion, mercy, love, understanding, forgiveness and a caring for our fellow man, and whether we become, instead, agents for 'good'. It is up to you, young man. It is up to you, young woman. God bless you in your quest.

"There is no fire like passion, there is no shark like hatred, there is no snare like folly, there is no torrent like greed."

— *Gautama Buddha*

SINKING OF A NATION

ALEX NOBLE

Published on LinkedIn on June 12, 2016



"If I have been of service, if I have glimpsed more of the nature and essence of ultimate good, if I am inspired to reach wider horizons of thought and action, if I am at peace with myself, it has been a successful day".

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MESSAGE TO THE YOUTH OF SOUTH AFRICA

Published on LinkedIn on March 19, 2016



The report card, since Mr Mandela's inauguration 16 years ago, is abysmal. Despite favourable worldwide economic conditions throughout this period and vastly improved collections by the Fiscus (through more of the country's emerging economically active population contributing) progress on the above key issues has at best been pedestrian, and at worst extremely regressive.

Our Parliament has been responsible for a litany of corrupt, self-serving and dubious decisions including the Travel Scandal, the HIV/Aids Debacle, the Arms Deal cover up, cover up of the Police Commissioner's shady dealings, silent support of a neighbouring tyrant, with the blood of his opponents still on his hands, turning of a blind eye on the illegal immigration problem and the soaring incidence of crime, which takes its lead from Parliament and infiltrates South African society, not only as an evil, but also as an arrogant entitlement.

All the while, the silent voters of South Africa have patiently and respectfully continued

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to wait for the better life that they were promised 16 long years ago. The audit trail also reveals crime, fraud and corruption amongst the new officers in national and provincial spheres of government and serious insolvency and bankruptcy in local government spheres. The legal system, as a result, is creaking under the strain of trying to maintain justice. A Constitutional Court aspirant is currently under suspicion of favouring a political contender and of accepting pecuniary inducement to favour a commercial enterprise. The jury is still out on this one but the last bastion of democracy, fair play and 'good' is about to be subverted. Watch this space.

In this regard, the moral stalwarts of the struggle, Madiba and Tutu, must be cringing at the behaviour of some of their fellow countrymen. The newly appointed group of leaders are not listening to their moral mentors, and should be setting the moral example for the youth of South Africa.

These are the challenges that you young Democrats, of whatever colour and persuasion, face in the not so new South Africa. Your challenge is not only to become productive taxpayers, but also to ensure that state funds are honestly allocated and used for upliftment of the poor, support of the infirm and aged, creation of self-sufficiency in the country, creation of a stable business environment, honest administration and so on. In pursuit of these moral objectives the perpetrators of elitism, sloth, greed and the rest of that ugly family of vices, should be rooted out, and voted out.

Icons of the struggle on the African continent against colonialism, racism, white domination and cultural oppression are to be admired and revered – and then committed to history. Their victories have been celebrated. The freedom that some died for has been attained. Now the surviving heroes must graciously bow out and hand over the spoils of war to the communities that they served.

They did not suffer for their own glorification and edification.

The history of Africa shows that when the oppressor leaves, he is replaced by an even greater oppressor. In South Africa, colonialism was replaced by apartheid, which has

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been replaced by African nationalism. Sadly, African nationalism does not mean devolution of power to the lowest common denominator, you the voting South African citizen. African nationalism has shown itself in other African countries to be the worst of the previous white regimes, merely dressed in an elite black face. Our closest neighbour boasts a narrow, super-rich, black class that, whilst blaming former white regimes, has plundered the coffers of the country to leave the once rich and fertile country of Zimbabwe starving, bankrupt and bereft of hope. Before our all partying, all singing, all dancing former struggle heroes, now elite black rulers, bask too long in the sun with their snouts in the trough, you ordinary voting citizens of South Africa should point north and remind them of Africa's shameful record of black on black oppression. Remind them, instead of swapping war stories at the country club over claret and grilled partridge wings, to enjoin the new struggle against African elitism, against illiteracy, disease, ignorance, starvation, corruption and the moral decline amongst the youth of this country.

If they do not, the next oppressor may well be from Beijing.

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KING SOLOMON: FALLING PREY TO EXCESS

Published on Thought Leaders and LinkedIn on April 5, 2016

"Some of the best lessons we ever learn are learned from past mistakes. The error of the past is the wisdom and success of the future." – Dale Turner



This can be applied to all walks of life, but as author Bryan Britton argues below, now is as good a time as any. He argues in the extract from his book 'Stepping Stones' that with the constitutional and parliamentary crisis faced by South Africa, it's time for a bit of wisdom from the past. Britton looks at King Solomon's rule of law and how despite all its success his demise can be attributed to falling prey to excess. Parliamentarians be reminded. – Stuart Lowman

Extracted from Bryan Britton's 2010 book 'Stepping Stones'

Every now and then, when ministers are challenged in Parliament, we hear them say: "Don't tell me what I have done wrong, tell me what I should have done". This is not

SINKING OF A NATION

a humble request for assistance but an arrogant challenge to the detractor not to criticise, but to contribute.

To that end here is an initial contribution:

King Solomon, son of King David, ruled Israel between 970 BC and 930 BC, and demonstrated leadership skills which today's leaders seldom display. In his day, he ruled with wisdom greater than the Eastern Mystics and was more just than the Egyptian scholars. Devoid of bias to any religion or ethnic group, Solomon's blueprint on how to establish and rule a kingdom still has relevance today.

1. Align yourself with God: When we learn to glorify God and seek his guidance, we receive the wisdom to lead. When we pursue our egos, we tamper with ignorance and turmoil. Solomon sought not glory, riches, conquests, lovers, longevity, fame nor compensation. He asked humbly for wisdom and knowledge. This is the first requisite for leaders to build and rule a kingdom.
2. Focus on your primary mission: Build the state on righteousness. Protect and respect your primary religious, judicial and parliamentary institutions. Concentrate on your primary mission. For example, in South Africa, service delivery would demand your immediate attention, not building an army or a navy.
3. Gather your internal resources and form trade: Decide on the key resources required to complete your primary mission. For those resources not available internally, arrange with neighbours to trade to acquire these.
4. Consolidate leadership within your kingdom: Ensure that the leadership is aiming to climb the same hill. If they each climb different hills your leadership will be diluted, scattered and ineffective. If you are not able to consolidate some leaders, then will become leaders of their own hills and your kingdom will be divided.
5. Form strategic alliances: Conclude alliances with leaders of other kingdoms for the benefit of both parties. Solomon's alliances with Sheba, Arabia and Ethiopia ensured peace and prosperity for his own kingdom.
6. Safeguard your valuable assets: Solomon spent considerable time and effort safeguarding the Ark of the Covenant with God and the tablets bearing the Ten Commandments. These were physical manifestations of the people's belief in God and the code of ethics they had agreed to live by. South Africa's Constitution, Bill of Rights, Environment, Judiciary, Electricity and Water supply would be modern examples. And by no means least, your most valuable asset – your people.
7. Rule wisely: Solomon was revered for his fair play and justice. He thought it important to build a kingdom through integrity, honesty and goodwill. The greed

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graft, corruption and slothfulness that abounds in South Africa is far removed from Solomon's kingdom.

8. Celebrate success: But not too much. It is important to pause and celebrate collective accomplishment and rejoice in goals met. It is not wise to rule by a succession of raucous and meaningless parties.
9. Avoid extravagance: Extravagance creates a genre of self-indulgence which invariably excludes those who "patiently wait for the crumbs to fall from the rich man's table". This sort of behaviour creates dissension in kingdoms and indeed Solomon ultimately succumbed to its dreadful consequences.
10. Keep agreements: Solomon was meticulous about keeping the promises that he had made to God and to his people. It was a cornerstone of his kingdom. Solomon prospered by keeping his word. And his people prospered along with him.

Solomon's eventual demise can be attributed to falling prey to excess.

After many years of just, progressive and fruitful rule he broke his own rules. The result was a fall from grace and he ended his days in confusion, turmoil and revolt.

In Ecclesiastes 5:4 Solomon reflects on his folly and advises: "When we make a vow to God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfil your vow".

Parliamentarians, be reminded.

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RANT REVISITED

Published on LinkedIn on October 5, 2016



My first rant, published in 2010 in the book 'Stepping Stones', has largely gone unheeded and many of the problems enunciated then are worse six years later.

As a country we continue to follow an economic model and government strategy that collapsed in Berlin a while back. Foreign Direct Investment, upon which our economy is critically dependent, is drying up.

The South African voting public is today in a worse financial position than it was then and the country is poorer by billions lost through incompetence, corrupt activities and mismanagement. Our standing in the world community has been denigrated but the Government is still proceeding on a nuclear energy path which will seriously burden future generations.

Foreign nationals have compromised our politicians and usurped government functions and authority taking with them offshore the proceeds of their ill-gotten gains.

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Our population has grown to fifty-four million, our economic growth is zero and our national debt has spiralled. Our currency has weakened against the Dollar, the Euro, the Pound and almost all other currencies. Our State-Owned Entities are a hotbed of patrimony, inefficiency and corruption and our leaders are self-serving, clueless and without direction - one even holds office despite having a hole in her head.

We have the most bloated Public Administration in the world. Wrong-doers are put on suspension on full salary and sometimes sit contentedly at home for years. Employees, disgraced and discredited in legal proceedings, simply return to work or are put on special (presumably paid) leave.

When called to account to Parliament for misdemeanours they merely hand in a doctor's sick note.

The Chinese and British Press mock our President and Ministers in world-wide television interviews, our Cabinet is divided and paralysed, the Judiciary and Media are besieged and the Parliament is a war zone. The Treasury is under attack from kleptocrats, our national airline is bankrupt, our trains don't fit on the tracks, our planes don't fly, our boats don't sail and our mineral resources are depleted. Our productivity is laughable, the lights don't always work, our RDP houses don't have cement, the rural poor are yet to get anything more than the occasional food parcel at voting time, we have the most number of vacations in a year and every dog and his aunt gets a bonus, an increase and a blue light brigade.

The National Prosecuting Authority, certainly acting with fear and favour, has an embarrassing prosecution rate in the twenty percentile and is manned by sycophants, liars and criminals. The Hawks and Police are run by gangsters and

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thieves. Sars employees now bank tax collections directly into their own personal accounts. Probably claim back the bank charges too.

Our President lives in a palace funded by taxpayers. He diligently avoids his inevitable day in court on seven hundred plus charges through hopeless legal appeals. He has breached the Constitution and his oath of office and is treated with disdain in Parliament. To-date he has cost taxpayers tens of millions in fruitless litigation - yet he is still there.

The government success rate in the courts, in defending a raft of other cases, is under thirty percent.

Fifty percent of our youth are unemployed; near thirty percent of the workforce can't find jobs and we run a bloated welfare system accounting for about a third of our population. Our soccer, rugby and cricket teams are a joke and the one true hope of re-vitalisation – a vibrant education sector – is in turmoil. Our teachers' union racks up the highest number of days on strike of all unions. Our economy stands on the brink of junk status and the rural poor are now poorer despite religiously voting the ANC to power over the past twenty-two years.

All this mayhem is funded by a small percentage of honourable personal and business taxpayers who are presently threatening a tax revolt.

At what point do ordinary South African citizens draw a line in the sand and demand their dignity and their country back?

Looking back to 2010.....

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Icons of the struggle on the African continent against colonialism, racism, white domination and cultural oppression are to be admired and revered – and then committed to history. Their victories have been celebrated. The freedom that some died for has been attained. Now the surviving heroes must graciously bow out and hand over the spoils of war to the communities that they served. They did not suffer for their own glorification and edification. They fought so that their sons and daughters could grow up in a non-racial, democratic environment which would ensure a new and economically viable South Africa within Africa and the world.

The history of Africa shows that when the oppressor leaves, he is replaced by an even greater oppressor. In South Africa, colonialism was replaced by apartheid, which has been replaced by African nationalism. Sadly, African nationalism does not mean devolution of power to the lowest common denominator, you the voting South African citizen. African nationalism has shown itself in other African countries to be the worst of the previous white regimes, merely dressed in an elite black face. Our closest

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neighbour boasts a narrow, super-rich, black class that, whilst blaming former white regimes, has plundered the coffers of the country to leave the once rich and fertile country of Zimbabwe starving, bankrupt and bereft of hope.

Before our all partying, all singing, all dancing former struggle heroes, now elite black rulers, bask too long in the sun with their snouts in the trough, you ordinary voting citizens of South Africa should point north and remind them of Africa's shameful record of black on black oppression.

Remind them to, instead of swapping war stories at the country club over claret and grilled partridge wings, enjoin the new struggle against African elitism, against illiteracy, disease, ignorance, starvation, corruption and the moral decline amongst the youth of this country.

If they do not, the next oppressor may well be from Beijing.

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JOHAN RUPERT LECTURES ANC ON ECONOMICS

101

Published on LinkedIn on November 19, 2016



The chairman of Swiss-based luxury-goods company Richemont and South Africa based company Remgro accepted the Sunday Times Top 100 Companies Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his contribution to the country's economy. In his thank you address he took time to lecture ANC Dignatories present on the tenets of Economics 101

'We have created wealth. By the way Mr President, for all of you civil servants here – even Minister Gordhan – says, 'we've got to be caring. Don't make too much money'. I've got news for you. The PIC owns two-and-a-half times the number of shares in both Richemont and in Remgro that our family owns. Now remember that's your pension fund, you may wish to reconsider the 'caring' bit.

Our job is to create wealth and to pay people properly, which we've done all our lives. Creating wealth and creating jobs, creates further jobs. We pay tax. We brought back

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tens of billions of Rand in foreign exchange and every year our family companies bring back more dividends than the rest of the Stock Exchange together. So you do not expect these 'narratives', especially not from the Presidency and his close friends.

So the real question is, 'why?' That question you will all have to think about for yourselves. What is being hidden? Why attack the people instead of debating the issues?'

I have thought about it sir. The South African ANC Government is currently negotiating a one trillion Rand nuclear deal with Russia behind closed doors. Could this be the 'why' that you seek and know the answer to. The photograph on the left is of an abandoned Russian nuclear site in Cuba.

Perhaps this is South Africa's destiny too?

Our issues are unemployment and a terrible education system. It is a disaster. Unless we fix that, we have no hope.

Yes, Minister Gordhan, I started in 1979 a small business development corporation and we've created 700,000 jobs. This was done for black people living in cities who did not have the ways and means to build up capital. So I've been in small businesses.

We've done it since 1979. Been there done that and we'll help again. But we really need to define the roles between business and the government and the state because governments cannot create jobs. The state cannot, otherwise there'd be no unemployment anywhere in the world.

It's the private sector that has got to create the jobs and all we need is certainty, rule of law and transparency.

When there are tenders, they must be public tenders. They must be transparent.

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WHO IS RUNNING SOUTH AFRICA?

Published on December 25, 2016



Civil Society and the Judiciary seem to be the last bulwarks against rampant kleptocracy in South Africa. Almost every Executive action or order has to be scrutinized to ensure that the best interest of our country, South Africa, is being served. The President of South Africa has been reproached by the highest court in the land in the most scathing and derogatory manner and yet he stills governs with impunity. In a country of fifty-four million people he persists in running South Africa as if it is his and his crony's personal fiefdom.

The Constitutional Court had this to say about our kleptocratic President. Impeachment, a fall on the sword or treason charges would, in any sane society, surely follow.

'There is no doubt that the judgment delivered major body blows to Zuma and the ANC in Parliament and sent shockwaves through the political stratosphere. Mogoeng could have been more delicate and nuanced, but he is the chief guardian of the

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Constitution. In an era of madness and confusion, he decided to swing the sharp and mighty sword of constitutionalism, accountability and the rule of law.

He wanted to chop the ugly head of impunity off its stiffened neck. And he did.

Mogoeng described what the President of our Republic ought to be and then spelt out how Zuma failed in his responsibilities.

“The President is the Head of State and Head of the National Executive. His is indeed the highest calling to the highest office in the land. He is the first citizen of this country and occupies a position indispensable for the effective governance of our democratic country. He is a constitutional being by design, a national pathfinder, the quintessential commander-in-chief of State affairs and the personification of this nation’s constitutional project.”

But Jacob Zuma is not that president.

“The President thus failed to uphold, defend and respect the Constitution as the supreme law of the land. This failure is manifest from the substantial disregard for the remedial action taken against him by the Public Protector in terms of her constitutional powers.” He might have been following wrong legal advice, Mogoeng said, but that does not “detract from the illegality of his conduct”.

Go figure out how the hell after that dressing down he is still in power to interfere with legislation that will curb money terrorism, money laundering, corruption, tax evasion, shifting the proceeds of ill-gotten gains offshore and selling the country to kleptocratic cohorts.

Are we a nation of fifty-four million cowards?

Fica referral sets the country back, says Registrar of Banks

Carol Paton 24 December 2016

Kuben Naidoo criticises President Jacob Zuma’s decision to send the bill, which will result in enhanced scrutiny of politicians and their family members, back to Parliament.

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Foreign banks could cancel their correspondent relationships with SA banks after President Jacob Zuma sent the Financial Intelligence Centre Amendment (FICA) Bill back to Parliament, says the Registrar of Banks Kuben Naidoo.

Naidoo and Reserve Bank governor Lesetja Kganyago on Thursday filed affidavits in the High Court in Pretoria in response to the application by Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan for a declaratory order confirming that he does not have the authority to intervene in relationships between banks and their clients.

The FICA bill will result in enhanced scrutiny of all politicians and their family members — described as politically influential people — when they transact through the banking system. It is part of SA's international commitments to the multilateral Financial Action Task Force that the legislation be updated. The amendment was passed by Parliament in May.

Zuma was lobbied by the Progressive Professionals Forum, headed by Mzwanele Manyi, not to sign the Bill, on grounds that it was unconstitutional. He eventually sent the Bill back to Parliament on November 28 after sitting on it for more than six months.

In his affidavit, Naidoo says that the "referral sets the country back in fulfilling its international obligations to the Financial Action Task Force ... SA's failure to bring the FIC Amendment Bill into operation will likely result in a negative statement from the FATF that our country's framework for addressing money laundering and combating financing of terrorism does not meet international standards.

"The statement will require other FATF member countries to re-evaluate the risk of dealing with SA financial institutions given their non-adherence to international standards," he said.

The FATF is due to review SA's progress in February.

Naidoo also implied that Zuma's reasons for sending the bill back to Parliament were questionable as the amendment bill placed stricter limitations on warrantless searches than did the original Act passed in 2001. "Ironically, the current version of Fica provides that all inspections under section 45B of the Act will take place without a warrant. The Bill, by contrast, introduces the requirement that searches must be

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undertaken with a warrant and only in exceptional circumstances, will warrantless searches be permitted," reads the affidavit.

Kganyago's affidavit provides details of repeated requests from Oakbay CE Nazeem Howa for intervention by the Reserve Bank to reverse the decision of the banks to close its accounts.

"Howa asked for my help 'to end the deadly stranglehold' that the banks had placed on Oakbay business. He implied that because the Reserve Bank has the ultimate responsibility to regulation the financial sector, it should intervene with the banks."

But, continues the affidavit: "Mr Howa is wrong. The Reserve Banks regulation of the financial sector does not extend to relationships between the banks and their clients."

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE SATISFIED DA seeks Zuma documents on Fica bill referral

Linda Ensor 12 December 2016

The DA has made a Promotion of Access to Information Act (Paia) application to the Presidency, asking for documents underpinning President Jacob Zuma's decision to refer the Financial Intelligence Centre Amendment (Fica) Bill back to Parliament.

These would include all the legal opinions and other documents on which Zuma relied.

DA finance spokesman David Maynier lodged the application last week and its receipt by the Presidency has been confirmed. He said the documents would allow him to "properly understand the process that led to the suspicious delay" by Zuma in dealing with the bill, which was passed by Parliament in May.

It was only on November 28 that Zuma referred the bill back to Parliament despite repeated pleas for him to tackle it so that SA could comply with the international requirements of the Financial Action Task Force that was set up to combat money laundering and terrorism financing.

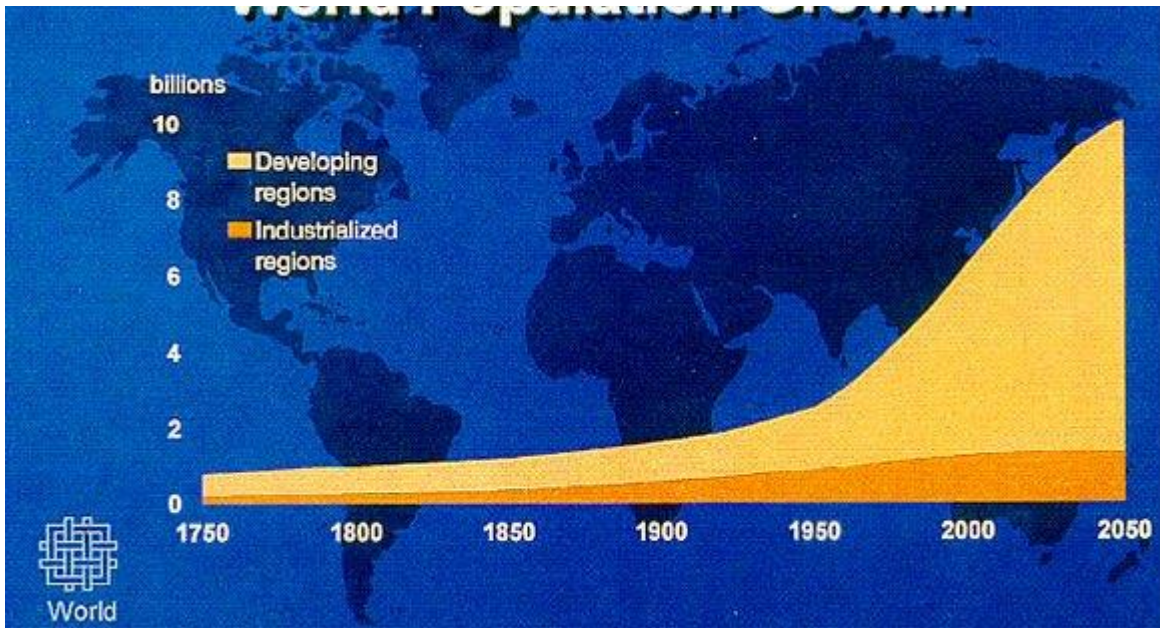
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We are out of step with the democratic world. We were re-admitted into the international fold a short twenty-two years ago. Since then we have mortgaged our South African identity and future to unpatriotic kleptocrats through the greed and stupidity of a former goat herder.

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POPULATION EXPLOSION 1910 TO 2016

Published on LinkedIn on December 7, 2017



By 1800 World Population had reached one billion people for the first time. This had increased to 2,3 billion by 1950. The statistic exploded to 7,0 billion by 2011 and projections for 2050 anticipate an increase to 9,3 billion people. Further projections of World Population to the year 2100 are in some cases as high as 15.8 billion.

We have seen one billion people in the first eighteen hundred years since the birth of Christ and we expect an additional fourteen billion eight hundred million people in the three hundred years that follow. It is a horrifying and exponential progression and one which is both appalling and catastrophic. It is sad testimony to man's innate fallibility and absolute stupidity. While projections for the more developed nations are relatively flat, 97% of this anticipated increase will be experienced in less developed nations.

Most disturbingly 49% of that increment will be experienced in Africa.

South Africa's contribution to the exponential growth on the African continent is equally appalling. While Whites, Coloureds and Asians grew from 1 922 000 individuals

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in 1910 to 10 798 984 in 2016, an increase of 5,6x, Blacks numbers increased in the same period from 3 956 000 to 45 109 881 people, an increase of 11,4x.

Blacks represented 67% of South Africa's population in 1910, whilst in 2016 they had grown to represented 81% of the population. The other race groups had declined from 33% in 1910 to 19% in 2016.

Continuation of this historic population growth trend is unsustainable given South Africa's current unresolved challenges:

- Level of Poverty
- High Unemployment
- Large Social Grant Burden
- Low Matric Pass Rate
- Low Conversion to Employment Rate
- Public Sector usurping the role of the Private Sector
- High Debt to GDP ratio
- Junk Borrowing Status
- Migrating Taxpayers
- Low Foreign Direct Investment
- Pursuit of Failed Marxist Ideologies

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- State Captured Institutions
- Poor calibre of Political Appointees
- Unsustainable employment by SOEs
- Uneconomic SOEs
- Low Economic Growth Potential
- Level of Corruption

There is no doubt that European Colonization and Apartheid impacted the lives of Black South Africans between 1910 and 2016.

Where shall we lay blame for the Black population explosion in that same period?

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THE TRIBAL FOOFIE SLIDE

Published on LinkedIn on September 10, 2017



Our tribe lived on the right-hand bank of a mighty river. The bank sloped steeply down to the raging torrent below. My ancestors had lived for many centuries on this right-hand bank and our history was littered with stories of brave members who had perished trying to descend from our safe plateau to the river below and then ascend the far bank to paradise. Fresh grazing, wild fruit and an abundance of mature trees beckoned from the left-hand bank.

One day a strange, new tribe appeared from nowhere on the lush bank across the ravine.

Within days they had erected a contraption from the high trees on their bank. The contraption then shot an object trailing a strong rope over the steep ravine and onto our bank. They shouted for us to secure the rope to trees on our side of the ravine.

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We were amazed as members of their tribe started clambering across the ravine using their hands and feet to creep, hanging upside down, along the rope. The rope swung from side to side and our people screamed in fear of the strangers tumbling to their death in the torrent below. But somehow, to everyone's relief, our new neighbours all made it across and were soon greeting and shaking hands with our tribe.

Pretty soon the strangers had erected a platform in one of our highest trees and had secured the end of the rope to the trunk. Then they asked for a volunteer from our tribe to crawl along the rope to the far side. Tsolo, our bravest and strongest member naturally volunteered and soon he was waving and shouting from his new pregnant surroundings on the far bank. Everyone was anxious to join him. But the strangers demanded a forfeit from each of those wishing to cross. Some gave treasures from their ancestors, others gave clothing that they had made and yet others promised to be labourers on the far bank.

Not all our tribe were able to make it to the far side. Some grew weak in the crossing and plummeted into the ravine. Others could not produce the required forfeit and yet others were happy to see out their declining years on the impoverished right-hand bank.

The members of our tribe that succeeded in the crossing lived out their days prosperously on the bounteous left bank. But, sadly most of our tribe were still on the right-bank and seemed destined to live out their days in poverty there.

Then one day I witnessed a miracle.

Men dressed in hard hats and blue overalls arrived on our side of the ravine. They had strange machines that made loud noises and blew smoke out of huts built on top of them. Within three full moons they had placed long hard pipes across the ravine and shortly afterwards carts, people, animals and the remains of our decimated tribe were able to walk over the bridge, as they called it, to the fertile left bank which had remained out of reach for so long.

I got up the courage to talk to one of the hard hats as I crossed the bridge. I asked innocently 'How did you do this'.

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Sitting in my new, lush surroundings, I attempted to understand his answer. He had said: 'Primary Education, Secondary Education, Tertiary Education, Foreign Direct Investment, Private Sector Confidence and Good Governance.'

I hope that before I go to meet the ancestors, I learn the meaning of the hard hat's words.

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FROM GLOBAL DARLING TO LEADERLESS

KAIZER M NYATSUMBA

Nyatsumba is CEO of the Steel and Engineering Industries Federation of Southern Africa. He writes in his personal capacity.

DECEMBER 12, 2017

As 2017 draws to a close, SA is mired in controversies and on the brink of a financial precipice. The country finds itself at its worst since the dawn of democracy: the business confidence index is at its lowest since 1985, at the height of the punitive economic sanctions imposed by some in the international community against PW Botha's apartheid government.

We have become weary of political and financial scandals, mostly involving our political mandarins and those closely connected to them in the public sector.

Our head of state is the butt of endless, justifiable jokes and has proved to be a major liability to SA Inc. He is in many ways responsible for the parlous state in which we find ourselves.

Disclosures or allegations of malfeasance and other forms of corruption are made on almost a weekly basis, and these appear merely to disappear into the ether, without any visible consequences for those said to be the perpetrators. In a mere 23 years, we have moved from being the darling of the international community to being described as one of the most corrupt countries in the world today.

Our economy is limping along. Unemployment has reached frightening proportions and continues to grow. While we began 2017 with much hope, in a matter of months, international ratings agencies downgraded us from investment grade to junk status, with worse likely to come before the year is over, thanks to the destructive leadership of President Jacob Zuma and his merry band of myopic and insatiable supporters, who can see no further than their own noses.

This was supposed to be the year in which our economy took a turn for the better after a number of years of merely plodding along. Various forecasts had anticipated GDP growth of about 1.2% in 2017, with higher growth levels expected in 2018 and beyond. With global demand for mining commodities recovering somewhat, SA was supposed to reap the benefits.

At a time when the country is crying out for inspirational leadership that rallies all of us to a common goal, we have the exact opposite: a leadership vacuum characterised

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by noise, with whatever passes for leadership focused exclusively on personal survival and wealth accumulation by any means necessary.

We have a governing party riven with tension and completely internally focused, with much of its energy expended on fighting internal battles. On the rare occasions when it does focus externally, it casts about for imaginary enemies.

Whatever its causes, the sad truth remains that post-1994, SA has never been as divided as it is now. Racial, sometimes ethnic, cleavages are far more pronounced now than at any time in our democratic era.

With our economy performing so dismally owing to the poor economic stewardship we have experienced from our political leaders, fervent and legitimate cries have echoed everywhere for our economy to be radically transformed to include the black majority, whose equity in SA Inc is negligible, only to be countered by the understandable but mistaken refrain that all our efforts should be focused on growing our shrinking economic cake.

There is a clear, mistaken belief among some of our compatriots that real transformation cannot — and should not — take place until the economy grows. While a growing economy should make transformation easier, the reality is that transformation cannot wait until then. There is no reason why we cannot advance transformation even as we seek to grow the economy.

There are primarily two reasons for the widening and more pronounced racial tension in the country.

The first is that, with the exceptions of some individuals within it, the Zuma government has excelled at embracing and celebrating incompetence, mediocrity and outright malfeasance, in the process giving potent ammunition to those who had always had doubts about black leadership.

In other words, the Zuma government did a fantastic job in supporting or affirming the stereotype among recovering racists that black people make terrible leaders and cannot run a sophisticated, modern economy.

Given the terrible manner in which the scandal-prone Zuma has acquitted himself in office, even decent white compatriots who believed SA could be an exception on the African continent have started to doubt their initial optimism.

Yet what SA needs to realise its full potential is for us to leverage the strengths and talents of our compatriots. We need to work together as fellow citizens, with government, business and labour as strategic partners

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Second, our stuttering economy has made competition for opportunities and financial resources that much more acute, in the process sharpening the racial chasm.

After all, while many may not consciously carry along with them the demon of racism, it is when they believe themselves likely to be locked out of opportunities to get jobs or rise professionally in their jobs, or when they believe they will be forced to give up or share their wealth — through the ownership component of the broad-based black economic empowerment policy, for instance — that they retreat to a mental laager and feel impelled to fight back, often covertly given the considerable risks attached to doing so overtly.

Yet what SA needs to realise its full potential is for us to leverage the strengths and talents of our compatriots. We need to work together as fellow citizens, with government, business and labour as strategic partners. We need to establish common goals that are indubitably in the country's best interests and to work together single-mindedly towards their attainment.

As citizens, at election times, we need to ensure that we do not give any one party too much power in terms of the electoral majority it obtains. We need to make sure that we disabuse politicians of the mistaken belief that, once elected, they wield inordinate power. We need to do more than just remind them; we need to make them feel that collectively we, the people, wield all the power and they are merely our servants, whom we can ditch at will or reward with another term in office for good performance.

Like ordinary citizens, business has an important role to play. By all means, it should continue to make its collective voice heard, but it has an even greater responsibility not only to respect and observe the country's laws (including those dealing with transformation and black economic empowerment) but also to team up with the elected government and labour to rebuild our country.

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SOUTH AFRICA MUST FLEE IMF BAILOUT

Published on LinkedIn on December 4, 2017



Churchill once said "Now this is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is perhaps the end of the beginning"

The Elation Fantasy Class Cruise Liner carries 2,634 passengers and crew. It has a tactical diameter, in turning around through 180 degrees, of over a thousand yards. This manoeuvre is time consuming, costly, embarrassing and uncomfortable for the passengers.

How long would it take the South African Economy, with 56,0 million passengers and crew, to turn through 180 degrees. And by how much would the South African Fantasy Cruise Liner lag its competitors once this annoying about face has been completed.

That depends on how long it takes to fire the captain and his first officers. And to get rid of the free-loading passengers without valid tickets. Then to employ competent mariners under a captain that knows something about sailing and management, and importantly is qualified to operate a sophisticated ship of this size. Appointing a competent navigator may take time as this post can be filled from outside the country.

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That navigator needs to set a course directly away from the rugged coast and treacherous rocks reported by the IMF to be dead ahead on the old course. These measures should be regarded as a crisis without letting the ticket-toting passengers get too jittery and demand access to the lifeboats.

South Africa's desperate poverty, unemployment and borrowing crises need urgent attention. The vehicles of development economics, the State-Owned Enterprises, all seven-hundred of them, guaranteed by the State to the extent of R470 Billion and presently manned by tenderpreneurs, foreigners, kleptocrats, favourite nephews and nieces, executives with dubious qualifications and politicians with grimy fingers, need urgent pruning, privatizing and managing. They should be run as profitable businesses with market related Return on Investment targets.

The current government's foolish adherence to Marxist, Cuban and Communist doctrine, proven useless everywhere else on the planet, needs to end. And the act by the government sycophants of leap-frogging education to earn (steal) a quick buck needs to be made punishable by law.

The SACP and some trade unions need to contest elections in stead of stomping around the streets with Rolex watches.

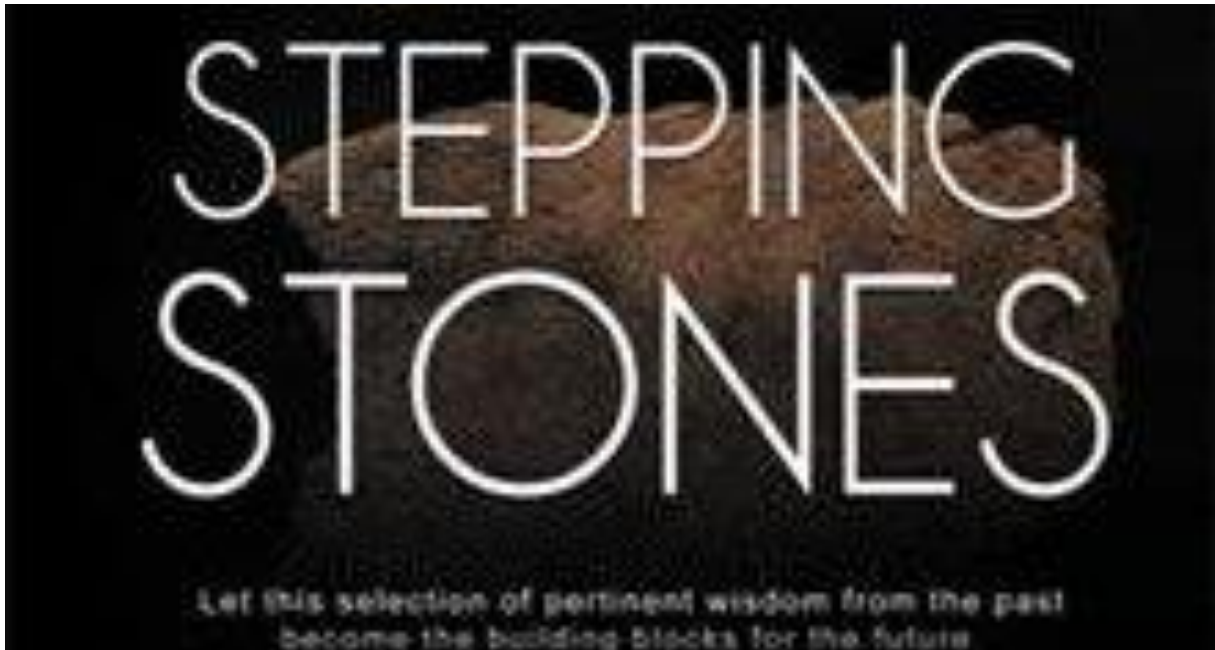
The Auditor-General needs to be given legal teeth to eradicate the occurrence of Local Government theft. Local Government should rather provide the poor with services.

And pilots from Russia, China, India, North Korea and Cuba must not be allowed aboard the South African Fantasy Cruise Liner.

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KLEPTOCRACY REVISITED

Published on LinkedIn on December 12, 2017



In the book 'Stepping Stones, published in 2010, I included a chapter on 'Kleptocracy'. I said at the time:

'Kleptocracy derives from the Greek words kleptos, meaning 'thief', and kratos, meaning 'rule'. It is a word used to describe a government widely engaged in corruption to extend the personal wealth and political power of individuals in the ruling class.

A corrupt and dishonest government, characterised by greed, is described as kleptocratic. Such a government is typically run by rulers who are thieves and who pillage public funds to the detriment of the poor, sometimes without the pretence of offering any form of honest public service. These kleptocrats then exploit a country's natural resources for their own greedy benefit.

The money on which these evil managers of men prey is almost always funds earmarked for the building of public amenities, schools, hospitals, roads, parks and

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public facilities. Thus, the ordinary citizen is prejudiced, inconvenienced and deprived by these selfish kleptocrats.

The term 'kleptocrat' was first used in the 1960s to describe the activities of the ruler of the independent Congo, Colonel Joseph Mobutu, who plundered the rich natural resources of that country for his personal benefit. However, the term could equally have applied to his colonial predecessor, King Leopold II of Belgium. It is said that the megacity of Brussels, a European Union bastion, was built with the kleptocratic proceeds of the resources of the Congo Basin.

The story of Africa is one of the Europeans plundering the natural resources of the continent and then, when caught with their hands in the cookie jar, hastily effecting a democratic handover to the most likely African kleptocrat.

This book has urged you young South Africans to develop your own sense of right and wrong, your own morality, your own ethics and your own zone of indifference. This in the absence of a reliable schooling and education system. It is a ploy of all kleptocrats known to man, to restrain the emerging youth from education, thus guaranteeing for themselves a stratum of humanity upon which to prey. Be warned. Be alert. Be careful. Be your own person and be democratic. It has taken Nigeria 40 years to learn this painful lesson.

See Biznews article <https://www.biznews.com/africa/2016/02/24/lessons-nigeria-pitfalls-kleptocracy-sa-take-note/>

Speaking in the House of Lords recently, Lord Peter Hain said 'I feel very strongly that South Africa is in the grip of a corrupt crony elite. We've heard about White Monopoly Capital. This is a Corrupt Crony Monopoly Elite and it is in danger of so seriously destroying all prospects for the economy, which is a resilient economy and can get through this I'm sure, but there's massive damage being done (investor confidence being damaged) and thousands and thousands of people who should be in jobs, denied that opportunity. The poorest of the poor being exploited, houses not being built, hospitals not being built, doctors not being trained, schools not being properly equipped, teachers not being properly trained, which all could be done with these billions that are being corruptly laundered'.

Mariann Thamm in her piece, *Analysis: Bell Pottinger has taught us what to treasure in the long, painful haul back to freedom -Daily Maverick, 10 July 2017*. She sums up the sentiments of most South Africans that, "many, many lives were lost on the road

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to securing this fragile and flawed democracy we currently enjoy but are in danger of losing to a kleptocratic class linked to the current leadership of the ANC and who have no respect for the law, or the history, or the goals of the liberation struggle. South Africans do not want to relive the trauma of the past. We must deal with the structural inequality and an economy that does not work for the country's black majority, but we have a pragmatic understanding that this will not be accomplished through a civil war, through the provocation of unrest and hatred".

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THE ANC FROM HANI TO KHOSA

Published on October 20, 2017

Seven years ago, I saw the writing on the wall. It was Chris Hani's writing. He had expressed fears for the ANC movement beyond 1994.

He said 'What I fear is that the liberators emerge as elitists who drive around in Mercedes Benz's and use the resources of this country to live in palaces and gather riches'.

Well, it took only seven years for the dream to become a nightmare. In 'Stepping Stones' published in 2010 I wrote:

'South Africa is in turmoil today. The euphoria of the end of apartheid and the advent of democracy, the 'Rainbow Nation' thrill, the racial honeymoon, the dignified patience of the previously disadvantaged – all have grown old. The prospect of a leftist government, labour driven, long on demands yet short on intellect and morals, promises that the dream will become a nightmare.

One reason for this development is that the aspirations of the youth have not been satisfied. After those dark and desperate years, which saw the end of the apartheid regime, a generation of young people were filled with the joy of their impending freedom and the opportunities this event would bestow on them. Sadly, the incoming majority has been concerned with the creation of a new elitist class and redistribution of wealth to the senior cadres. There has been little concern for the aspirations of the young people of South Africa.

The benefits of learning, character building, moral education and religion were lost in the turmoil of the 1980s and 1990s, resulting in a rudderless, sometimes murderous element, pervading South African society. The Rainbow Nation is today the crime mecca of the world, and the 'haves' now have more and the 'have nots', appallingly less.

Can we put an end to this moral decay?

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Certainly not where the greater number seem to think that a cell phone is worth more than a human life. John Ruskin, British social commentator (1819-1900) may have been very insightful when he once said: "Let us reform our schools and we shall find little reform necessary in our prisons".

Perhaps adopting sound, non-sexist, non-racial and evergreen wisdom from the past can be used to commence regenerating the shredded moral fibre of this country?

What is this morality to which we should aspire?

Morality refers to the concept of human ethics which pertains to matters of right or wrong – also referred to as good and evil – used within three contexts: individual conscience, systems of principles, and judgements – sometimes called moral values – shared within a cultural, religious or political grouping.

The code of ethics is concerned with how a moral person should behave. Ethical values are beliefs concerning what is morally right and proper as opposed to what is simply correct or effective.

Whether in life or business, ethical values should be ground rules for behaviour. When we live by these values we demonstrate that we are worthy of trust.

A system of standards used to produce honest, decent and ethical results is considered moral.

Albert Schweitzer, author of *On the Edge of the Primeval Forest, the Decay and Restoration of Civilisation and Civilisation and Ethics* has this to say on the matter: "Ethics are nothing but reverence for life. This is what gives me the fundamental principle of morality, namely that good consists in maintaining, promoting and enhancing life, and that destroying, injuring and limiting life is evil".

To aid you in your search for ethics, I have gathered a selection of pertinent wisdom from the past. Perhaps young people in South Africa will see in these excerpts, building blocks with which to construct a viable morality for their young lives and hence for the country they are destined to inherit'.

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If they do nothing, the street kids of today will sadly become the gangsters of tomorrow.

Fast forward to recent events in 2017 and examine a brave and loyal soldier's view of the status of the ANC.

Chris Hani was spot on!

Makhosi Khoza explains why she left the ANC

She said, "President Gedleyihlekisa Jacob Zuma and most of his ANC leadership may have political consciousness, without a doubt, I don't think they have a moral conscience."

She said on August 8, ANC MPs, herself included were told to divorce themselves from their moral conscience.

"These orders did not just come from President Zuma, but also from the ANC collective leadership."

Worst moral leadership

She said it was clearly the responsibility of the ANC as a brand to own up to these directives which placed the moral character of the organisation into disrepute and "more importantly, plunged the country into crisis". In conclusion let me quote Anton Lembede the first ANC Youth League President who said the following in 1945 at age 31: "We need young men and women of high moral stamina and integrity; of courage and vision. This means we must develop a type of youth – not pleasure loving, frivolous, dissolute, light minded type – but youth of stoical discipline, trained to endure suffering and difficulties. It is only this type of youth that will achieve national liberation of the African people."

So, it is now, with a heavy heart, that I must say, that this is no longer the ANC that I know. This ANC is alien and corrupt. This is not Madiba's, Chief Albert Luthuli's and O.R. Tambo's ANC. THAT is the ANC that I am.

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I want to free myself from the ugly, nasty, vicious, factional, inherently corrupt and unprincipled contestation for positions at the 2017 ANC conference. I reject this alien ANC's mission. I reject its leaders. I understand that the branches of the ANC who elected me, in absentia, to represent their interests in parliament, would have expected me to finish my five-year term. I want to apologize to the branches. It is not out of disrespect. As you have seen, I have been persecuted. You have also seen that the new alien and corrupt ANC wants me out as I refuse to protect corrupt leadership. I refuse to be fired, by unprincipled, immoral leaders and will not give them the power to make a mockery of the importance of the rule of law. Let me also take this opportunity to make it unequivocally clear that I am not going to the DA.

I am not leaving the ANC. I am ONLY leaving the alien and corrupt ANC. The values of the old ANC, Madiba's ANC, still lives within me; and I will give it life again, one way or the other; for the sake of those who went before, and for the sake of those to come.

"Audit firm KPMG is suffering the consequences of their amoral, unprofessional and unethical conduct. The ANC must face the consequences of their actions."

Simply put, said Khoza, "The ANC collective leadership officially and totally removed the sense of wrong and right in matters that pertain to the governance of the Republic."

She said those members of Parliament who sought to be truthful and followed their moral conscience, were persecuted.

In response, South Africans should exercise their right by voting the ANC out of power.

"The ANC is not a religion."

Khoza believed that the ANC was no longer the movement but something else.

She said the ANC, particularly in a democratic society, could be voted in, and voted out.

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The country was going through the worst moral leadership crisis since the dawn of democracy, said Khoza.

Stepping Stones

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SINKING OF A NATION

SOUTH AFRICA IGNORES ICEBURG WARNING AND MUST LIKELY CALL THE IMF FOR HELP

Published on LinkedIn on December 18, 2017



Nelson Mandela's once popular new democratic nation, South Africa, has been brought to its knees within twenty-three years of obtaining political freedom. Through crime, kleptocracy, corruption and incompetence the African National Congress, the organization that liberated South Africa from Apartheid, has proven incapable of running the country. As with most of the de-colonized African countries, South Africa has been incapable of warding off tribalism, kleptocracy and big man syndrome in favour of democracy. The Communist inspired development economics, which focused on State Owned Enterprises, has sunk the country and will have to be re-evaluated and reconsidered.

Elections in 2019 will be akin to shifting the chairs around on the Titanic.

Danny Bradlow SARCHI Professor of International Development Law and African Economic Relations, University of Pretoria and best-selling author, political scientist and historian RW Johnson, offer South Africans some advice on the old African tradition of going to the IMF with the begging bowl.

International Monetary Fund

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The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is an international organization headquartered in Washington, D.C., of 189 countries working to foster global monetary cooperation, secure financial stability, facilitate international trade, promote high employment and sustainable economic growth and reduce poverty around the world. Formed in 1944 at the Bretton Woods Conference primarily by the ideas of Harry Dexter White and John Maynard Keynes, it came into formal existence in 1945 with 29 member countries and the goal of reconstructing the international payment system. It now plays a central role in the management of balance of payments difficulties and international financial crises. Countries contribute funds to a pool through a quota system from which countries experiencing balance of payments problems can borrow money. As of 2016 the fund had SDR477 billion (about \$668 billion).

Through the fund, and other activities such as the gathering of statistics and analysis, surveillance of its members' economies and the demand for policies, the IMF works to improve the economies of its member countries. The organization's objectives stated in the Articles of Agreement are: to promote international monetary co-operation, international trade, high employment, exchange-rate stability, sustainable economic growth, and making resources available to member countries in financial difficulty.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

Countries facing analogous crises of confidence like Nigeria, Poland and Turkey have had to seek IMF support.

South Africa can hope that the situation will improve. But it should also plan for the possibility that it will not and that confidence in the government's ability to manage its deteriorating financial situation will evaporate. This will lead to both higher borrowing costs and reduced access to financing for the government and state-owned enterprises. It could also lead to state owned enterprises defaulting on their debts and their creditors calling in their government guarantees. As government loses the ability to fund its operations, it will be forced to turn to the IMF. It is the one organization that can help it regain access to financing – on condition that South Africa agrees to implement an IMF approved set of reforms.

No-one wants an IMF programme for South Africa.

First, it means the government accepting an outsider, dominated by rich countries, overseeing its economic policies. Second, IMF support will be conditioned on the country agreeing to painful reforms such as:

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- Reducing the government's budget deficit and the current account deficit so that it can meet its financial obligations
- Deregulation and labour market reforms designed to encourage investment.

But if South Africa begins preparing for this possibility it may be able to mitigate its worst effects and be ready to exploit whatever opportunities it creates.

Negotiating with the IMF

The South African government has considerable experience dealing with the IMF, which regularly visits each of its member states to consult about the state of its economy— the most recent IMF mission visited South Africa in early November. However, it is over 20 years since South Africa negotiated a financing arrangement with the IMF.

Unless challenged, the IMF is likely to condition its financial support on a standard recipe of reforms. However, over time the IMF has become more amenable to supporting the programmes proposed by its member states. It has learned that, while there are similarities between macro-economic crises in different countries, there is more than one strategy for resolving such crises. In fact, the optimal solution depends on each country's institutional arrangements, history, economic, social, environmental and political characteristics. It also depends on the impact of macro-economic policies on such social factors as gender, equity and environmental and social sustainability.

Yanis Varoufakis, former Greek finance minister, reports in his book on his experiences negotiating with Greece's creditors that countries like Poland, through careful planning and shrewd negotiations, were able to convince the IMF to follow their plan rather than the IMF's standard approach. His book also shows that the cost of failing to prepare adequately for negotiations like these can be very high indeed.

So, what should South Africa do to ensure that it gets the best possible deal?

First, South Africa must establish clear and realistic objectives for the plan that it wants the IMF to support.

Second, it must get its diplomatic ducks in a row so that it can strike the best possible deal.

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Fixing the budget

As a priority South Africa should focus on restoring a sustainable budget situation. This will require government to make some painful policy choices about levels of expenditures as well as the purposes for which funds are allocated.

The government can build confidence in these choices if it can show that:

the benefits exceed the costs and that the costs are being equitably shared.

Policy choices are based on both the human rights imperatives stipulated in the South African Constitution and on promoting growth.

it's serious about addressing the governance problems in state owned enterprises and government departments.

it is complying with the legal procedures applicable to government finances and the open budgeting processes that it used in the past.

Finally, government must encourage other social actors – such as business and labour who have contributed to the crisis – to help mitigate the pain. A demonstration of broad support would help convince the IMF to support the government's strategy.

Diplomacy

As Varoufakis' experience shows, the cost of under-estimating the impact of international economic diplomacy on the outcomes of complex international financial negotiations can be unacceptably high.

The South African government must therefore prepare to sell its programme to the IMF. This requires it to appoint negotiators who have a good understanding of both the IMF as an institution and global financial diplomacy. They can make the South African case in the way that is most likely to convince the IMF staff and Board of Executive Directors to support the South African programme.

These negotiators should also seek to exploit all the benefits that South Africa can harvest from its membership in the institutions of global economic governance. For example, they can tap the experience and expertise of groups like the G24, a lobby group for the interests of IMF developing member states in which South Africa participates, to help it prepare for these negotiations.

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They can also draw on the stores of information in international organisations like the IMF, the World Bank and the African Development Bank that have had extensive experience dealing with developing countries facing macro-economic crises. Access to this information should be a benefit of membership. The executive directors that represent South Africa at these institutions can help the government gain access to this information and, if appropriate, identify the relevant experts to consult.

Written by Danny Bradlow, SARCHI Professor of International Development Law and African Economic Relations, University of Pretoria. This article was originally published on The Conversation.

Four things the World Bank and IMF want South Africa to do

RW Johnson

September 7, 2017

When asking how South Africa can survive the current crisis, one only must look at the four things the World Bank and other international bodies have already pointed out in the past, according to best-selling author, political scientist and historian RW Johnson.

Firstly, the education system must be improved.

Secondly, labour laws and regulations must be liberalized so that it is easier for employers to hire and fire people and it is easier to import the skills the country needs.

Thirdly, the size of the "swollen" civil service must be cut. On top of that salaries in the civil service are now estimated to be about 30% higher than the private sector, Johnson said at Rode-Reim Real Estate Conference at the Spier Wine Estate near Stellenbosch.

Fourthly, the sustainability of state-owned enterprises (SOEs) must be addressed.

"I am not saying SOEs must be privatized, but they must stop losing money," said Johnson.

He added that each of the four issues mentioned will, however, likely meet with union and political resistance in South Africa.

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"Government must produce a more business friendly environment," he said.

Becoming "spoilt"

In Johnson's view South Africans have become "spoilt" in some ways, for instance in demanding free houses.

"Nowhere else in Africa are governments told to provide free housing. There is a sense of entitlement and unions are making demands that cannot be met," said Johnson.

Another example for him is complaints from the Eastern Cape about Chinese "domination" in an auto plant investment for which it is supplying 60% of the funding.

"How can you complain about that? If they are providing 60% of the funding, surely they can also be calling the shots?" asked Johnson.

Tipping points

He is not a fan of scenario planning and sees it just to "frighten the elite".

"History does not go in a straight line. It goes through a series of tipping points," said Johnson.

SA's credit downgrades formed one such tipping point, which has changed the game. Another, in his view, will be when SA must ask the IMF for a bailout.

"Like most African countries, SA is ruled by a bureaucratic elite practicing nepotism and that leads to a bloated civil service," said Johnson.

The ANC leadership change will be another major tipping point for SA, in his view.

"Whoever becomes the next ANC leader will be an improvement on Jacob Zuma and will bring some positive uptick in the market for SA," he said.

"However, we have had a year of negative campaigning in this regard. The ANC campaigned against white rule and would like to campaign against apartheid for the next 100 years if it could. That leads it to make promises of land, health and mining reform which will drive away investors and create bad market conditions."

In his view, it creates a climate of great uncertainty where consumers hold out on buying so-called big-ticket items like cars and houses.

"Whoever is elected as next ANC leader will face a tough situation," said Johnson.

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The next tipping point will, therefore, be to see if any of the radical promises made during campaigning will remain on the table afterwards.

Black middle class

Another factor for Johnson is the pressure on government by the back-middle class as a new driving force in the SA society. He includes in this group those who are not yet part of the middle class but aspire to be.

"Yet, the government cannot give them what they demand to the same extent anymore, because the economy is not growing, and BEE opportunities are, therefore, not available that much anymore," said Johnson.

"The SA government is now weaker than at any time since 1994. The state is less and less able to fund the losses of SOEs and more and more banks do not want to roll over loans in this regard anymore."

Pay increase

The next tipping point for Johnson will be in March next year when a new three-year pay deal for civil servants must be determined. If these demands are too high, government would have to borrow internationally to be able to bear the payload.

"If government does this, the ratings agencies will see it as a very negative sign," cautioned Johnson. "I feel sorry for whoever is Zuma's successor as he or she will face a great mess," said Johnson.

IMF loan

Since 2014 Johnson has not only predicted the ratings downgrades, but also that SA will end up having to apply for some sort of IMF bailout.

"This will not be all bad, as the IMF will insist on SA implementing the four things I mentioned earlier. The IMF is a capitalist organization in the eyes of militants in SA, but we are running out of institutions willing to lend SA money," he said.

"I think it will be a difficult period until 2019 until a deal is made with the IMF, but I think then things will start looking up as it could be a chance for a fresh start."

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BUSHMEN RULE

Published on LinkedIn on November 20, 2016



Rian Malan, a Research Fellow of the Institute of Race Relations, has written an erudite synopsis of our country's turbulent past and examines Julius Malema's recent claim to all of the land in South Africa. As usual young Julius is found to be long on fire and brimstone and orator's rhetoric but falls short on facts, logic and truth. The synopsis is in the form of an open letter to our Julius and begs a response. I look forward to the reply if published. Read 'Bushmen Rule' an edited presentation of Mr Malan's thought provoking article.

"We are here unashamedly to disturb the white man's peace because we have never known peace. We, the rightful owners, our peace was disturbed by white man's arrival here. They committed a black genocide. They killed our people during land dispossession. Today, we are told don't disturb them, even when they disturbed our

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peace. They found peaceful Africans here. They killed them! They slaughtered them, like animals! We are not calling for the slaughtering of white people, at least for now.... But 1994 means NOTHING without the land! Victory will only be victory if the land is restored in the hands of rightful owners. And the rightful owners are unashamedly black people. This is our continent, it belongs to us."- Economic Freedom Fighters leader Julius Malema in a speech outside Newcastle Magistrates court last week.

Julius Malema must be exhausted. All the rabble rousing, all the chaos in parliament, all the interviews and marches and threats won him just 98,000 more votes in the August 3 local government elections than his Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) won in the general elections in 2014. He needs a million more votes to really make a permanent mark on South African politics. What, he must often think, does he have to do to get there? His remarks outside a court in Newcastle the other day, to the effect that blacks won't "slaughter" whites, "for now" are typical of the man when he is under pressure. It's the safest go-to in our politics. But it is a false premise, or promise, even if he really meant it, which I doubt. Malema's narrative is that whites landed in this country and disturbed a peaceful indigenous population and then slaughtered them.

But that is way too simplistic. The fact is that the life of black people in SA was, in the words of the English philosopher, Thomas Hobbes, a life of "... continual fear, and danger of violent death; and the life of man, solitary, poor, nasty, brutish and short".

Life in SA in 1652, the year Jan van Riebeeck landed here and the year after Hobbes published his most famous work, Leviathan, was just like that as tribes and clans clashed constantly for territory and dominance. The fact that whites then added to the violence doesn't make the past go away. But it wasn't just blacks who killed blacks four centuries ago.

White tribes in Europe had been slaughtering each other for hundreds of years by 1652. The English slaughtered Scots. The Germans slaughtered Romans. The fact is humans are inherently violent. The question to ask is whether tribalism, or at least the formation of clans and tribes, promotes violence or whether they form as a response to violence.

The liberal writer and thinker Rian Malan has written a forceful response to Malema's silly outburst in Newcastle. He takes his house in Johannesburg's Emmarentia as a starting point and wonders who walked in what is now his garden, in the distant past.

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Rian Malan responds:

Dear Mr Malema:

I am writing in response to your recent remarks calling for whites to return the land to its rightful owners, failing which you may have to slaughter us. I think it's good that you have put this issue under the spotlight, and I would like to help resolve it.

I personally had nothing to do with what the EFF sees as the "mass butcher/slaughter of black people" by white land thieves in the colonial era. On the other hand, I am an Afrikaner with capitalist inclinations, so I am clearly guilty by association in your eyes. Hey, that's all right by me. I'm not here to argue. I am here to find a solution, and to do that, it's necessary for me to put my own land on the table and discuss what's to be done with it.

This land (about 1200 square meters) is in Emmarentia, Johannesburg, a good place to ponder our history because it is located at the foot of the Melville Koppies, where archaeologists have unearthed a great deal of evidence about previous owners. Their findings can be summarized as follows:

- 1) Around 250,000 years ago, Emmarentia was inhabited by our hominid ancestors. These creatures appear to have died out.
- 2) Around 100,000 years ago, the first humans made their appearance. Unfortunately, I don't know their names and their descendants have proved untraceable.
- 3) Some twenty thousand years ago, the so-called San or Bushmen took up residence in a cave in the kloof near where Beyers Naude Drive cuts through the Koppies. Among the artefacts they left behind is a Stone Age device for making arrowheads. The whereabouts of their descendants is unknown.
- 4) Around five hundred years ago, the first Tswana showed up. These were sophisticated people who used Iron Age furnaces to work minerals mined nearby. They also owned sheep and cattle and grew millet and sorghum along the banks of the stream which flows past my house.

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On its face these Tswana would appear to be the only previous owners whose descendants are still living in the area, so in theory I should give my land to them. But when you look closely at the Tswana, a complicated picture emerges.

In the beginning, around 1700, almost all Tswana fell under the authority of the Hurutshe, a powerful tribe that exacted tribute from lesser Tswana chiefs and kept them in line.

Around 1750, things began to change. Nobody knows exactly why, but one suspected cause is the mealie, which arrived here around that time. Mealies boosted crop yields. More food led to population growth, which led to intensified competition for scarce resources. The Hurutshe hegemony was challenged and overthrown. Without proper supervision, minor chieftains started tooling up and making war on one another. The Fokeng attacked the Kgatla. Kgatla attacked the Po. Pedi fought the Kwena, and so on. According to the anthropologist Isaac Schapera, there were 26 civil wars in the decades prior to 1820.

In response, Tswana kingdoms became increasingly militarized and autocratic, which is to say, they moved from level 3 societies, which were chilled, to levels 4 and 5, where kings and chiefs practiced an early form of capitalism, extracting labour and tribute from weaker vassals. Since the vassals did not necessarily like this, the more powerful Tswana chiefs began to concentrate their people in large towns, usually sited on easily defensible hilltops and surrounded by stone walls.

This did not help much. An analysis made of Tswana praise poems and oral histories indicate that being a chief in Emmarentia and surrounds was a very dangerous occupation between 1700 and 1820. Of 71 chiefs mentioned in oral traditions, only 48 percent died in their beds. The rest were assassinated or killed in battle.

Because of these factors it has proved difficult to establish exactly which Tswana grouping owned my land during this period of violence and confusion. Most likely, ownership changed several times, and at some point, it was taken over by the Po, the Nguni people who controlled the Witwatersrand from a headquarters located near the Gillooly's freeway interchange. Have you ever heard of these people? No, me neither, but don't worry, because they were soon swept away by the *Mfecane*.

Contrary to popular belief, it seems the *Mfecane* was not really caused by Shaka Zulu. According to my readings, that man's role has been exaggerated by Inkatha supporters who love to depict Shaka as a black Napoleon who single-handedly

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invented the short stabbing spear and the horns-and-chest battle formation, thereby overcoming all. More recent research holds that Shaka was just one of many southern African kings who simultaneously embarked on a program of militarization and nation building, thus leaping from level three to level five and in the process destabilizing their neighbours included the Hlubi, the Ngwane and the Swazi. After Shaka came to power around 1818, these people decided it would be wise to move onto the highveld to get away from him. But the nearest parts of the highveld were already occupied by the Phuting and Hlakwana, who lost their crops and cattle to the invaders and had to flee westward, into territories controlled by various Tswana entities. This resulted in a chain reaction that rolled on for years, turning the highveld into a zone of "persistent raiding and displacement" that shattered African social structures and turned many people into refugees.

Around 1824, Mzilikazi and the Ndebele arrived on the scene, also fleeing the Zulus. Mzilikazi was by far the most efficient of the level-five autocrats. He ate up all the tribes in his path, usually killing males and incorporating women and children into his own ranks. One exception to this was the Po, who reportedly saved themselves by submitting to Mzilikazi and joining his cause as "allies or slaves."

One therefore assumes that the Po moved with Mzilikazi to Rustenburg district, where the Ndebele made their capital. The king lived in the very centre of the new empire, surrounded by loyal Ndebele commoners and swathes of pasture for the royal cattle. Beyond the pasture was a ring of tribute-paying vassal chiefs and beyond them lay the march – a vast area that had been cleared of all human inhabitants. Mzilikazi trusted no-one, and wanted to make sure he could see his enemies coming.

I can't be 100 percent sure, but I suspect Emmarentia was part of this so-called march. Here's why. In 1836, an aristocratic British sportsman named Robert Cornwallis-Harris came this way to hunt big game. When he reached a range of hills which could have been the Witwatersrand he began to see the ruins of "extensive villages," deserted save for a handful of "half-starved persons" hiding in the bushes. According to Cornwallis-Harris, the abandoned villages were strewn with broken earthen vessels, fragments of ostrich shell and game skins. And that's almost exactly what archaeologists find when they dig trenches on the koppie above my house.

Against this backdrop, your remarks about "peaceful Africans" strike me as somewhat odd. The last person to make such an argument was Joe Slovo, whose seminal "Colonialism of a Special Type" essay was riddled with black holes and omissions

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intended to present whites in the worst possible light. That's because Slovo was desperate to ingratiate himself with black people and become your leader, an ambition which led directly to what you see as the great sell out of 1994. You surely know better than to trust a white man, sir.

But anyway, our story has just begun. The first white settlers showed up in Emmarentia a few months after the hunter Cornwallis-Harris. You seem to imagine these Voortrekkers as an army of genocidaires using guns and horses to drive peaceful Africans towards extinction. Not so. Mzilikazi opened the hostilities, massacring a party of Trekkers near the Vaal River and then stripping the Boers of all their livestock at Vegkop. At this point, the Tswana who'd previously dominated the area came out of hiding and offered their support to the Boers, which led to Mzilikazi's defeat at the hands of multi-racial DA-style army at the battle of Mosega.

In the aftermath, Mzilikazi fled northwards across the Limpopo, and the Boers claimed "his" land as their own. The suburb where I live became the farm Braamfontein, property of the Bezuidenhout family. These were my people, but let me be the first to admit that they did not behave like civilized white liberals.

Instead, they emulated the African kings who came before them, exacting tribute (especially in labour) from subject chiefs and periodically raiding more distant neighbours for cattle and captives. Some of those captives, especially the children, became *inboekelinge*, or indentured servants, working on Boer farms for nothing until they were 25.

Let's face it -- this was a form of slavery, and we must answer for it. But the Fokeng and the Kgatla must answer too, because they were our partners in crime, constantly joining the Boers in "mutually beneficial" raids on surrounding tribes. As a result, the Kgatla (who lived around Sun City) and Fokeng (near Hartebeestpoort) became rich and powerful. According to historian Fred Morton, Kgatla chief Khamanyane (who ruled from 1853 to 1875) acquired an astonishing fortune in wives (43) and cattle, while many of his subjects "attained higher living standards than most Boers."

This is not to say that the Boers and their Tswana allies had it all their own way. On the contrary: the Boers were weak, and existed in a state of uneasy equilibrium with surrounding African principalities. Gert Oosthuizen, baas of the farm where I now live, would have been called out on commando at least 14 times in his first thirty-odd years on the Highveld, but seldom returned home a victor.

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Most Boer military campaigns ended in stalemate, and they were defeated on at least three occasions -- by the Pedi in 1852, the Sotho in 1858, and the Venda in 1861. By 1867, they were under such pressure that they had to abandon the Soutpansberg, leaving behind a few stragglers who survived by paying tribute to their conquerors in the African way.

After the discovery of diamonds, Africans began to acquire guns and push back even harder. In 1870, the Boers abandoned Potgietersrus. In 1871, they lost another war against the Pedi. By 1877, they seemed to be in an extremely precarious position, which is why the British stepped in to annex the Zuid-Afrikaanse Republiek.

Beyond this point, your understanding of history becomes more tenable. Professional soldiers sent by Queen Victoria crushed the Zulu and Pedi with considerable slaughter, as they'd previously crushed the Xhosa and were soon to crush the Boers. Black Africans wound up losing about two thirds of the land they'd held before 1652, and for this whites must answer. Then again, the British army had African auxiliaries in all its campaigns, so they must answer too.

But for what exactly? You keep saying "genocide." I'm not sure that's the right term. In the 1980s, historians Leonard Thompson and Howard Lamar published a comparative study of the North American and South African frontiers. Someone stole my copy of that book and the precise details are fading, but it claims there was something like ten million "Red Indians" when the American frontier opened circa 1780, and only 250,000 left a century later. That's genocide.

In SA, the numbers tell a different story. According to Thompson et al, there were around two million Africans when our frontier opened, also in 1780, and roughly double that number when it closed in 1880. Since then, the African population has grown at a healthy rate, apartheid notwithstanding. That's why whites are now so heavily outnumbered, and why if you say, surrender your land, I have not much choice.

But surrender it to whom? If we take the arrival of the first white settlers in 1836 as our point of departure, I should give my house to the descendants of Mzilikazi. But that won't go down with the Tswana, who remember Mzilikazi as a bloody tyrant who robbed them of their birthright.

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The Po might rematerialize and make a claim, and then there's the Bushman to think about. They were here long before anyone else, but vanished in the 1820s. Perhaps they also ran for their lives when they saw Mzilikazi coming, and took refuge in the Kalahari.

If so, this was a frying-pan-into-fire move, because the Tswana out there were short of labour, and they turned Bushmen and other vassal races (the Kgalagadi and Yei) into slaves who were exchanged for goods, passed on as heritable property and "controlled with startling brutality" by their masters. According to historian Barry Morton, slave herdsman were "observed to live in an indescribable state of general squalor." Death from malnutrition was "not uncommon," and slaves were "punished and occasionally killed...for losing a single animal."

According to Morton, evidence to back such claims lay hidden in plain sight in the archives, ignored for decades by researchers swarming into the Kalahari to study one of the world's last hunter-gatherer populations. I can only surmise the researchers were white liberals who didn't want to spoil the plot, which holds that it was the Boers who caused all the trouble in our history until they were overthrown by the saintly Mandela, thus giving birth to the Rainbow Nation.

Judging by your speeches, you detest white liberals even more than I do, which is why I have drawn all these complications to your attention. The fact of the matter, sir, is that all our ancestors have blood on our hands. More blood on mine than yours, at least at this point, but still: the only innocents in this story are the Bushman.

They were harmless level one people, with no chiefs and no material ambitions. Whites hunted them like wild animals, but your people were little better. The first British official to arrive at the royal court of the Xhosa (Sir John Barrow, c 1798) was told by King Hintsa, "My people exist in a state of perpetual warfare with the Bushmen." Perhaps this helps us understand why the north-eastern portion of this country is littered with the relics of Bushmen who vanished long before white settlers came.

And so we come finally to the point of this letter. The victims and villains of history are beyond my reach, but I am not without conscience. I am sorry about all the Zulu who perished at the hands of Lord Chelmsford in 1879, and the Shona and Ndebele slaughtered by Rhodes' Gatling guns. But I am particularly sorry about the Bushmen who used to live in the kloof above my house. They suffered greatly at the hands of

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people like us, and their claim to being the original and thus "rightful" owners of Emmarentia looks unassailable.

I therefore think it might be best if I share my land with my friend Errol, an Afrikaans-speaking colored person with at least a bit of Bushman blood in his veins. He's not black, strictly speaking, but at least he has an Afro. And his apartheid victim credentials are impeccable. But before I go ahead, I would like to make sure this accords with the fast-track land reform scheme you envisage. If I do the right thing by Errol, will my life be spared?

Your swift reply is awaited.

Rian Malan

He is a Research Fellow of the Institute of Race Relations.

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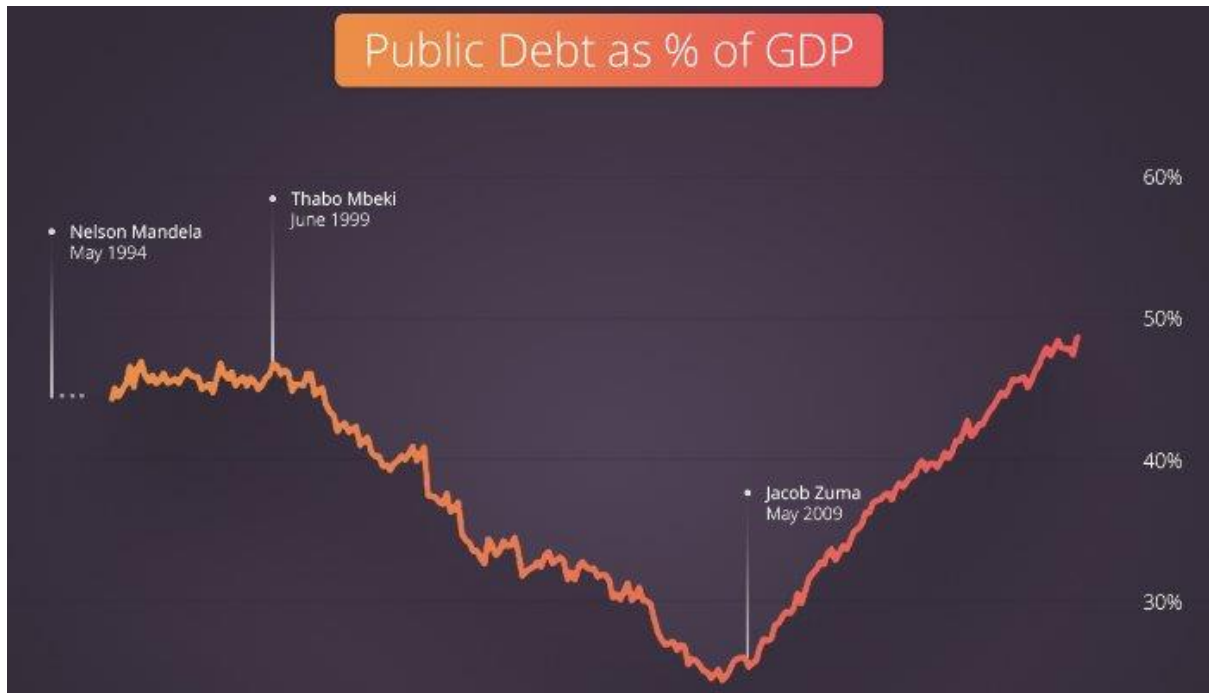
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SELLING OUR CHILDREN SHORT

Published on LinkedIn on December 28, 2016



By 1994 the Apartheid Government had borrowed against South Africa's future in attempting to uphold the untenable principle of separate development. At that time, with a debt ratio of about 50% of GDP, our children were faced with a future of repaying their errant parents debt well into the future.

Under the conservative stewardship of first Nelson Mandela and after him Thabo Mbeki Finance Minister Trevor Manuel was allowed to reel in excess expenditure and prudently repay the country's debt.

By the time Jacob Zuma came to power Manuel had performed a minor miracle in reducing the National Debt to Gross Domestic Product to below 30%. South Africa was once again looking attractive to foreign investors and Foreign Direct Investment, upon which the South African Economy critically relies, was looking bullish.

With Zuma at the helm the wheels came off.

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With a Debt to GDP ratio back up near fifty percent our children's' futures are once more in hock. Additionally, with Zuma relentlessly pursuing a nuclear build program, which the country does not need and certainly cannot afford, our kids, Black, Colored, Asian and White, do not have a future in South Africa.

Zuma has probably already banked the commission receivable on the nuclear deal with his pension manager. And greed begets the other six deadly sins.

I have this to say to Zuma: 'Pay back the money'.

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AMBUSH ALLEY

Published on LinkedIn on January 10, 2017



We expected too much in 1994. With the collapse of communism, we anticipated that the ANC under Mandela South Africa would subscribe to Western Democracy. For a while under him and later Mbeki, we did just that. We applied Western Economic Policies and stepped back from the precipice upon which we were finely balanced. Under Zuma that all changed. We are now in bed with Indian Gangsters, Russian Oligarchs, Chinese Colonialists, impoverished Brazilians and anyone else who will pay Zuma and his cronies enough money.

Who stole my country?

Download a free copy

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SINKING OF A NATION

SAVAGE NOBLES

Published on LinkedIn on February 3, 2017



I was born in South Africa. My parents are South African. My children are South African. We carry no passports other than South African ones. My grandparents were naturalized South Africans being originally from Europe – England, Ireland, Holland and Germany to be specific. They were attracted here, invited here, offered citizenship here, accepted here, employed here and happy here.

At no stage were they part of a foreign marauding tribe that dispossessed anybody. They observed the laws of the land, worked hard, bought land, built houses, paid taxes, educated their children and loved their adopted country South Africa. They fought as South African troops in the two great wars. They absorbed the derision, scorn and sanction meted by the international community in the Apartheid years between 1948 and 1994 even though they voted against the governing party of the day. They never once supported nor condoned the policy of separate development. I am a South African and proud of it.

Why then are certain ANC Parliamentarians telling me to go back where I came from? I came from here, South Africa. I have no other country that I call home. This is the country in which I was born and I still live here.

SINKING OF A NATION

There are a lot of South Africans in a similar position. We are stuck in a country that we used to call home. Once the domain of the noble savage it has become the enclave of the savage nobles. South Africa has become a typical African Kleptocracy in its decline to third world standards through greedy elitism and black on black suppression. The governing party has surrendered the country's position as the leading nation on the African Continent to become a mere also-ran.

We expected too much in 1994. With the collapse of communism, we anticipated with the ANC under Mandela, South Africa would subscribe to Western Democracy. For a while under him and later Mbeki, we did just that. We applied Western Economic Policies and stepped back from the precipice upon which we were finely balanced.

Under Zuma that all changed. We are now in bed with Indian Gangsters, Russian Oligarchs, Chinese Colonialists, Impoverished Brazilians and anyone else who will pay Zuma and his cronies enough money.

Who stole my country?

Read more in Ambush Alley

<https://www.free-ebooks.net/search/ambush+alley>

SINKING OF A NATION

LIAR, LIAR YOUR PANTS ARE ON FIRE.

Published on LinkedIn on April 9, 2017



A country, previously a leader on the African Continent, slipped these past weeks into a typical African Kleptocracy. Democratic principles practised by former Presidents Mbeki and Mandela have been discarded and since 2007 current President Zuma has remained unaccountable to Parliament and has systematically attacked the Constitution, the Judiciary, the Free Press and the Treasury.

Through his popular patronage he has desecrated the economy and finally fashioned an African Kleptocracy that was held at bay for a number of years by the last bastion of Constitutional Democracy – the Treasury.

The New South Africa was born on April Fools' Day 2017

Gone is the custodian of economic sense – Pravin Gordhan. Gone is the custodian of the Public-Sector Pension Fund – Mcebisi Jonas. Gone is South Africa's Credit Rating.

Let the looting begin!

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South Africa is now State Captured Junk with little wriggle room. With Borrowings to Gross Domestic Product projected to 2019 in excess of 50%, the country has nowhere to go but down.

The resultant exodus of foreign capital will further reduce the level of Foreign Direct Investment, upon which South Africa is critically dependent, rendering goods and services highly inflationary.

Sadly the rural poor, the backbone of President Zuma's electoral support base, will suffer the most. Here is a reminder of what the kleptocrat from Nkandla said to those poor souls at his inauguration.

"Today, as I take this solemn Oath of Office as the Fourth President of the Republic of South Africa, I do so deeply conscious of the responsibilities that you, the people of our country are entrusting in me.

I commit myself to the service of our nation with dedication, commitment, discipline, integrity, hard work and passion.

Compatriots, today, we enter a new era in the history of our nation, imbued with a resolve to do everything within our means to build a better life for all our people. Today, we renew our struggle to forge a nation that is at peace with itself and the world. As we rejoice in being surrounded by our friends from all over the world, we reiterate our gratitude for the sterling contribution of the international community to our struggle for freedom". **Jacob Zuma**

"Let us build a nation that remains forever mindful of its history, of those who have sacrificed so much, and the many that put down their lives so we can be here today.

A nation filled with the laughter and joy of children.

A nation filled with a hope born of the knowledge that if we work together, we will achieve our dreams". **Jacob Zuma**

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STEP ASIDE GREEDY OLD MEN

Published on LinkedIn on May 12, 2017



'A subject so grave it must surely top the 'to do list' of the President. Alas no. He gives credence instead to the notoriously retrogressive SA Democratic Teachers' Union (SADTU) backed by that ever-grasping dalliance partner, Cosatu. Over the past five years SADTU has the dubious distinction of topping the list of days lost through strike action. Of all working days lost in this period, 42 percent were incurred by our infamous teachers' union.

The future of South Africa lies in the hands of the youth of the nation. The key to that event lies in the education of that youth. The success of that endeavour depends on teachers being at school to teach and having the moral obligation and incentive to teach. Finally, the government having the will to prioritise education above all else.

That scenario seems too simple. Perhaps those entrusted to execute these plans have a greedier and more devilish agenda?'

'Stepping Stones' by Bryan Britton published in the USA in 2012

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SADTU: SA's most controversial union faces human rights probe

Rebecca Davis

11 May 2017 11:49

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No trade union in the democratic history of South Africa has attracted as much criticism as SADTU, the South African Democratic Teachers Union. In the past, attempts to weaken the union's powerful hold on the country's education system have largely come to naught. Over 18 months ago, the Democratic Alliance tried to go another route: asking the South African Human Rights Commission to probe whether SADTU is violating the constitutional rights of learners to a basic education. It's now been confirmed that the investigation is under way.

Selling teaching positions. Protecting sex-pest teachers. Regularly calling strikes which shut down teaching and learning at schools that can ill afford the lost time. These are just some of the charges routinely laid at the door of the South African Democratic Teachers Union (SADTU), which in the past has seemed to wield an unbreakable influence over the country's education system.

Now, the DA is hoping that the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC) can intervene. The opposition party announced on Thursday that it has been informed that the SAHRC is investigating SADTU, following a complaint laid by the DA in September 2015.

"Children's rights is one of seven focus areas of the SAHRC," DA shadow basic education minister Gavin Davis told the Daily Maverick on Thursday. "We therefore expect the SAHRC to conduct a thorough investigation into the myriad ways that SADTU denies children their right to a decent basic education."

The DA has asked the SAHRC to investigate, in particular, SADTU's "blocking of measures to hold educators accountable for poor performance"; its "neglect of teaching and learning while engaged in various unlawful protests and strikes", and its "unlawful interference and corruption in the appointment of teachers and principals".

1

Davis also points out that South Africa has more teaching days lost to strike action than any other country in southern Africa.

"It is no wonder that we get a poor return on the huge amount of money we spend on education, to the detriment of children living in the poorest parts of the country," he says.

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The opposition party has been one of SADTU's most consistent and vocal critics, and there is no love lost between the two bodies. "The DA will never rest until they destroy our organisation," SADTU media officer Nomusa Cembi told the *Daily Maverick*. 2

Leaving political ill will aside, however, is there merit in investigating whether SADTU as an organisation has contributed to denying children their right to education?

"Definitely," says Dr Nic Spaull, a senior researcher in the economics department at Stellenbosch University who has written extensively on education policy.

"Perhaps the most recent and comprehensive treatment of this topic is the Ministerial Task Team on the jobs-for-cash scandal which was released last year, also called the Volmink Report. That report states emphatically that SADTU has captured the education department in most provinces to the detriment of education."

The Volmink Report found that "six and possibly more of the nine provinces are where SADTU is in de facto charge of the management, administration and priorities of education there". The report states that SADTU's "undue influence" is "endemic to greater and lesser degrees in the entire education system". 1

Spaull also believes that it is problematic that most officials in the Department of Basic Education are paid-up member of SADTU – "making it difficult to play the role of referee in union-Department disputes".

He adds a note of caution, however: "I don't think that all the failings of the education system can be laid at the feet of SADTU. In many instances, SADTU is stepping into the gap that only exists because the department is not doing its job. The vacuum left by an absent administration is filled by SADTU."

Education lobby group Equal Education is also wary of putting all the blame for South Africa's education crisis on SADTU.

"Equal Education regards trade unions as a necessary component of a democracy," spokesperson Mila Kakaza told the *Daily Maverick*. "Teachers' unions, including SADTU, are indispensable to the transformation of South Africa's education system." The group warns against "turning valid criticisms of SADTU into reasons for undermining collective bargaining".

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However, Equal Education also notes: "There is systemic rot which SADTU must accept its share of responsibility for." 1

SADTU's power cannot be understated: it boasts more than 260,000 members and a monthly income of R18-million-plus. Within the tripartite alliance, the union wields considerable political clout. As Siphso Masondo pointed out in *City Press* last year: "It is the only affiliate of labour federation Cosatu to be found in every corner of the country and in every ANC branch. This gives the ANC a powerful and well-organised campaign resource during elections. It is for this reason that the ANC will have no incentive to mess with SADTU." 1

If SADTU is to meet its Waterloo, it is unlikely to be at the hands of the SAHRC. The Chapter 9 institution is vested with the powers to "take steps and secure appropriate redress where human rights have been violated", but in practice is widely perceived as toothless. It failed to respond to queries about the investigation from the *Daily Maverick* on Thursday.

Davis says that he does not want to prescribe any particular sanctions to the SAHRC, since the investigation is still under way. "However, we hope that the SAHRC will recommend ways to balance the rights of educators to unionise and the rights of children to a quality basic education," he says.

For its part, SADTU says it knows precisely nothing about the investigation.

"SADTU has not received any letter from the Human Rights Commission notifying us that we are being investigated," SADTU media officer Nomusa Cembi told the *Daily Maverick*. She says that the union learnt that the DA had laid a complaint against them with the SAHRC in 2015 through media reports.

"We then wrote to the commission to ask if they had indeed received the complaint and if so [if they would] provide us with a copy and advise us on the steps they were going to take in handling the complaint. The commission, up to this day, never responded to us."

But SADTU will cooperate with any legal process – "even it is brought against us by our class enemies", Cembi says.

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“SADTU remains a staunch supporter of quality public education for all our children, while protecting the rights of teachers as workers as per the same Constitution DM

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AFRICAN WAY

Published on LinkedIn on June 22, 2017

On April Fool's Day 2017, with the fall of the Treasury, South Africa finally became the fifty fourth country on the African Continent to succumb.....



.....to the 'African Way'. This is not surprising when you read extracts from William Woodruff's 'A Concise History of the Modern World' and specifically the chapter 'The Decolonization of Africa'.

William Woodruff is Graduate Research Professor (Emeritus) in Economic History at the University of Florida, Gainesville. He holds degrees from the Universities of Oxford, London, Nottingham and Melbourne (honorary).

He says 'The declaration of principles by Churchill and Roosevelt in the Atlantic Charter in 1941, with its promise of self-determination and self-government for all, heralded the end of European colonization in Africa. As the Second World War progressed, a new generation of black leaders, intent on obtaining self-rule, emerged out of the native resistance movements'.

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'By and large, the European nations were as glad to surrender political power as the native leaders were to assume it. When one compares the struggle for independence in Asia, African independence – except for Algeria – was won quietly and with relatively little bloodshed; in some cases, it was thrust upon those who sought it'.

'When one considers African traditions, and the desperate economic conditions of so many Africans, it was perhaps foolish to have expected Africa to adopt Western ways. With a tradition of hierarchical tribalism, Africa has never been disposed to democratic politics. While the number of democracies in the world is on the rise, Africa was not much closer to democratic rule in 2005 than it was in 1950. What the West understands as freedom of the individual under the law has still to be achieved. Where the rule of law has gained a foothold, it has often been broken by democratic leaders'.

'In many African countries, free elections and a free press (as the West would define them) are not tolerated; nor is an independent judiciary.

The Western idea of freely held multi-party elections is not widespread. Too many governments do not have a 'loyal opposition'; they have political enemies. Elections are a means of conserving power, not introducing democracy. In a continent where power is personalized, few presidents have ever accepted defeat in an election. Concentrated rather than shared, power is the 'African Way'.

'Having removed the colonial yoke, Africans now bear a yolk of their own making'.

'Independence from colonial powers has not only brought widespread violence; it has brought a deterioration of Africa's economic lot. It is the world's poorest, most indebted continent; the debt repayments of some countries exceed the amount being spent on health and education'.

'By holding the West responsible for the continent's extreme poverty, internal wars, tribalism, fatalism and irrationality, autocracy, disregard for the future, stifling of individual initiative, military vandalism, staggering corruption, mismanagement and sheer incompetence, Africans are indulging in an act of self-deception'

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'A similar colonial background has not prevented certain Asian countries from achieving rapid economic development. Africa cannot hope to escape from its present economic and political dilemmas by placing the blame on others'

'If Africa is to play a necessary and constructive role in the world community, it must first rediscover itself. Only Africans really know where they have been and where they might hope to go. They do not have to have Western values and Western goals to become economically viable; their cultural values are too deeply planted for that to happen. Western values and goals may be entirely inappropriate for them. Nor does their performance need to be judged by Western standards. Ultimately, African intrinsic values and goals must prevail. African ideas, confidence and resolve, rather than foreign leadership and foreign aid - much though it is needed - will eventually determine Africa's future. The continent's human qualities and its rich natural resources offer great hope'.

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QUO VADIS

Published on LinkedIn on September 1, 2017



The days of the ANC are over. The ANC are to be admired as a liberation force and their accomplishments to 1994 are to be applauded. But as a governing party, it has taken but twenty-three years to prove that they are sorely lacking in ability, ideas and morality.

The Constitution that they completed in 1990 and that was honed in 1994 to one of the finest in the democratic world, lies gathering dust as they revert to the syndrome of big man tribalism, African elitism, kleptocracy and national disdain which has typified Africa since the start of decolonization in 1941.

The western world has once again turned its back on South Africa and Foreign Direct Investment, as a consequence, is dwindling.

The mineral resources that buoyed up white minority rule in the latter part of the last century, have largely been depleted and new job creating technologies, looming on

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the international horizon, are beyond the reach and capability of a poorly educated South African population.

Financially, the country hovers around junk status and bail out loans are difficult to obtain with a debt to GDP rate of over 50%. The economy continues to plummet. A punitive IMF bailout looms.

Support of the enormous body of social grant recipients is not sustainable in the face of high unemployment and migrating taxpayers.

The ANC has alienated entrepreneurs like Elon Musk, Roelof Botha and others who now spawn jobs for foreign countries. Farmers also now plough their skills into foreign loam.

The ANC have yet to be convinced that their old school teachers Karl Marx and Fidel Castro were wrong after all.

Will the next Nelson Mandela please stand and unite this motley nation?

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THE TRIBAL FOOFIE SLIDE

Published on LinkedIn on September 10, 2017



Our tribe lived on the right-hand bank of a mighty river. The bank sloped steeply down to the raging torrent below. My ancestors had lived for many centuries on this right-hand bank and our history was littered with stories of brave members who had perished trying to descend from our safe plateau to the river below and then ascend the far bank to paradise. Fresh grazing, wild fruit and an abundance of mature trees beckoned from the left-hand bank.

One day a strange, new tribe appeared from nowhere on the lush bank across the ravine.

Within days they had erected a contraption from the high trees on their bank. The contraption then shot an object trailing a strong rope over the steep ravine and onto our bank. They shouted for us to secure the rope to trees on our side of the ravine.

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We were amazed as members of their tribe started clambering across the ravine using their hands and feet to creep, hanging upside down, along the rope. The rope swung from side to side and our people screamed in fear of the strangers tumbling to their death in the torrent below. But somehow, to everyone's relief, our new neighbours all made it across and were soon greeting and shaking hands with our tribe.

Pretty soon the strangers had erected a platform in one of our highest trees and had secured the end of the rope to the trunk. Then they asked for a volunteer from our tribe to crawl along the rope to the far side. Tsolo, our bravest and strongest member naturally volunteered and soon he was waving and shouting from his new pregnant surroundings on the far bank. Everyone was anxious to join him. But the strangers demanded a forfeit from each of those wishing to cross. Some gave treasures from their ancestors, others gave clothing that they had made and yet others promised to be labourers on the far bank.

Not all our tribe were able to make it to the far side. Some grew weak in the crossing and plummeted into the ravine. Others could not produce the required forfeit and yet others were happy to see out their declining years on the impoverished right-hand bank.

The members of our tribe that succeeded in the crossing lived out their days prosperously on the bounteous left bank. But, sadly most of our tribe were still on the right-bank and seemed destined to live out their days in poverty there.

Then one day I witnessed a miracle.

Men dressed in hard hats and blue overalls arrived on our side of the ravine. They had strange machines that made loud noises and blew smoke out of huts built on top of them. Within three full moons they had placed long hard pipes across the ravine and shortly afterwards carts, people, animals and the remains of our decimated tribe were able to walk over the bridge, as they called it, to the fertile left bank which had remained out of reach for so long.

I got up the courage to talk to one of the hard hats as I crossed the bridge. I asked innocently 'How did you do this'.

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Sitting in my new, lush surroundings, I attempted to understand his answer. He had said: 'Primary Education, Secondary Education, Tertiary Education, Foreign Direct Investment, Private Sector Confidence and Good Governance.'

I hope that before I go to meet the ancestors, I learn the meaning of the hard hat's words.

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LONGER WALK TO ECONOMIC FREEDOM

Published on LinkedIn on September 29, 2017



The people in power, who make decisions for fifty-four million South Africans, are not South African. They are a treasonous, band of kleptocrats, who have divorced themselves from the communist inspired National Democratic Revolution, from the ANC Government's National Development Plan 2030 and from the ideals, morality and national hopes of Nelson Mandela. They serve instead that most evil of the Seven Deadly Sins – Greed. This band of kleptocrats is assisted by Chinese Colonialists, Russian Oligarchs and Indian Gangsters. Their collective ambition is to bankrupt South Africa for their own selfish gain. South Africa, as a proud sovereign state, has withered under kleptocratic greed. This is surely a Grand Act of Treason against the country?

Free copy at: <https://www.free-ebooks.net/ebook/The-Longer-Walk-to-Economic-Freedom>

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ARISTOTLE ON THE FAILURE OF DEMOCRACY

Published on LinkedIn on October 23, 2017



Aristotle was an ancient Greek philosopher (384 BC – 322 BC) who had, at the age of seventeen, joined Plato's Academy in Athens. He studied there for twenty years and

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later became tutor to Alexander who would become Alexander the Great, master of the Persian Empire.

Alexander III of Macedon, commonly known as Alexander the Great, was a king of the Ancient Greek kingdom of Macedon and a member of the Argead dynasty. He was born in Pella in 356 BC and succeeded his father Philip II to the throne at the age of twenty. He spent most of his ruling years on an unprecedented military campaign through Asia and northeast Africa, and he created one of the largest empires of the ancient world by the age of thirty, stretching from Greece to north-western India

In discussions about ancient Greek democracy, the most often referenced text is the Politics of Aristotle.

He believed that someone who is virtuous in ruling a democracy, must be able to put the common good above their own individual good.

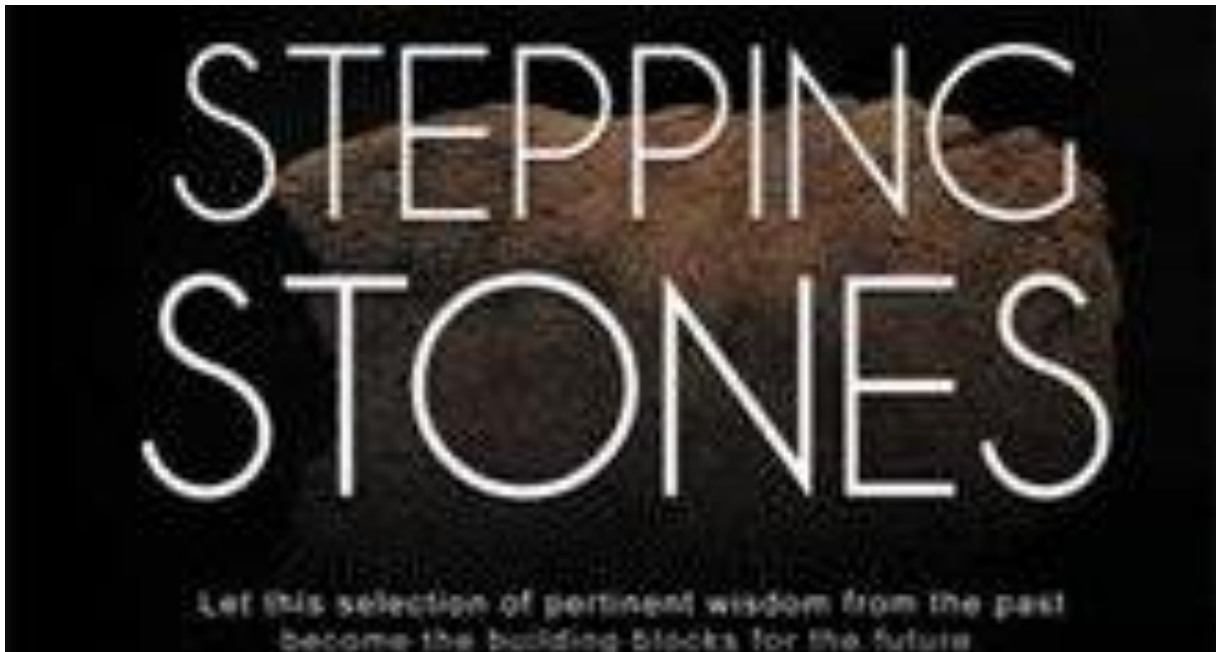
He believed a democracy is a failure where the majority is poor and non-virtuous. This means that whomever is in office, and all have equal access to office because of democracy's concept of equality, may not act in the best interests of the State and its citizens.

Aristotle famously said: 'When there is no middle class, and the poor greatly exceed in number, troubles arise, and the State soon comes to an end'.

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KLEPTOCRACY REVISITED

Published on LinkedIn on December 12, 2017



In the book 'Stepping Stones, published in 2012, I included a chapter on 'Kleptocracy'. I said at the time:

'Kleptocracy derives from the Greek words kleptos, meaning 'thief', and kratos, meaning 'rule'. It is a word used to describe a government widely engaged in corruption to extend the personal wealth and political power of individuals in the ruling class.

A corrupt and dishonest government, characterised by greed, is described as kleptocratic. Such a government is typically run by rulers who are thieves and who pillage public funds to the detriment of the poor, sometimes without the pretence of offering any form of honest public service. These kleptocrats then exploit a country's natural resources for their own greedy benefit.

The money on which these evil managers of men prey is almost always funds earmarked for the building of public amenities, schools, hospitals, roads, parks and

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public facilities. Thus, the ordinary citizen is prejudiced, inconvenienced and deprived by these selfish kleptocrats.

The term 'kleptocrat' was first used in the 1960s to describe the activities of the ruler of the independent Congo, Colonel Joseph Mobutu, who plundered the rich natural resources of that country for his personal benefit. However, the term could equally have applied to his colonial predecessor, King Leopold II of Belgium. It is said that the megacity of Brussels, a European Union bastion, was built with the kleptocratic proceeds of the resources of the Congo Basin.

The story of Africa is one of the Europeans plundering the natural resources of the continent and then, when caught with their hands in the cookie jar, hastily effecting a democratic handover to the most likely African kleptocrat.

This book has urged you young South Africans to develop your own sense of right and wrong, your own morality, your own ethics and your own zone of indifference. This in the absence of a reliable schooling and education system. It is a ploy of all kleptocrats known to man, to restrain the emerging youth from education, thus guaranteeing for themselves a stratum of humanity upon which to prey. Be warned. Be alert. Be careful. Be your own person and be democratic. It has taken Nigeria 40 years to learn this painful lesson.

See Biznews article <https://www.biznews.com/africa/2016/02/24/lessons-nigeria-pitfalls-kleptocracy-sa-take-note/>

Speaking in the House of Lords recently, Lord Peter Hain said 'I feel very strongly that South Africa is in the grip of a corrupt crony elite. We've heard about White Monopoly Capital. This is a Corrupt Crony Monopoly Elite and it is in danger of so seriously destroying all prospects for the economy, which is a resilient economy and can get through this I'm sure, but there's massive damage being done (investor confidence being damaged) and thousands and thousands of people who should be in jobs, denied that opportunity. The poorest of the poor being exploited, houses not being built, hospitals not being built, doctors not being trained, schools not being properly equipped, teachers not being properly trained, which all could be done with these billions that are being corruptly laundered'.

Mariann Thamm in her piece, *Analysis: Bell Pottinger has taught us what to treasure in the long, painful haul back to freedom -Daily Maverick, 10 July 2017*. She sums up the sentiments of most South Africans that, "many, many lives were lost on the road

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to securing this fragile and flawed democracy we currently enjoy but are in danger of losing to a kleptocratic class linked to the current leadership of the ANC and who have no respect for the law, or the history, or the goals of the liberation struggle. South Africans do not want to relive the trauma of the past. We must deal with the structural inequality and an economy that does not work for the country's black majority, but we have a pragmatic understanding that this will not be accomplished through a civil war, through the provocation of unrest and hatred".

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CRITICAL SOUTH AFRICA DEBATES



Published February 2017

March 31, 2017 will be forever remembered as the day when Zuma fired Gordhan and his sidekick Jonas. The two true South Africans who resolutely defended the last bastions of democracy – the Treasury and the Public Investment Corporation. The kleptocrats, looters, thieves and thugs have now assailed the ramparts and are about to rampage through the castle. The soldiers who made the breach possible should however prepare to go back to their lowly billets. The loot will be shared by a small group of generals who mysteriously appeared, at the time of the breach.

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TITANIC

Published on LinkedIn on December 18, 2017

SOUTH AFRICA IGNORES ICEBURG WARNING AND MUST LIKELY CALL THE IMF FOR HELP



Nelson Mandela's once popular new democratic nation, South Africa, has been brought to its knees within twenty-three years of obtaining political freedom. Through crime, kleptocracy, corruption and incompetence the African National Congress, the organization that liberated South Africa from Apartheid, has proven incapable of running the country. As with most of the de-colonized African countries, South Africa has been incapable of warding off tribalism, kleptocracy and big man syndrome in favour of democracy. The Communist inspired development economics, which focused on State Owned Enterprises, has sunk the country and will have to be re-evaluated and reconsidered.

Elections in 2019 will be akin to shifting the chairs around on the Titanic.

Danny Bradlow SARCHI Professor of International Development Law and African Economic Relations, University of Pretoria and best-selling author, political scientist

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and historian RW Johnson, offer South Africans some advice on the old African tradition of going to the IMF with the begging bowl.

International Monetary Fund

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is an international organization headquartered in Washington, D.C., of 189 countries working to foster global monetary cooperation, secure financial stability, facilitate international trade, promote high employment and sustainable economic growth and reduce poverty around the world. Formed in 1944 at the Bretton Woods Conference primarily by the ideas of Harry Dexter White and John Maynard Keynes, it came into formal existence in 1945 with 29 member countries and the goal of reconstructing the international payment system. It now plays a central role in the management of balance of payments difficulties and international financial crises. Countries contribute funds to a pool through a quota system from which countries experiencing balance of payments problems can borrow money. As of 2016 the fund had SDR477 billion (about \$668 billion).

Through the fund, and other activities such as the gathering of statistics and analysis, surveillance of its members' economies and the demand for policies, the IMF works to improve the economies of its member countries. The organization's objectives stated in the Articles of Agreement are: to promote international monetary co-operation, international trade, high employment, exchange-rate stability, sustainable economic growth, and making resources available to member countries in financial difficulty.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

Countries facing analogous crises of confidence like Nigeria, Poland and Turkey have had to seek IMF support.

South Africa can hope that the situation will improve. But it should also plan for the possibility that it will not and that confidence in the government's ability to manage its deteriorating financial situation will evaporate. This will lead to both higher borrowing costs and reduced access to financing for the government and state-owned enterprises. It could also lead to state owned enterprises defaulting on their debts and their creditors calling in their government guarantees. As government loses the ability to fund its operations, it will be forced to turn to the IMF. It is the one organization that can help it regain access to financing – on condition that South Africa agrees to implement an IMF approved set of reforms.

No-one wants an IMF programme for South Africa.

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First, it means the government accepting an outsider, dominated by rich countries, overseeing its economic policies. Second, IMF support will be conditioned on the country agreeing to painful reforms such as:

- Reducing the government's budget deficit and the current account deficit so that it can meet its financial obligations
- Deregulation and labour market reforms designed to encourage investment.

But if South Africa begins preparing for this possibility it may be able to mitigate its worst effects and be ready to exploit whatever opportunities it creates.

Negotiating with the IMF

The South African government has considerable experience dealing with the IMF, which regularly visits each of its member states to consult about the state of its economy—the most recent IMF mission visited South Africa in early November. However, it is over 20 years since South Africa negotiated a financing arrangement with the IMF.

Unless challenged, the IMF is likely to condition its financial support on a standard recipe of reforms. However, over time the IMF has become more amenable to supporting the programmes proposed by its member states. It has learned that, while there are similarities between macro-economic crises in different countries, there is more than one strategy for resolving such crises. In fact, the optimal solution depends on each country's institutional arrangements, history, economic, social, environmental and political characteristics. It also depends on the impact of macro-economic policies on such social factors as gender, equity and environmental and social sustainability.

Yanis Varoufakis, former Greek finance minister, reports in his book on his experiences negotiating with Greece's creditors that countries like Poland, through careful planning and shrewd negotiations, were able to convince the IMF to follow their plan rather than the IMF's standard approach. His book also shows that the cost of failing to prepare adequately for negotiations like these can be very high indeed.

So, what should South Africa do to ensure that it gets the best possible deal?

First, South Africa must establish clear and realistic objectives for the plan that it wants the IMF to support.

Second, it must get its diplomatic ducks in a row so that it can strike the best possible deal.

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Fixing the budget

As a priority South Africa should focus on restoring a sustainable budget situation. This will require government to make some painful policy choices about levels of expenditures as well as the purposes for which funds are allocated.

The government can build confidence in these choices if it can show that:

the benefits exceed the costs and that the costs are being equitably shared.

Policy choices are based on both the human rights imperatives stipulated in the South African Constitution and on promoting growth.

it's serious about addressing the governance problems in state owned enterprises and government departments.

it is complying with the legal procedures applicable to government finances and the open budgeting processes that it used in the past.

Finally, government must encourage other social actors – such as business and labour who have contributed to the crisis – to help mitigate the pain. A demonstration of broad support would help convince the IMF to support the government's strategy.

Diplomacy

As Varoufakis' experience shows, the cost of under-estimating the impact of international economic diplomacy on the outcomes of complex international financial negotiations can be unacceptably high.

The South African government must therefore prepare to sell its programme to the IMF. This requires it to appoint negotiators who have a good understanding of both the IMF as an institution and global financial diplomacy. They can make the South African case in the way that is most likely to convince the IMF staff and Board of Executive Directors to support the South African programme.

These negotiators should also seek to exploit all the benefits that South Africa can harvest from its membership in the institutions of global economic governance. For example, they can tap the experience and expertise of groups like the G24, a lobby group for the interests of IMF developing member states in which South Africa participates, to help it prepare for these negotiations.

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They can also draw on the stores of information in international organisations like the IMF, the World Bank and the African Development Bank that have had extensive experience dealing with developing countries facing macro-economic crises. Access to this information should be a benefit of membership. The executive directors that represent South Africa at these institutions can help the government gain access to this information and, if appropriate, identify the relevant experts to consult.

Written by Danny Bradlow, SARCHI Professor of International Development Law and African Economic Relations, University of Pretoria. This article was originally published on The Conversation.

Four things the World Bank and IMF want South Africa to do

RW Johnson

September 7, 2017

When asking how South Africa can survive the current crisis, one only must look at the four things the World Bank and other international bodies have already pointed out in the past, according to best-selling author, political scientist and historian RW Johnson.

Firstly, the education system must be improved.

Secondly, labour laws and regulations must be liberalized so that it is easier for employers to hire and fire people and it is easier to import the skills the country needs.

Thirdly, the size of the "swollen" civil service must be cut. On top of that salaries in the civil service are now estimated to be about 30% higher than the private sector, Johnson said at Rode-Reim Real Estate Conference at the Spier Wine Estate near Stellenbosch.

Fourthly, the sustainability of state-owned enterprises (SOEs) must be addressed.

"I am not saying SOEs must be privatized, but they must stop losing money," said Johnson.

He added that each of the four issues mentioned will, however, likely meet with union and political resistance in South Africa.

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"Government must produce a more business friendly environment," he said.

Becoming "spoilt"

In Johnson's view South Africans have become "spoilt" in some ways, for instance in demanding free houses.

"Nowhere else in Africa are governments told to provide free housing. There is a sense of entitlement and unions are making demands that cannot be met," said Johnson.

Another example for him is complaints from the Eastern Cape about Chinese "domination" in an auto plant investment for which it is supplying 60% of the funding.

"How can you complain about that? If they are providing 60% of the funding, surely they can also be calling the shots?" asked Johnson.

Tipping points

He is not a fan of scenario planning and sees it just to "frighten the elite".

"History does not go in a straight line. It goes through a series of tipping points," said Johnson.

SA's credit downgrades formed one such tipping point, which has changed the game. Another, in his view, will be when SA must ask the IMF for a bailout.

"Like most African countries, SA is ruled by a bureaucratic elite practicing nepotism and that leads to a bloated civil service," said Johnson.

The ANC leadership change will be another major tipping point for SA, in his view.

"Whoever becomes the next ANC leader will be an improvement on Jacob Zuma and will bring some positive uptick in the market for SA," he said.

"However, we have had a year of negative campaigning in this regard. The ANC campaigned against white rule and would like to campaign against apartheid for the next 100 years if it could. That leads it to make promises of land, health and mining reform which will drive away investors and create bad market conditions."

In his view, it creates a climate of great uncertainty where consumers hold out on buying so-called big-ticket items like cars and houses.

"Whoever is elected as next ANC leader will face a tough situation," said Johnson.

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The next tipping point will, therefore, be to see if any of the radical promises made during campaigning will remain on the table afterwards.

Black middle class

Another factor for Johnson is the pressure on government by the back-middle class as a new driving force in the SA society. He includes in this group those who are not yet part of the middle class but aspire to be.

"Yet, the government cannot give them what they demand to the same extent anymore, because the economy is not growing, and BEE opportunities are, therefore, not available that much anymore," said Johnson.

"The SA government is now weaker than at any time since 1994. The state is less and less able to fund the losses of SOEs and more and more banks do not want to roll over loans in this regard anymore."

Pay increase

The next tipping point for Johnson will be in March next year when a new three-year pay deal for civil servants must be determined. If these demands are too high, government would have to borrow internationally to be able to bear the payload.

"If government does this, the ratings agencies will see it as a very negative sign," cautioned Johnson. "I feel sorry for whoever is Zuma's successor as he or she will face a great mess," said Johnson.

IMF loan

Since 2014 Johnson has not only predicted the ratings downgrades, but also that SA will end up having to apply for some sort of IMF bailout.

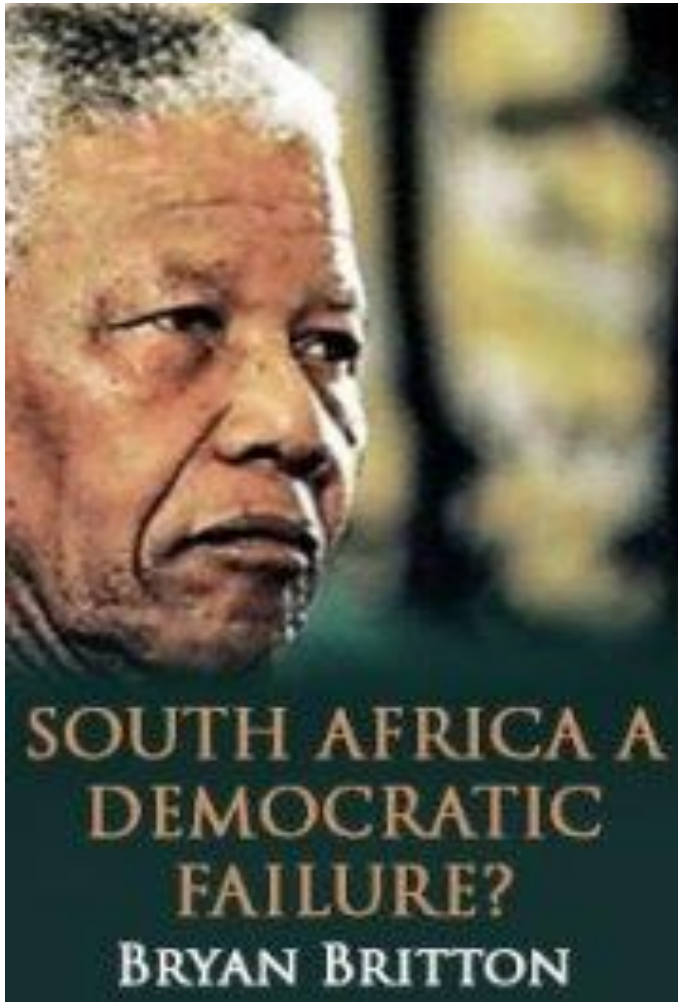
"This will not be all bad, as the IMF will insist on SA implementing the four things I mentioned earlier. The IMF is a capitalist organization in the eyes of militants in SA, but we are running out of institutions willing to lend SA money," he said.

"I think it will be a difficult period until 2019 until a deal is made with the IMF, but I think then things will start looking up as it could be a chance for a fresh start."

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SOUTH AFRICA A DEMOCRATIC FAILURE

Published November 2017



Many investigations being conducted by civil society inside the country and many being pursued by US and UK investigators from outside South Africa, will need to be completed before the extent of the damage, caused by ten years of dysfunctional Jacob Zuma and ANC rule, is finally known. In the meantime, South Africa must go forward despite the prospect of another ANC period of mismanagement, post the 2019 ANC elective conference, being a distinct possibility. The current economic and political status begs the question: 'is South Africa a failed democracy?'

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HOW THE WORLD SEES SOUTH AFRICA

Zuma 'functionally illiterate on economics', country ruled by thieves

by Matthew le Cordeur

February 23, 2017

South Africa's day of reckoning with international rating agencies is coming as a result of President Jacob Zuma, who "[ushered in a kleptocracy](#) that's now reached deep into his entire administration, barring the Treasury".

That's the view of [Eurasia Group president Ian Bremmer](#) and author of Time magazine's list of the world's top geopolitical risks, who visited South Africa in February on a fact-finding mission.

Eurasia Group president Ian Bremmer

Bremmer placed South Africa in 10th place on the Times risk list, an alarming position to be in considering the various tensions rising around the world.

An influential Wall Street adviser based in New York, Bremmer is a leading political scientist specialising in US foreign policy, states in transition and global political risk.

In an email to investors, analysts and economists around the world, Bremmer said he "encountered one of the most dysfunctional governments in the emerging market space right now".

Zuma is 'functionally illiterate on economics'

"President Jacob Zuma is an exceptionally savvy political tactician but functionally illiterate on economics," said Bremmer.

"And he's ushered in a kleptocracy that's now reached deep into his entire administration, barring the Treasury.

"That they've managed to forestall credit downgrades is surprising, but the day of reckoning is coming, especially as the political pressures around Zuma mount."

He pointed to hope in the form of [Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa](#), but said it seems he doesn't have enough votes within the African National Congress (ANC) to make [his rise to the presidency a reality](#).

How Zapiro views Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa's current role. More magic available at [zapiro.com](#)

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"There's an eclectic but significant alliance forming around ... Ramaphosa to take over the leadership of the ... ANC party in December, with big business, the [country's trade unions](#), and the communists all hoping for an alternative to Zuma's corruption.

"Ramaphosa certainly holds the moral high ground among party members, but that doesn't count for much in the party's internal elections, which will see some violence and is likely to be about brown envelopes rather than policy positions.

"At least for now, it doesn't look like [Ramaphosa has the votes inside the ANC.](#)"

Glimmer of hope

However, Bremmer offered a sense of hope.

"Still, that doesn't mean the wheels are about to fall off South Africa," he said.

"There's a rich talent base in the country – only about 20% of South Africa's whites left the country post-apartheid, and the elite labour pool is now reasonably well mixed between black and white.

"Further, South Africa's economy is no longer dominated by commodities, but instead has diversified towards infrastructure, services and information technology, all of which bodes well for a comparatively inexpensive and high quality-of-life destination.

"Education remains poor and immigration is limited (mostly because of spotty execution on visas rather than the policies themselves), which limits the upside, but you already see South Africa, on Europe's time zone, becoming a more attractive back office destination for European firms."

Africa's rise is also good news for South Africa.

"As Africa itself continues to grow, the base for diversified firms continues to be South Africa," said Bremmer.

"Especially because the larger African markets – Egypt and Nigeria – are otherwise unattractive as destinations for regional hubs.

"For increased consumption and infrastructure, Africa overall will still see moderate to high growth. Companies that plan on expanding investments accordingly will mostly situate themselves in South Africa." – Fin24

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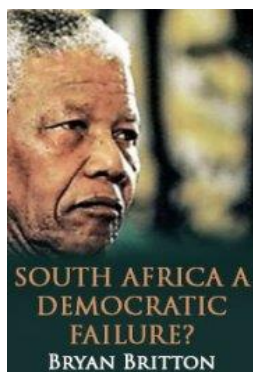
OTHER BOOKS PUBLISHED BY BRYAN BRITTON



Retired as a Financial Executive in 2005 and turned to writing to express his concerns over the decline in morality in post Mandela South Africa. If not checked South Africa will slide into the morass of Failed States that typifies post-colonial Africa.

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South Africa a Democratic Failure?

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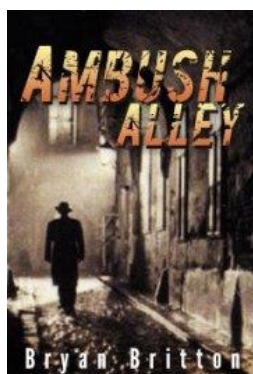
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Ambush Alley

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[Bryan Britton | Drama](#)

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Published: Jan 2017

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We expected too much in 1994. With the collapse of communism, we anticipated that the ANC under Mandela South Africa would subscribe to Western Democracy. For a while under him and later Mbeki, we did just that. We applied Western Economic Policies and stepped back from the precipice upon which we...



Critical South Africa Debates

[Bryan Britton | Politics](#)

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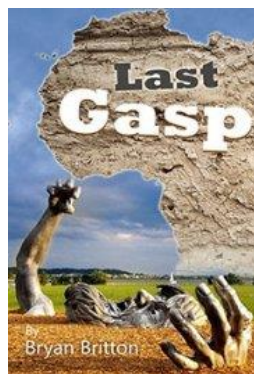
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Published: Apr 2017

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March 31, 2017 will be forever remembered as the day when Zuma fired Gordhan and his sidekick Jonas. The two true South Africans who resolutely defended the last bastions of democracy – the Treasury and the Public Investment Corporation. The kleptocrats, looters, thieves and thugs have now...



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Last Gasp

[Bryan Britton](#) | Drama

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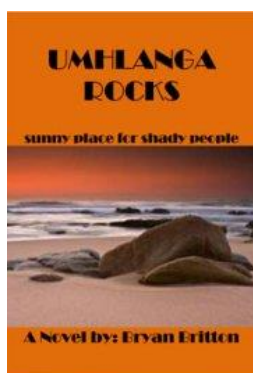
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The jury is out. The judgement is awaited. The tension is palpable. The journalists wait, pens poised, to see whether African Kleptocracy or Western Democracy will prevail. The importance of the judgement is that it will determine the future of South Africa and its citizens Over-dramatization...



Umhlanga Rocks

[Bryan Britton](#) | Drama

Rating: Rated: 4 times

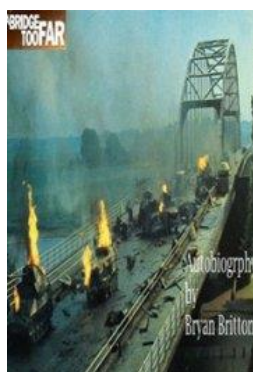
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Jacques Perot is an ex-executive turned beach bum living in the bohemian sub-tropical paradise known as Umhlanga Rocks. He finds a new zest for life in meeting the lovely Linda, a newcomer to the village. By chance he uncovers a plot that can disturb the frivolity and fun of this unique place on...



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A Bridge Too Far

[Bryan Britton](#) | [Biography](#)

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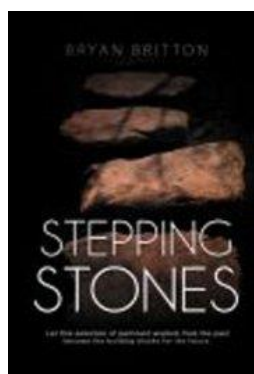
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An autobiography of one South African's experiences growing up in Apartheid riddled South Africa. Between 1948 and 1994 South Africa was abhorred by the world because of it's dreadful separate development policies. Life however had to go on for South Africa's multi cultured citizens. Here is one...



Stepping Stones

[Bryan Britton](#) | [Philosophy \(Academic\)](#)

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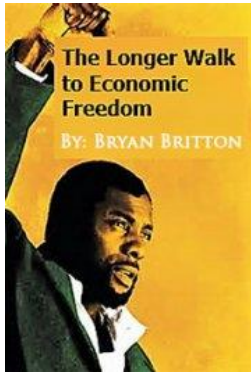
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A Guide for The Youth on Morality, Ethics and Life. The Sages, Philosophers, Luminaries and Prominent Citizens of History Have Left a Footprint For Living A Moral And Productive Life. Their Wisdom Endures Forever.

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The Longer Walk to Economic Freedom

BG Britton | Economy

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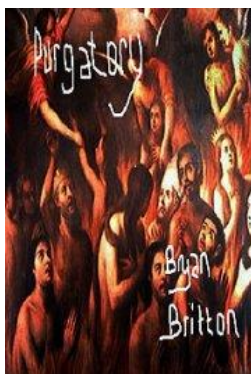
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The people in power, who make decisions for fifty-four million South Africans, are not South African. They are a treasonous, band of kleptocrats, who have divorced themselves from the communist inspired National Democratic Revolution, from the ANC Government's National Development Plan 2030 and...



Purgatory

BG Britton | Fiction

Rating: Rated: 0 times

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Published: Jun 2017

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Purgatory is the sequel to A Bridge Too Far which has been downloaded 3,200 times. Purgatory follows the author as South Africa declines from admired Western Democracy to State Capture by bandits, corrupt politicians and gangsters. Alan Paton, celebrated author of the classic 'Cry, the Beloved...