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TO ALL MEDIA

21st JULY 2020

OFFICIAL LAUNCH – CREDO MUTWA ANNUAL LECTURE & 99TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

On the 21st July 1921 a great iSanusi graced the earthly realm and

was named Credo Vusamazulu Mpumelelo Mutwa. He was born in the majestic mountains of Zululand now called Kwa-Zulu Natal Province.

March 25th 2020 the larger than life soul ascended to the realm of the ancestors at the age of 98 in a hospital in Kuruman, Northern Cape Province.

The past 3 months saw the family and the Credo Mutwa Foundation (CMF) observing the cultural ritual of mourning period which its end coincides with the celebration of his 99th birthday 21st July 2020.

His death a mere day before the country went into national lockdown due to the Coronavirus, which saw the introduction of essential restrictive regulations geared at containing the spread of the virus, which introduced unintentional consequences whereby the family, CMF and the broader public were deprived an opportunity to honour and celebrate the life and times of this Baobab Tree that had fallen.

uBaba Mutwa was considered by many – particularly beyond the borders of South Africa and the Continent as one of the foremost holders of African Indigenous Wisdom. He was a polymath – at once a Seer, Sage, Healer, Teacher, Philosopher, Historian, Artist, Playwright, Orator, Sculptor and Prolific Award Winning Author.

His teachings can be found in his books, paintings, sculptures, and recorded material. Yet, while in some quarters he was celebrated as many flocked to him to drink of his wisdom, in others iSanusi Vusamazulu Credo Mutwa was misunderstood and vilified, particularly when he shared his sobering visions of the future.

At the Heritage Day celebrations 2019 in Upington, President Cyril Ramaphosa revered this keeper of African indigenous knowledge and said “**We are fortunate to still have among us great champions of heritage preservation, who have dedicated their lives to fighting ignorance of African Customs**”

The President further partially quoted uBaba’s lamenting statement when he said “**I believe that a truly democratic country is a country that uses the spiritual talents and the heritage of its people to feed the hungry and clothe the naked**”

Board Members:

Ms R Ngara, Ms N Mutwa, Ms M Setai, Ms N Nyembe



It was very sobering and almost prophetic for the President to attest to the in depth knowledge and relevance of our forebears indigenous medicinal knowledge especially in light of the current Covid19 health challenges and said ***“Our Ancestors survived life under extreme circumstances because of their knowledge of the land, water preservation, understanding of animals and their vast knowledge of traditional plants and medicines”***

Due to iSanusi’s multifaceted nature outlined above, the CMF has put together a virtual commemorative programme scheduled for the 25th July 2020 which coincides with the day he departed four months ago. The commemoration is going to take a form of a Fundraising Musical Festival and official launch of his Annual Inaugural Lecture:

Credo Mutwa Annual Lecture:

The inaugural lecture is launched at a time when multiple voices who wanted to celebrate his life and times were muted and kept hostage due of Covid19 restrictions, denying the CMF to host memorial services and dialogue interactions as we were accustomed to, thus the Foundation decided that the initial lecture will take form of a live streamed ***“Credo-Memoration Virtual Dialogue”*** creating a platform where esteemed panelists will unpack the multifaceted aspects of the 99 years of who Credo Mutwa was, outlining the Spiritual meaning of his passing amongst others.

The various panelists will comprise of: Authors, African Spiritualists, Artists, Philosophers, Traditional Healers and Indigenous Knowledge Systems Experts.

Fundraising Virtual Music Festival:

This event is geared at celebrating uBaba Credo Mutwa the artist and music composer, bringing to live some of his artistic work and launch of a collaborative song dedicated to him from various artists which will form of an album to be launched during his Centenary 2021.

The Concert is collaborative effort by musicians and artists who felt the need to contribute in kind in celebrating the life and times of uBaba Mutwa, the family and foundation feel truly humbled by the outpouring of generosity in upholding this great legacy.

Detailed programme will be circulated to the media and on all our social media platforms.

End...

Issued on behalf of Credo Mutwa Foundation

Spokesperson – Credo Mutwa Foundation

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