

Att: Mr L. Brown

CBL 3

2/9/07
2007

MAGADLA MISSION
P.O. BOX 307
SIJOKA VILLAGE
MATATIELE 4730

TO : ATTENTION: MR L. BROWN
THE SECRETARY OF PARLIAMENT OF RSA
P.O. BOX 15
CAPE TOWN, 8000

DATED : 2007-09-03

Sir/Madam,

SUBJECT : CROSS-BOUNDARY MUNICIPALITIES LAWS
REPEAL AND RELATED MATTERS
AMENDMENT BILL (B25—2007)

INTRODUCTION : MATATIELE IS PART OF KWAZULU-NATAL IN
ANY WAY, NOTHING LINKS MATATIELE TO
EASTERN CAPE

1. Government structures like local Matatiele municipality, Eastern Cape provincial legislature must not show their interest to pursue their long time agreed position with their leading political party i.e. to force the people of Matatiele, Maluti and surrounding rural areas to Eastern Cape. For instance the Matatiele Local Municipality had been giving the people forms to fill promising them service delivery like water, electricity, toilets and even burial schemes under municipality. After the forms were collected, they were immediately changed to be the lists of the people supporting the view of Matatiele falling under Eastern Cape. The government must let the affected people decide.

The government must look at the real factors and situation of Matatiele in comparison with the constitution of South Africa. Service delivery is not an issue in Matatiele since most Local Municipalities in all provinces are not doing well in service delivery. However, we, at Matatiele are looking mainly at what makes our daily lives.

There is no way that the government can divorce Matatiele from KwaZulu-Natal Province.

- (a) Employment opportunities: Thousands and thousands of our people work in Natal, mostly semi skilled and unskilled people whilst we have got only professional group, like teachers and nurses employed by Eastern Cape, a group which all provinces employed in South Africa.
- (b) Education: Thousands of our children leave their local schools in rural areas for better and quality education in town, Matatiele as has been under KZN, now that it has been declared to be in the Eastern Cape, a shift to Kokstad, Harding, Port Shepstone e.t.c. in KZN has began. After

completing their matric, our children go to KZN for tertiary education, very few think of the Eastern Cape.

- (c) Health services: Our people had been leaving their local clinics/health centres in rural areas which already are in the Eastern Cape to access services in town which has been in KZN, mainly for them to be admitted in Natal so that if any transfer is made, it should be to Durban or Pietermaritzburg in Natal where they have got ties and relatives. It is very much impossible for a patient from Matatiele to be transferred to Umtata, East London or Port Elizabeth in the Eastern Cape when needing serious attention.
- (d) Distance: All the above are made possibly easy and cheaper by the short distance and time to KZN (cities and headquarters) 3 hours drive as compared to 7 hours to Eastern Cape, Bisho.
- (e) Emigration: Hundreds of the people of Matatiele are moving into Natal, buying houses, working, studying, doing businesses e.t.c none have an interests in the Eastern Cape.
- (f) Culture: At Matatiele we have communities with varying cultures i.e Hlubis, Bhacas with their culture more linked to KZN as their roots are in KwaZulu. Sothos have their unique cultures, totally different from those found in Eastern Cape. The practise of circumcision done at Matatiele is completely different from that one of the Eastern Cape. The Eastern Cape provincial legislation of circumcision also exclude the manner in which this is practised in Matatiele by Hlubis and Sothos. Therefore Chiefs/traditional leaders who are in the House of traditional leaders in Eastern Cape parliament, must not use circumcision as a way of maintaining their position in parliament by holding Matatiele under Eastern Cape. They are the people whom we expect to represent their real identity and culture, they must not sacrifice their identity and own culture only to hold their positions in parliament. If our traditional leaders deserve to be in parliament, they will get positions even in KZN legislature.

I, the constitution of South Africa and the manner in which Matatiele is situated 100 percent support the view of having Matatiele (Town) and its surrounding rural areas administered under the province of KwaZulu-Natal.

NAME : STEVEN M. JAFTA
 ID NUMBER :
 AREA :
 WARD :

