

SOUTH AFRICA

Nonhle Mbuthuma Harassed for defending Indigenous rights

Women human rights defender and farmer Nonhle Mbuthuma courageously defends Indigenous land rights as an Australian mining company seeks to mine titanium on her traditional territory. She said, “When you take my land, you take my identity. I know myself because of the land.”

Nonhle is part of the amaMpondo Indigenous people who have communal rights to land on South Africa’s Eastern Cape. Around 5,000 people from five villages may be forcibly evicted if the company is allowed to mine the land. The residents could lose their homes, livelihoods, and way of life.

To protect their rights, community members including Nonhle founded the Amadiba Crisis Committee in 2007. Since then, she has been continually intimidated and threatened. She even survived an attempt to kill her; another community leader was shot dead in 2016 and Nonhle was told she was next on the ‘hit list’.

She believes the threats are an attempt to silence her and force her to flee her land. But she’s determined to resist. As she says: “This land was my grandmother’s. She inherited it from her grandparents. What am I going to leave for my children? Mining is not an option.”

Nonhle plans to continue advocating for her people’s rights. It’s our turn to stand up for her.

Call on South Africa to respect Indigenous rights and protect Nonhle.



Everyone has the right to
security of person, to
freedom of expression and
to an adequate standard
of living,
including...housing...

Articles 3, 19 and 25,
Universal Declaration
of Human Rights

**WRITE
FOR
RIGHTS**

**AMNESTY
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To take action, go to the next page.

Unleash your pens and keyboards!

Please write to the president of South Africa.

- ◆ Start with Your Excellency.
- ◆ Describe who you are and what concerns you about the constant harassment of Nonhle Mbuthuma.
- ◆ Ask him for effective and prompt steps to protect her.
- ◆ Urge him to investigate the intimidation targeted at her.

Send your message to

Cyril Ramaphosa
President of the Republic of South Africa
Union Buildings
Private Bag X1000
Pretoria, South Africa 0001
Postage: \$2.50
Fax: 011 12 323 8246
E-mail: presidentrsa@presidency.gov.za
Twitter: @PresidencyZA

Please send a copy to

His Excellency
Sibongiseni Yvonne Dlamini-Mntambo
High Commissioner for South Africa
15 Sussex Drive
Ottawa, Ontario K1M 1M8
Postage: \$.85
Fax: (613) 741-1639
Email: rsafrica@southafrica-canada.ca

Women human rights defenders like Nonhle Mbuthuma are at risk around the world. Join Amnesty's efforts to protect the rights of those who defend our rights.

www.amnesty.ca
#WriteforRights #womensrights #WHRD



Support Nonhle Mbuthuma!

Demonstrate your solidarity with Indigenous rights advocate Nonhle Mbuthuma by sending a message to let her know that she is not alone.

You may use any type of greeting, you may mention Amnesty in your message, and you may include your return address.

Nonhle Mbuthuma
C/o Amnesty International South Africa
97 Oxford Road
Saxonwold, 2196
Johannesburg, South Africa

Or send your message via What's App at
011 27 60 998 3316.

Women human rights defenders around the world often face a heightened risk of discrimination and violence because of their gender and because of the social change for which they advocate. These risks are compounded for women experiencing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination (i.e. Indigenous women, women defending the environment, land, and territory).

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