



LDARD and Giyani Local Municipal officials jointly repairing the fence along Shingwedzi River near Mninginisi village last year.

Honouring Mandela Day

By Samson Mabunda

Nelson Mandela International Day (or Mandela Day) is an annual international day in honour of Nelson Mandela, celebrated each year on 18 July, Mandela's birthday. The day was officially declared by the United Nations [UN] in November 2009, with the first UN Mandela Day held on 18 July 2010, Wikipedia states.

Therefore, for 67 years he spent making the world a better place, and one minute for each year needs to be spent doing something good, people as an organisation or individuals are urged. The needy could benefit from your contribution regardless of how little it might look. We can always make a difference to the less privileged like the homeless, persons with disabilities, orphanage and others.

Having a Christian community in the country, perhaps the Bible phrase in 2 Corinthians 9:7 saying, "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" suffices.

The Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (LDARD) has committed itself in doing a community service on Mandela Day. **The legendary Mandela's selected quotes are as thus:**

"Poverty is not caused by an accident. Like slavery and apartheid, it is man-made and can be removed by the actions of human beings."

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

"It always seems impossible until it is done."

"Real leaders must be ready to sacrifice all for the freedom of their people."

"A fundamental concern for others in our individual and community lives would go a long way in making the world the better place we so passionately dreamt of."

"For to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others."

"A good head and a good heart are always a formidable combination."

LDARD officials always do community service for hours annually during Mandela Day. Last year, a huge team was dispatched to Giyani where they jointly fixed the fence along Shingwedzi River near Mninginisi with a team from the local municipality. The effort was reducing the chances of buffaloes crossing into the communal grazing area. As buffaloes are known carriers of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), the endeavour was preventing the FMD in the village and the surrounding areas.

This article serves to remind everyone about the importance of helping someone as Mandela Day approaches.