



Time Travel Freedom Park, Create a Legacy

Goal

To contribute in the creation of future legacy of the country.

To reflect on the challenges in today's society and how to meet them.

Find ways to develop the mandate of Freedom Park on social cohesion, reconciliation and nation building

Historical development of Freedom Park

The story of South Africa is the story of the struggle of humanity to live harmoniously with all humankind within its environment. Therefore, the vision behind Freedom Park is to portray the South African heritage and development of **diversity, to bring together multiple identities** and perspectives to create one national identity.

Freedom Park is a place of pilgrimage and inspiration. **Its mandate is to be the national and international icon for humanity and freedom, nation building, reconciliation and social cohesion.**

It is a place of historical meaning and celebration. However, myths and prejudices have concealed the true history of South Africa. Thus, Freedom Park was created to address certain historical gaps, distortions and biases to **provide new perspectives of our heritage.**

Freedom Park provides the element of solemnity and dignity in an aesthetic manner through its elements. South Africa is bonded by a rich history and landscape. However, there has been imbalances in the interpretation of this rich cultural landscape by colonialism, and apartheid.

Government decided on the establishment of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. **In its report, the TRC recommended that a monument be established to honour** all these who sacrificed their lives for the freedom now enjoyed. **Freedom Park was then established as a priority legacy project**, to balance the heritage for purposes of reconciliation, social cohesion and nation building. In 1999 in Mthatha, the announcement was made.

Before the precinct was constructed on the site the idea of ubuntu embedded on it and emancipation of the African voice had to be recognized. For this reason, Thabo Mbeki had to first plant an African tree to report this massive project to the ancestors. On 22 June 2002 Mbeki unveiled a plaque with a caption that umuntu umuntu ngabantu –motho ke motho ka batho - I am because you are, affirming unity in diversity.

The first construction started with Isivivane, a spiritual resting place. On 16 December 2011 president Jacob Zuma officially opened the reconciliation road which joins Freedom Park and Voortrekker Monument. On 22 April 2013 president Kgalema Motlante officially handed over the precinct to the public by opening the //happo museum,

Nelson Mandela visited Freedom Park in 2009 to get an insight in the achievements and future development of the park.

Bongane Mkhize

Scenario, How to meet the challenges of today and fulfil the mandate of Freedom Park? Prepare a manifesto for Nelson Mandela's visit at Freedom Park in 2009.

Freedom Park, a national shrine for social cohesion, reconciliation and nation building. That was the task given. And much has been achieved, both at Freedom Park and in the country. Freedom Park has its places for reflection and reconciliation, the wall of names, a fantastic museum. The process to achieve all of it has been inclusive and ambitious.

And the country is changed, very much to the better. There is freedom and democracy, only a dream for the forefathers. But much is still left to do to reach a cohesive country. In several ways South Africa is still divided: in residential areas, schools, churches, land, employment. Racism and xenophobia is sometimes a reality. Unemployment, corruption, land ownership, education are concerns for many. And some people say that their narratives/ voices have not been heard. Other say that the country is not moving fast enough. How to go further?

When Nelson Mandela is coming he wants a report. This is achieved. But he also expects honesty. What are the failures? And moreover, what do we plan to meet the challenges, what are the ideas to build a country for all? And how to engage the different race groups to work on the future together, with all the narratives in mind? A common manifesto for the future legacy of the country is needed.

Today representatives from all provinces have come to Freedom Park to discuss achievements but even more how to meet the challenges of today. A manifesto for the country will be developed. What to include in that manifesto, in agreement with the mandate of Freedom Park, social cohesion, reconciliation and nation building? And how to make everybody engaged in all provinces, unite the divide? Then you can't just talk but need to use all the senses. People from the local community have heard that Mandela is coming and also want their stories to be heard.

Mandela expects only the best. So, we need to prepare an incredible presentation for him and his accompanies? A national manifesto with several articles to meet the challenges will be created, a future legacy. "Vision with action can change the world"

Roles

People gathering from the provinces – conference delegates and learners

People from the local community - conference delegates and learners

Persons of various opinions

Praise singers, Simo and more

Official and staff of Freedom Park

Mandela's adviser - Tlou Makhura

Special characters:

Promoting people's stories - Gulshera

Promoting the former privileged' s stories - Simo

Promoting more disillusioned persons – Mogale city staff

Cohesive person - Zimi

Driving persons of the Time Travel: Floyd, Ebbe

Key questions

How to live the legacy of the vision of Freedom Park: reconciliation, social cohesion and nation building?

How to engage people of all provinces and races to meet the challenges of today, tell their stories and build cohesion? Use all senses to inspire and engage!

Activities

Together we make a manifesto how to meet the challenges below, a plan to engage the masses in interactive dialogue. Remember the indigenous knowledge systems.

A manifesto is short. Each group writes three phrases/ articles, identifying the most important challenge, what you want to do and how to do it, engaging many people around the country.

You will have three minutes to present your plans and convince the rest of the participants.

Decide a cultural expression for your presentation. Suggestions are in brackets below.

- Gender (song/ dance), Losette, IKS, North West
- Land ownership (drama), Julius, Tina, IKS, Mpumalanga
- Racism/ xenophobia (ritual), Annina, IKS, Gauteng
- Corruption (story telling), Johanna, Justinus, IKS, Northern Cape
- Unemployment (artwork), Bessie, Adam, IKS, Eastern Cape
- Education (banner), Victoria, Bongane, IKS, KwaZulu-Natal
- Crime, violence (poetry), Radikobo, IKS, Free State
- Health (illustration/ story), Andy, Thabiso, IKS, Western Cape
- Praise singing (to Mandela, Albertina Sisulu and freedom fighters), Simo

Local community: bead making (Judy, Monica, Vivan), basket making, wood work (Victor)
Traditional games, Kindness

Time Plan

13.30 Introduction, characters

14.00 Initiation

People of different opinions

Activities

15.00 Presentations

15.40 Reconciliation ceremony, dance, drink, song

16.00 End

Meet and greet

Note

The scenario is not re-enacting the preparations for Mandela's visit in 2009 but using that event to reflect on important issues of today and in the past.

11 September 2018

Bridging Ages team

Questions after the Time Travel

Compare the manifesto with the 17 Global goals and the National Development Plan 2030 for South Africa.

How to engage people of all provinces and races to implement the goals and the manifesto?