

**THE**  
**‘U KA NKETSANG HA E AHE MOTSE HO AHOA OA MORAPALI THESELE’**  
**NON-VIOLENCE CAMPAIGN**

Development for Peace Education (DPE), a civil society organisation based on the principles of justice, sharing and respect for human dignity has learned of unfortunate break of violence in South Africa levelled against foreign nationals in that country and the looming violence surrounding education sector in the kingdom of Lesotho. DPE abhors violence and invites all to condemn it in the strongest terms.

On the xenophobic attacks in South Africa, DPE seeks to remind and warn South Africans that just like the whole continent supported and accommodated them when apartheid dispersed them, this behaviour has potential of creating enmity between South Africans on the one hand and the rest of Africans on the other. DPE considers this as inhumane, barbaric and disrespectful to human dignity. The video clips going viral on the social media depicting women beaten and undressed by multitudes of men do not only dehumanise women in question but perpetuates horror and disgrace beyond limits. DPE finds statements by some leaders in South Africa aggravating the situation. While DPE appreciates the statement made by Government of Lesotho and the Leader of Opposition on this situation, more is expected. First the government statement is only cautionary and directed to Basotho nationals, secondly the Opposition statement condemns but more than that is needed. Government is urged to take up the matter both through bilateral and multilateral diplomatic channels to propose emergent leadership session on the issue, and asses the risk Basotho are facing in South Africa to come up with relevant measures. The Opposition is urged to escalate its intervention to liaising with their counterparts in South Africa and the region to urge governments to rise to the challenge.

Meanwhile DPE has learned of the reports that some teachers in particular principals, teachers who are back at school and the team of teachers negotiating with government are receiving threats. While it is not yet clear where the threats originate from, DPE calls on the perpetrators to stop forthwith. DPE highly regrets division among teachers in so far as their struggle is concerned. However, teachers must be free to choose what to do without (fear of threats of violence). Further DPE works with teacher formations and the Lesotho Council of NGOs to reunite teachers. If teachers going to school receive death threats, is the same violent threat not going to invoke the similar threats from students and parents who may feel aggrieved when teachers are prohibited from teaching?

DPE calls upon;

- ✓ Basotho to denounce violence and promote the adage used by Morena Moshoeshe that ' U ka nketsan'g ha e ahe motse, motse ho ahoa oa morapeli Thesele' translated as *no community is built by power based on force and authoritarian leadership, rather by negotiation and dialogue*;
- ✓ Teachers and Government to remain in talks;
- ✓ Government to act with restraint and hold its intention to apply ' no work no pay' principle to teachers who are on strike as that would facilitate internal teachers- leadership dialogue;
- ✓ Basotho to denounce violence in all its forms on the matters related to teachers;
- ✓ Students to express their views and make their voices heard through non-violent and legal means. In this regard DPE applauds students in Mafeteng who sought legal route to handover their petition.

Meanwhile there shall be citizen's dialogue sessions at the DPE community libraries in its areas;

1. White City, Khoelenya Community Council.
2. Hareeng High School, Seforong.
3. Lekokoaneg High School, Senekane.
4. Tloha-re-bue, Ofising ea morena oa sehloho, Poli-hali.
5. Sebelekoane Secondary School, 'Mamaebana.
6. Ha Lechesa, Kuebunyane.
7. Ha Molomo, Lebakeng.
8. Ha Nkau, Hloahloeng.

Citizens shall express their views on these matters which shall in turn inform Constructive Engagement Advocacy of the organisation.