

Farm dwellers opening remarks

Challenges and solutions to rural safety

- White farmers don't want to accept change that came with 1994 democratic government and Mandela said it's a rainbow nation and that's why we have lot of conflicts amongst ourselves.
- We still facing illegal evictions and pounding of our livestock without court orders and we don't get help to when we report that to the police as they are the ones assisting farm owners.
- There are no transformation in farm police stations as they still operate as SAP not SAPS.
- Farm dwellers are still judged by the colour of their skin as every criminality happening in farm areas black man is a suspect while even white farm owners commit serious crimes and kill our people.
- Farm dwellers are still denied burial rights service delivery like water and building proper houses with bricks and farmers use police to stop those services.
- Our police still don't understand that we have land rights as farm dwellers such as extension of security of tenure act to them we are farm owners properties so they need workshops on that.
- Farm watch securities have now taken responsibilities of police we don't know if we still have police officers on farms and this securities are assaulting our people do unauthorised roadblocks and unauthorised search caring big guns.
- Rural safety should involve everyone not to be exclusive it has to be a matter of both blacks and whites.
- Cameras that have been put on farms public roads we don't know who authorized them or do they report to our police stations so we can be able to get their footages.
- There's a tendency from white farmers to undermine black Station commanders because they want white station commanders who will protect them.
- Farm murders doesn't affect white farmers only but it also affects us black farm dwellers but the picture painted is that black farm dwellers are killing farm owners.
- So to have rural safety that accommodates everyone the government must have security companies that would do the work for both of us whites and blacks.
- At our police stations we need stock theft units that would be centred in farms police stations to deal with stock theft.
- Farm police should be assisted with land cruisers bakkies so they can be able to travel even in mountains areas.
- We need new CPF that would be multiracial and come from community structures and farm owners.
- Our people should know CPF coordinators and have their numbers.
- Farm police stations should be community centres for the sake of farm dwellers to get help.

Let's work together to build a non-racial and non-sexiest South Africa.