



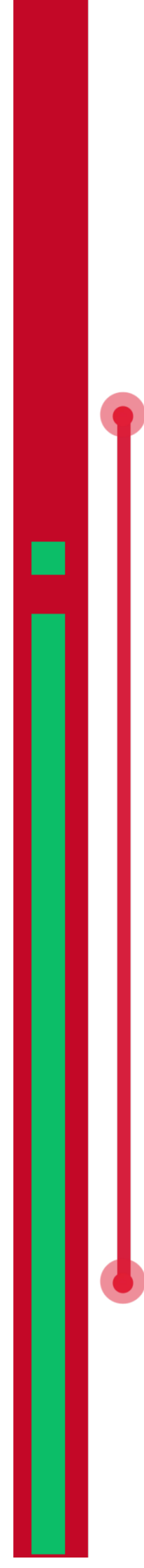
## **MAYIBUYE CONSULTATION PROCESS HONOURS AND SALUTES PATRICE LUMUMBA ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY.**

03 July 2025

Mayibuye Consultation Process in South Africa proudly joins you in celebrating the centennial of Patrice Emery Lumumba, born on July 2, 1925, a towering figure whose revolutionary courage and unyielding vision for African liberation continue to inspire our collective struggle. As we mark 100 years of his enduring legacy, we stand united under the rallying cry of “Mayibuye iAfrika” – Africa must return and its wealth, land and dignity restored – drawing profound inspiration from Lumumba’s fearless spirit to fuel our mission of reclaiming our dignity, sovereignty, and destiny. This is our call to all Africans to honor Lumumba’s life by recommitting to the fight for justice, unity, and self-determination.

For those unfamiliar with Patrice Lumumba, he was a Congolese independence leader and the first democratically elected Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, then known as the Republic of the Congo, following its independence from Belgium in 1960. Born in the village of Onalua in central Congo, Lumumba rose from humble beginnings to become a passionate advocate for African self-determination. A gifted orator and thinker, he galvanized his people with a vision of a united, prosperous, and sovereign Congo, free from colonial exploitation. His leadership challenged the oppressive structures of Belgian colonialism, which had plundered Congo’s vast resources while subjecting its people to brutal subjugation. Lumumba’s uncompromising stance on true independence made him a global symbol of resistance against imperialism.

Despite his brief tenure as Prime Minister, Lumumba’s impact was profound. He sought to unite Congo’s diverse ethnic groups and assert control over the country’s natural wealth, particularly its minerals, which were coveted by foreign powers. His bold vision, however, threatened colonial and Western interests, leading to his tragic assassination on January 17, 1961, at the age of 35, orchestrated with the complicity of Belgian and American forces. Lumumba’s death, far from silencing his message, transformed him into a martyr of African liberation, inspiring freedom movements across the continent and beyond. His life and legacy remain a powerful reminder of the cost and necessity of fighting for justice.



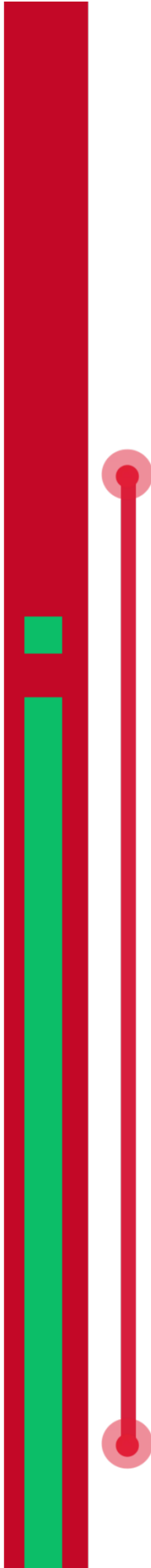
Lumumba was more than a leader; he was a beacon of hope, a prophet of African unity, and a martyr whose sacrifice ignited a flame that burns brightly in the hearts of all who yearn for true freedom. His historic speech on June 30, 1960, at Congo's independence ceremony, remains a defining moment in African history. With unflinching courage, he exposed the horrors of colonial oppression, honored the resilience of his people, and declared Africa's right to shape its own future. For the Mayibuye Consultation Process, Lumumba's audacity in speaking truth to power is a guiding light, inspiring us to confront the lingering shadows of apartheid, neocolonialism, and economic injustice in South Africa and beyond with the same fearless resolve.

The Mayibuye Consultation Process, rooted in the vision of a restored and empowered Africa, finds in Lumumba a revolutionary ancestor whose life embodies the essence of our struggle. His unwavering commitment to self-determination mirrors the spirit of South Africans who resisted apartheid's brutality and continue to challenge systemic inequities today. Lumumba's assassination was a brutal attempt to extinguish his light. Yet, his death only amplified his influence, transforming him into a symbol of resistance for Africans everywhere. From Soweto to Accra, from Harlem to Havana, Lumumba's name became synonymous with the unyielding fight for freedom. For us, his sacrifice is a reminder that the path to liberation demands courage, sacrifice, and an unbreakable belief in the power of our people.

We as the leadership collective and volunteers of Mayibuye Consultation Process gain optimal inspiration and courage from Lumumba as we embark on a journey that will culminate in revolutionary decisions and actions. In our compilation and Listening sessions, we will be guided by the fighting spirit of Patrice Lumumba, and our collective resolve will be to honour his contribution to revolutionary change.

Lumumba's vision of a united Africa, free from division and exploitation, resonates deeply with the Mayibuye Consultation Process. He dreamed of a Congo undivided by ethnicity or region, and an Africa bound by shared purpose and destiny. This Pan-African ideal inspires our work to forge unity in South Africa, bridging divides to build a society where justice and equity prevail. Lumumba's call for economic sovereignty – for Africans to control their land, resources, and future – speaks directly to our fight against the ongoing plunder of our continent's wealth. As we engage communities across South Africa and connect with our brothers and sisters in the diaspora, Lumumba's legacy urges us to prioritize self-reliance, cultural reclamation, and collective empowerment, ensuring that "Mayibuye iAfrika" becomes a reality etched in the lives of our people.

To the African diaspora, Lumumba's life is a bridge connecting our shared struggles. His vision transcends borders, reminding us that the liberation of one is incomplete without the liberation of all.



From the streets of Johannesburg to the communities of Kingston and London, we are bound by the same dream of a liberated Africa. The Mayibuye Consultation Process draws strength from Lumumba's courage to challenge global powers, inspiring us to resist neocolonial influences that seek to divide and exploit us. His legacy calls us to action – to build economies that serve our people, to celebrate our cultures unapologetically, and to educate our youth in the values of unity and resilience.

As we commemorate 100 years of Patrice Lumumba, the Mayibuye Consultation Process pledges to carry his revolutionary torch forward. We call on all Africans, on the continent and in the diaspora, to honor Lumumba not with words alone but with action. Let us unite, organize, and act with the same boldness that defined his life. Let us build an Africa where every child knows their worth, where our resources fuel our progress, and where our unity is our greatest strength. Lumumba lives in our struggle, in our resilience, and in our unwavering belief that Africa will rise. Mayibuye iAfrika!

**ISSUED BY MAYIBUYE CONSULTATION PROCESS.**

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