



6th Floor, Khotso House, 62 Marshall Street, JOHANNESBURG, 2001  
PO Box 62098, Marshalltown, 2107  
Tel: +27 11 833 1190/1/3 Fax: +27 11 833 1076 info@eset.org.za  
www.eset.org.za

## For immediate release:

Contact:

**Kokeletso Legoete**  
833 1190

**legoetek@gmail.com 078 3763 571/011**

## **Freedom Park to occupy and claim their land back #BringbackOurLand**

From **Friday 29 July** to **Saturday 31 July**, Freedom park residents will be occupying land that is unused, for sustainable economy in their community. The community members of Freedom park, in Gauteng are tired of begging government for land while there are a number of unoccupied spaces that remain unused but policed. "We know that the police will come, they will shoot us and kills us- we are ready "says Nonzaliseko Rawe, one of the angry, exhausted and radical community activist from Freedom Park.

The community members will be occupying the eNkomponi space. This demonstration is to claim the land in order that the community can have access to the land for their own economic activities. The action will begin at 17:30pm on Friday afternoon through to Sunday. The Freedom park community activist; **Abahlali base Freedom Park** will be camping, away from their warm homes and beds, to sleep in camping bags and plastics.

"We want the government to know that, they have since promised to give our land back, it's been 21years now since we have been waiting. We have now decided to occupy this land of ours", Nonzaliseko concludes.

### **About ESSET (<http://eset.org.za/>)**

The Ecumenical Service for Socio-Ecumenical Transformation (ESSET) is an independent ecumenical organisation that works against the systematic exclusion of the poor and marginalised social groups by advocating for social justice.

ESSET partners and facilitates processes within churches and a wide range of civil society organizations such as informal trader associations; ministers' fraternal and provincial councils of the South African Council of Churches. ESSET also collaborates with other faith based organizations in South Africa and in other SADC countries including Lesotho, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

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