

## **NEW NATION MOVEMENT Bill of Values**

The challenges we face in South Africa require a strong moral compass. A clear and strong moral compass constitutes absolute values that guide and govern our behaviour as a nation: the rights and responsibilities that both citizens and leaders at all levels of government adhere to. The following Bill of Values for a non-partisan, values-based, people-driven, societal, and governance system is drawn from the primary values, principles, ethics and moral standards that have stood the test of time, and have characterised historically stable, good, and lasting legacies amongst individual citizens, families, communities, societies, and nations.

- Integrity
- Justice
- Love
- Wisdom
- Self-governance
- Diligence
- Courage

### **1. PREAMBLE**

WHEREAS the constitution of the Republic of South Africa affirms that the human being is born free with equal rights, dignity, responsibilities and opportunities;

WHEREAS the history of humanity has proved that human beings are fallible and have limitations in meeting high moral standards;

WHEREAS all citizens of our country enjoy inalienable rights, which should be aligned to values, principles and ethics as set out in the Bill of Values in order to contribute to the realisation of responsible citizenry;

WHEREAS also the three arms of government and all leaders, whether at community, provincial, or national level, should measure all activity against a Bill of Values;

THEREFORE, the New Nation Movement proposes this Bill of Values, Principles and Ethics as part of Chapter 1 of our Constitution.

### **2. INTRODUCTION**

A value refers to a specific human standard and framework of behaviour or mode of conduct preferred by a family, a community and/or a society. In order to raise and preserve the moral standard in a society and, by extension, the quality of life for all citizens a set of values is necessary against which all of society is measured. Values should underpin our constitution and all legislation and societal systems that flow from it. Values enable us to build good trusting relationships between ourselves as responsible and law-abiding citizens, regardless of colour, creed, race, religious background, gender, or ethnicity.

The values listed below are divided into three streams: Values promoting responsibilities for South African citizens, Moral Values and Principles, and Batho Pele (people first) Principles for public engagement. The values in each section are in no particular order, other than being alphabetic.

### **3. VALUES PROMOTING RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The purpose of adopting positive, moral societal values is to build a culture of productive and responsible citizenship and leadership in our country. Having a specified set of values helps guide us with regard to our rights, privileges, and responsibilities.

### **3.1. Accessibility**

All citizens should have equal access to services, products, facilities, devices, and appropriate environments. Such access should be beneficial to all. People with disabilities or special needs have, in particular, a right of access, enabling them to access the use of supportive technology, etc.

### **3.2. Accountability**

This means being liable or answerable for one's actions or behaviour, and giving account, where necessary. As an aspect of governance, it is the acknowledgement and assumption of responsibility for actions, products, and policies, and includes the obligation to report, explain, and be answerable for the consequences of one's actions.

### **3.3. Citizenship**

It is patriotism - serving the nation of South Africa with loyalty and dignity; promoting excellence in and for the nation; becoming the best one can be; being, and encouraging others to be, as upright, law-abiding, responsible, productive, and dynamic as we can.

### **3.4. Democracy**

True democracy means all individuals possess the inalienable right to participate in the governance of their nation, and/or elect whomever they wish to said governance. It means leaders and ministers are accountable to the people, and all decisions and actions reflect the will of the people who elected them. In compliance with this Bill of Values it also means such elected governors are subject to the values as stated herein.

### **3.5. Education**

The value of education places responsibility on both parents and children to ensure that children receive the best possible and most relevant education, including character training, mutual respect, and adherence to values. Regular attendance should be promoted.

### **3.6. Equality**

Every person is born equal and all are equal before the law. This means recognition of one another's talents, abilities, and differences, and affording equal opportunities for all, regardless of their race, gender, religion or ethnic background.

### **3.7. Freedom**

Individual freedom within the rule of law is the basis of justice, fairness, nation building and good governance. The following are prioritised: freedom of expression, association, movement, residence, belief, opinion, and religion.

### **3.7.1. Ethical Freedom of Conscience**

The value of freedom of conscience requires freedom to choose beliefs and opinions, without fear or prejudice, and accord others the same.

### **3.7.2. Ethical Freedom of Expression**

The value of freedom of expression entails freedom of individuals and entities (including the media and the press) to express beliefs and opinions, with the proviso that they are not prejudicial, hate-driven, insulting, or dishonest.

### **3.8. Human Rights**

The protection and promotion of human worth across the spectrum of society so that one individual's or entity's rights do not trespass on that of another. This means there is no discrimination based on sex, race, class or other reasons.

### **3.9. Justice**

Justice means proper and legitimate use of power, equality before the law, equitable distribution of resources, equal opportunities, and meeting the rights and enforcing the obligations of all, irrespective of race, gender, class, belief system or background. It includes recusal where conflict of interest may prompt injustice.

### **3.10. Non-partisanship**

Any person or entity should always have the freedom to remain independent and/or not be associated/attached/affiliated to a specific party. This fundamental right should not just be protected but be encouraged in many instances, so as to avoid unnecessary division amongst our people.

### **3.11. Peace, Security, and Stability**

When we all take responsibility for providing a peaceful and secure environment for all citizens, standing up against hurtful behaviour, bullying and intimidation, and resolving conflict in a peaceful manner, it builds a culture of peace-making, and helps ensure the safety and protection of us all.

### **3.12. Sanctity of Life**

Sanctity of life means the protection of all human life from conception stage to death. This includes living a sexually moral, pure, and healthy lifestyle, to maintain life at its fullest and avoid preventable diseases.

### **3.13. Stewardship**

This means care, custody, guardianship, watchfulness and vigilance towards our individual and shared national resources, and protection against damage, violation, and illicit possession.

### **3.14. Sustainable Environment**

We all promote sustainable development, and the conservation and preservation of the natural environment, protect animal- and plant-life, prevent littering and pollution, and take responsibility for the protection of resources like water and electricity.

### **3.15. Work Ethic**

This means working hard and doing our best in everything we do, nurturing our children in work ethics without translation to child labour, and increasing our productivity wherever possible.

## **4. MORAL VALUES AND PRINCIPLES**

Good moral values and principles are what build and sustain a good and stable society. Basing our constitution and thus our policies governing society on the seven primary values listed at the start of this document will ensure that South Africa will take its place as a nation of substance among the great nations in history. Using these values as a foundation to promote the rights and responsibilities of the citizens as listed above, and the guiding moral values and principles listed below will ensure a high quality of leadership, governance and life for us all.

### **4.1. Adaptability**

Self-governance leads to adaptability which cultivates calmness, patience, endurance, and creativity.

### **4.2. Belief, Conscience, and the Rule of Law**

Integrity leads to honesty, valuing the beliefs and personal consciences of the individual, subject to the nation's laws, and adherence to the rule of law.

### **4.3. Care**

Care is an outworking of love: it means honour and respect towards authority, and compassion, kindness, loyalty, and respect towards one another, with the willingness to help towards our own and others' physical, financial, and social health, welfare and property, irrespective of race, gender, or culture.

### **4.4. Character (Integrity and Competence)**

Character comes from integrity and is developed through courage (endurance) and wisdom. It leads to purposefulness in people whose passionate commitment to personal and collective competence and upliftment, brings about private and public administrative efficiency, effectiveness of systems and service delivery to all citizens through work ethics and professional practices for optimal competitiveness and personal fulfilment.

### **4.5. Common Good**

Love and justice promote the common good above personal aspirations. We will then be willing to promote the wellbeing of the community and to work together with other members for the greater benefit of all.

### **4.6. Contentment**

Self-governance also helps us to be satisfied and content with what we have, and to resist greed.

#### **4.7. Co-operation**

Integrity (being whole and integrated) helps us work and act together towards shared goals, which brings unity and cohesion.

#### **4.8. Courage**

This means having perseverance in the face of adversity, and the inner strength, boldness, determination, and decisiveness to do what is right in the face of difficulty or temptation. It means to consistently and confidently act and stand for values, principles and ethics in the face of opposition.

#### **4.9. Creativity and Resourcefulness**

Wisdom promotes creative thinking, being solution-minded, generating new ideas and resources, and builds a strong shared economy.

#### **4.10. Determination and Commitment**

Not giving up and staying committed to see something through that is worthwhile is part of diligence.

#### **4.11. Dignity**

Love means protecting the dignity of individuals, minority groups, and majority groups and treating them with appreciation, respect, reverence, and even-handedness on the basis that all human beings are born equal. We all deserve to be free from bias, exploitation, oppression, or any form of discrimination, victimisation, or prejudice.

#### **4.12. Diligence and Punctuality**

Diligence means performing responsibilities and duties properly, thoroughly, professionally, competently, and timeously with discipline and concentration.

#### **4.13. Discipline**

Self-governance leads to discipline: the consistent application to systematic instructions or tasks, or following a particular code of conduct or order. It also makes us faithful in our lives: to people, tasks, communities, employers, and our country.

#### **4.14. Faith**

Love leads us to trusting and believing in one another and helping build the hope of citizens who want to achieve their aspirations.

#### **4.15. Forgiveness**

When we are willing to lay aside grievances, resentment, indignation, and/or anger, for the sake of unity while recognising the need of justice, we set ourselves and our offenders free.

#### **4.16. Humility**

Self-governance and wisdom enable us to recognise with empathy the God-given dignity and value in others and humbly and productively serve them.

#### **4.17. Integrity**

Integration. Wholeness. Consistency of actions, values, methods, measures, principles, character, expectations, and outcomes. Behaving ethically and acting in keeping with our words. In ethics, integrity is regarded as transparency, honesty, truthfulness, trustworthiness, and accuracy of one's actions. It is acting in keeping with one's conscience with respect to responsibilities, and stewardship of property (own and others', internal and external).

#### **4.18. Kindness**

Love promotes kindness and caring for each other marked by good and charitable behaviour.

#### **4.19. Loyalty**

When we truly love our nation, we are loyal to it and all its peoples.

#### **4.20. Morality**

When we adhere to the values of self-governance and integrity, we are able to avoid wrong behaviour and we protect the life, liberty, well-being, and property of others.

#### **4.21. Obedience**

Diligence and self-governance enables us to honour rules, values and principles, and be eager to carry out legitimate orders or instructions for the good of all.

#### **4.22. Peace**

Prosperity in matters of social or economic welfare, justice, and a working political order that serves the true interests of all will give our nation safety and security.

#### **4.23. Professionalism**

Diligence will build good judgement, thoroughness and excellence.

#### **4.24. Rebuilding**

Diligence, justice, courage will lead to our being able to understand, respect, embrace, and harness our diversity, and restore the South African dream.

#### **4.25. Respect**

Love and justice will enable us to respect and value one another irrespective of social origin, race, gender, belief, age, status and class which will promote peace, friendship, gentleness, tolerance and national unity among cultural, religious and linguistic communities. When we are able to respect authority without idolising leaders, we promote freedom across all people.

#### **4.26. Self-governance**

This means direction, regulation, control, and restraint with respect to one's will, desires, character, thoughts, ideas, motives, convictions, attitudes, in keeping with one's conscience. Outcomes of self-governance are patience, purity, and selflessness. Increased self-governance among us as helps us to be selfless, patient, and moral and reduces the need of law enforcement. Leaders who govern themselves can serve others effectively.

#### **4.27. Wisdom**

The correct application of knowledge, and the ability to discern and make good judgements on what is true and right, brings peace, harmony, and prosperity to all.

### **5. BATHO PELE PRINCIPLES FOR ALL PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**

These principles would apply to all public representatives in all three spheres of government, business leaders in the private sector, and representatives in Chapter 9 Institutions.

#### **5.1. Consultation**

Consultation means comprehensive representation in discussions, decision-making, and processes.

#### **5.2. Courtesy**

This means politeness, consideration and respect towards the public and individuals.

#### **5.3. Access**

Every South African should have full access to all services and to information on how government utilises resources and why. There should be openness and transparency so that the public may be aware of issues regarding service delivery.

#### **5.4. Value for money**

People must be rewarded fairly for what they have paid for - neither paying too much nor too little.

#### **5.5. Quality Control**

Every institution should have documented procedures to quickly and accurately identify failure or delay in services, to remedy the issues, and process complaints at the individual, transactional, and organisational level, in order to improve the entire service delivery programme.

#### **5.6. Service Standards**

Documented measurable benchmarks for service delivery to which citizens contribute.