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## **FAITH LEADERS THROW THEIR WEIGHT BEHIND EFFORTS TO SAVE THE COUNTRY**

The state in which South Africa currently finds itself will come under the scrutiny of religious leaders and members of society at the societal conference convened by The Interfaith Forum of South Africa (TIFSA) to be held over three days next week.

TIFSA, chaired by Bishop Malusi Mpumlwana - General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches (SACC), is an umbrella body of diverse faiths and traditions who have come together to champion the identification of solutions for South Africa's challenges. TIFSA includes the Muslim Judicial Council, the South African Hindu Maha Sabha, the Office of the Chief Rabbi (the Jewish community), the Council of Muslim Theologians, the Bantu Church of Christ, the Nazareth Baptist Church (Ekuphakameni and Ginyezinye), The Evangelical Alliance of South Africa (TEASA), the Council of African Independent Churches (CAIC), the International Fellowship of Christian Churches (IFCC) and the South African Council of Churches (SACC).

The conference, to be held from Monday October 9 to Wednesday October 11, comes at a time when the country lurches from one crisis to another, including power cuts, water shortages, crumbling infrastructure, high rate of unemployment, a tanking economy, fraud and corruption and the high cost of living, which some analysts have described as symptomatic to "a failing state".

Bishop Mpumlwana said: "The calibre of citizens we have invited is matched by an inspiring list of speakers and panelists. We are deeply encouraged by the number of people who, in their various spheres of influence, have been doing their part to make South Africa better, and who want to participate in this national brainstorm. Next week, all these minds will converge at the Our Country, Our Responsibility Convening - and we expect to walk away with proposals towards solutions that reflect the true needs of our country."

The delegates who will converge in next week from all corners of the country will seek to ensure that society at large adds its voice to the debate on how best to rebuild the country. Members of the public can participate virtually on Facebook (@TIFSA) and YouTube (TIFSA - The Interfaith Forum of South Africa).

**9-11  
October  
2023**

**Day 1** 10h00 - 17h30  
**Day 2** 09h00 - 16h00  
**Day 3** 09h00-13h00

*From  
Awareness  
to Action*



Delegates will, among other things, express their views on the design of a capable state informed by current conditions and come up with an economic architecture that resonates with the needs for participation by the excluded majority, and which highlights the common values needed to build a South Africa that resonates with the precepts of the preamble of the Constitution to “heal the divisions of the past and establish a society based on democratic values, social justice and fundamental human rights.”

## ENDS

### Editor’s Notes:

Interfaith community includes:

- The Muslim Judicial Council
- The South African Hindu Maha Sabha (SAHMS)
- Office of the Chief Rabbi (Jewish Community)
- The Council of Muslim Theologians (Jimiatul Ulama South African)
- Nazareth Baptist Church (Ekuphakameni)
- Nazareth Baptist Church (Ginyezinye)
- Bantu Church of Christ
- The South African Council of Church (SACC)
- The Evangelical Alliance of South Africa (TEASA)
- Council of African Independent Churches (CAIC)
- International Fellowship of Christian Churches (IFCC)

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### Media Registration:

Media wishing to attend the TIFSA Our Country, Our Responsibility National Convening should [Register here](#). Access will only be granted to registered media.