

## MEMORIAL SERVICE HELD IN MEMORY OF TSHEPO ALEXIUS MOTAUNG



Speaker after speaker hailed the late Intergrated Development Plan (IDP) Manager Tshepo Alexius Motaung a humble, loyal and committed servant of the people of Thabo Mofutsanyana District as they paid tribute to him during a serene memorial service held on Wednesday, the 8<sup>th</sup> of January 2014, at the the distict municipality's Council Chambers in Qwaqwa.

Speakers included politicians, colleagues, unionist and friends. Among them, were Thabo Mofutsanyana District Council Speaker Mbothoma Maduna, Municipal Public Accounts Committee Chairperson Malefu Vilakazi, Councillor Moeketsi Lebesa, Municipal Manager Representative Takatso Lebenya, Finance Manager Makhotla Thamaha and Unionist Bongani Ngwenya.

Also paying tribute to Motaung were IDP managers from local municipalities, in particular Maluti-a-Phofung and Setsoto. The programme director for the service was Member of Mayoral Committee, Mandla Mamba, while the preacher was Reverend Matebesi Lakaje.

The keynote address was delivered by Dr B.E. Mzangwa, the Executive Mayor of Thabo Mofutsanyana, who described the passing away of Motaung as a sad loss.

“It has been such a sad moment ever since the day we received the news of the death of our colleague and friend. On a day when we should have danced and ululated with joy in celebrating the dawning of the new year, 2014, our joy turned into mourning and our ululations turned into tears.

As the curtain closed down on 2013, so it happened to the life of the son of the soil, Tshepo Alexius Motaung. And, today we have to accept and believe that this is nothing but the truth – Tshepo Alexius Motaung is no more,” said the Executive Mayor.

He added that although the hearts were saddened by Motaung’s death, the time of mourning should also be coupled with a time of celebrating the life and times of this late IDP manager.

Dr Mzangwa further described Motaung as “talkative but yet humble and respectful. Jolly but yet firm and astute. Insightful, knowledgeable and clever. A people’s person. A loyal servant. A true friend. A gallant fighter.”

In his moving sermon Reverend Lakaje read from Psalm 121: 4 which states that, “Behold, He who keeps Israel Will neither slumber nor sleep.”

Motaung will be buried on Saturday, 11 January 2014, at his hometown of Reitz after a service, which starts at 8am at his home.