



Publication: Saturday Star, The - Main
Title: POETIC LICENCE RABBIE SERUMULA
Publish date: 15 Oct 2022
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AVE:R 24767.95
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HOW much more power do you need dear minister, both in politics and the grid?

How much more from the empty pockets and stomachs of the people can you take?

Can you at least let them digest what they have ingested, why sift through their intestines to take a piece of those too?

Too many people are suffering, they can barely pay their bills, their shoulders aren't broad enough to carry your extravagant lifestyle while juggling social ills.

Now they have to pay for your electricity too – the Department of Public Works spent almost R2 million installing generators at ministers' houses between 2021 and 2022.

I suppose politicians know there is something about the night that makes people murderous.

It seems your insatiable appetite for dominion is coupled with a fear of the dark.

I cannot say if the darkness is the one inside of you or inflicted by Eskom, nor if these two are mutually exclusive.

Dear minister, let's talk about the darkness inside of you, the stealing of money, the retired rhetoric of rooting out corruption in municipalities while residents are repeatedly promised that it would no longer hamper service delivery.

But the service you are delivering is

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subpar, and you are hindering the coffers thus far.

Do you remember the burning desire that fuelled your impulse to safeguard the future welfare and prosperity of our country?

You became inward-focused and forgot to represent the people when the perks of being a minister or deputy in South Africa have got sweeter.

The bitter taste of resentment in people's mouths is reminiscent of the recent amendments to the Ministerial Handbook, that now means public

servants do not have to pay for municipal services.

This serves to say politicians are afraid of the dark, and by God they better not go without water like the rest of us, so South Africans are expected to part with even more cash after the removal of the R5 000 water and electricity limit to utilities was removed for ministers from the handbook.

When did this freedom become exclusive?

You already earn over R2m annually, the same amount it cost to install generators at ministers' houses between 2021 and 2022.

Look, I get it, you have the people at your mercy; the Covid-19 Social Relief of Distress and Child Support Grants are increasing too, and now they have a bit more money to pay for your utilities.

I get it, even as we have lived in a democratic country for the past 28 years, we know that across many parts of South Africa, the promise of 1994 has not yet been fulfilled.

Filled with fury and despair, millions of South Africans still live in conditions of poverty and deprivation.

Running amok, jobless, unable to support self, violent, living in fear of violence and crime, suffering from lack of basic services like running water.

Dear minister, to them true freedom remains elusive.