



OFFICE OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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THE PASSING OF JUDGE J A M KHUMALO

Chief Justice Mogoeng Mogoeng has noted with sadness the passing of retired Judge Joshua Alpheus Mdabula Khumalo. Judge Khumalo passed away on 5 July 2016.

Judge Khumalo, popularly known as 'Oom Jam,' retired after 15 years on the High Court Bench at the end of October 2001. He was born on 22 December 1929 and obtained the Public Service Law Certificate in 1968, later getting appointed the first black Magistrate for the Durban and Umlazi Magistrate Courts in KwaZulu-Natal.

He left South Africa in 1970 and worked for the Swaziland Government until October 1982. During this time he was a Senior Magistrate and acting Judge of the High Court of Swaziland.

He obtained BJuris (1975), LLB (1985) and LLM (1998). He was appointed the first black Judge of the High Court in the North West in March 1986 where he was based until his retirement in 2001. Judge Khumalo has authored several publications on, inter alia, customary courts, practice, maintenance and divorce.

"Oom Jam was a pioneering figure in the transformation of the Judiciary in our country. He mentored the late Judge Jack Chulu, Acting Deputy Chief Justice Nkabinde and I as Advocates and as young Judges in Mahikeng over the years. He has made a long lasting contribution to the Judiciary and we are fortunate that he committed his life in all our service. May he rest in peace, and may his family and friends be comforted during this time," said Chief Justice Mogoeng Mogoeng.

Judge Khumalo will be buried on 16 July 2016. The service will start from his home 14 Shaw Avenue, The Reeds, Centurion at 06:30, followed by full mass service at St Thomas More Catholic Church, 55 Tulip Road, Monavoni, Centurion starting at 09:00. He will be laid to rest at the Olievenhoutbosch Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife Virginia Nomsa Khumalo, six children, 18 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

Lala Ngoxolo Mntungwa.

Ends.

Issued by the Office of the Chief Justice

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