

Marching against xenophobia

>> 'I, for one, condemn how our fellow South Africans are behaving.'

JYOTHI LALDAS

IN an effort to shed light on the plight of foreign nationals who have come under attack in the country this month, the Seventh Day Adventist Church held a peace march in the KwaDukuza CBD on Sunday.

Various local organisations including schools and individuals participated in the march which aimed at educating the community of KwaDukuza on the injustice that is xenophobia.

The march was supported by Department of Transport, Community Safety, and Liaison MEC Willie Mchunu, KwaDukuza mayor Ricardo

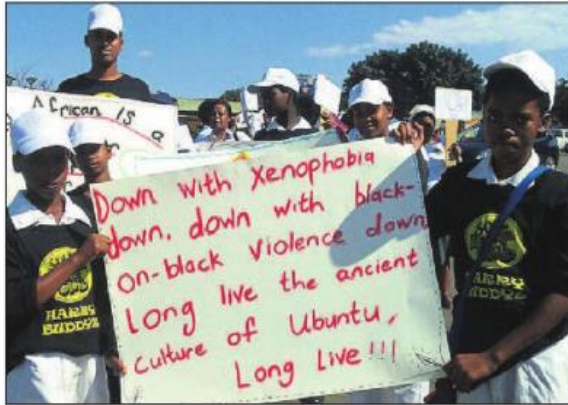


PHOTO: SUPPLIED

Some of the participants at the march.

Mthembu and local pastors.

The marchers gathered at the KwaDukuza Town Hall where talks

and prayers were rendered before walking back to Shoprite where the day's events ended.



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

Department of Transport, Community Safety, and Liaison MEC Willie Mchunu addresses march participants at the Town Hall.

Speaking to the Weekly one of the participants, Harry Bodasing Primary School teacher Shane Hanuman -

who accompanied his pupils to the march - said: "It is truly a sad and heart sore issue how our fellow brothers and sisters are being treated in our country.

"I, for one, condemn how our fellow South Africans are behaving. We should be a nation that spreads peace, hope, harmony, unity and love.

"Our respected late president Nelson Mandela spent 27 years in prison for our freedom and he had a principle which he stuck to - he was against violence among fellow Africans. I was truly hurt and disappointed with emergence of xenophobia and have decided to take a stand against it."

Hanuman and the Soul Buddyz club from the school made banners with slogans such as 'Everyone deserves equality', 'No African is a foreigner in Africa', 'Unity-Hope-Harmony-Love-Peace' and 'Down with xenophobia down, down with black-on-black violence down, long live the ancient culture of Ubuntu, long live'.