

MAKUYA'S INSPIRATIONAL FIGHT TO SAVE ITS HUNTING CULTURE

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In most ***Southern African rural communities***, including South Africa's Limpopo Province-based ***Makuya*** hunting community, ***hunting*** revenue promotes wildlife and habitat conservation. It also ***reduces*** rural poverty.

Sadly, the Makuya hunting culture faces ***local*** and ***foreign*** threats.

In 2019, a Limpopo Provincial Government Department that issues hunting licences ***singled out*** Makuya and ***shockingly*** cancelled its hunting licence, ***without explanation***.

Esther Netshivhongweni is Africa's only known black woman, ***actively*** involved with hunting. She explains the Makuya hunting licence cancellation losses and how she led the media and court fight to save their hunting culture.

Strained relations with a provincial government agency. ***Excellent relations*** with the national government. This is Makuya's ***curious*** situation. This year, the National Department of Environment Forest and Fisheries (DEFF) is releasing a ***US\$3 million grant*** for the construction of the ***Makuya Wildlife Training College*** and the ***Makuya Nature Reserve conservation projects*** and infrastructural development.

The ownership of natural wealth ***can be a blessing*** and a ***curse***. Commercial ***forces*** are reportedly seeking to control ***and loot*** Makuya's rich natural resources.

Foreign interference is ***another threat***. The Western animal rights groups are said to ***have strong anti-wild-trade influence*** over the UN international wild trade regulating agency, CITES.

Therefore, Makuya invites wildlife-rich ***Southern African rural communities to join them*** in ***taking to the International Court of Justice***, the ***brave fight against*** the Western ***animal rights groups' violation*** of Africans' ***constitutionally*** protected rights to hunt and benefit from the ***ivory trade***. The COVID-19 pandemic hit - and ***cash-strapped Africans*** wish to use the wild trade revenue to conserve ***the continent's iconic species and habitats***.

The ***last option*** is to show the world ***how*** the Western animal ***rights group-influenced wild trade bans***, and ***taught Africans*** to convert national parks into ***crop and mining fields***.
