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THE CROWN COUNCIL OF ETHIOPIA

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ERMIAS SAHLE-SELASSIE HAILE-SELASSIE
PRESIDENT

On the Passing of His Majesty King Goodwill Zwelithini kaBhekuzulu of the Zulus

*A Statement by the President of the Crown Council of Ethiopia,
His Imperial Highness Prince Ermias Sahle-Selassie Haile-Selassie*

March 18, 2021 / 9 መጋቢት 2013

It was with profound sadness that we learned that His Majesty King Goodwill Zwelethini is no longer with us.

His *ukukhothama* — his “kneeling”; that is, his move to allow his successor to rise, for the King has gone to be with his ancestors and remains as an inspiration to those left behind — symbolised the end of a great era. He reigned for a half-century, wisely and with great skill. He saved and rebuilt the Zulu nation, and he had mapped a path of dignity and sovereignty for his People.

His Majesty was kind to receive me and give me advice and introductions in Southern Africa.

The King was a great force for peace in Africa. He was a calming and wise influence. And yet he was fearless in protecting the dignity and in restoring the historical territories and rights of the Zulu people. His long tenure on the Throne means that he will be difficult to replace, but will always remain an influence for good on the Zulu people, just as his ancestor, King Cetshwayo kaMpande, was. And he will be an inspiration always to them, as was King Shaka kaSenzangakhona.

God Bless the Memory of King Goodwill Zwelithini. God Bless the Zulu People, and guide them as they embrace a new King.

And God Bless Ethiopia.