

Ladies and gentlemen, esteemed guests, and honored members of this distinguished gathering, I stand before you today to delve into a topic of paramount importance – the courageous act of whistleblowing, an act that epitomizes the unwavering commitment to truth in the face of power.

In our intricate societal tapestry, there exists a noble pursuit that transcends personal risk and confronts the very essence of power – whistleblowing. It is the act of shining a beacon of truth into the corridors of authority, embodying the essence of integrity and ethical fortitude.

Picture, if you will, a lone individual, armed not with weapons but with the potent weapon of knowledge, standing against the vast machinery of influence. This solitary figure, the whistleblower, bravely steps into the limelight, driven by an unyielding sense of duty to unveil the concealed realities that may otherwise remain obscured.

At its core, whistleblowing is an act of defiance against the status quo, a resolute stance against the veils that shroud the truth. It is an embodiment of the conviction that the pursuit of justice and transparency is paramount, even when faced with the daunting presence of power structures.

Consider the narratives of those who, throughout history, have dared to challenge the prevailing narrative. From corporate malfeasance to governmental impropriety, whistleblowers have played an indispensable role in unraveling the layers of deception that often cloak those in positions of authority.

Yet, the path of the whistleblower is not without its perils. It is a journey fraught with personal sacrifice, professional repercussions, and societal skepticism. The whistleblower stands as a sentinel at the crossroads of accountability and impunity, knowing that the road ahead is paved with challenges and potential adversities.

In a world where the concept of truth is sometimes muddled by the discord of conflicting interests, the whistleblower emerges as a guardian of authenticity. They embody the very spirit of transparency and ethical responsibility, compelling us to question, to introspect, and to demand a higher standard from those entrusted with power.

As we reflect on the significance of whistleblowing, let us not only acknowledge the courage of those who speak truth to power but also recognize the collective responsibility we bear in upholding the principles of justice and accountability. The power to effect change lies not only in the hands of the

whistleblower but in the collective conscience of a society that values truth above all else.

In conclusion, let us champion the whistleblowers who, through their acts of bravery, illuminate the path towards a more just and transparent society. May we, as engaged citizens, stand united in our pursuit of truth, fostering an environment where the echoes of whistleblowers resonate as a clarion call for accountability, integrity, and justice.

To the Congress of Business and Economics and to the Ahmed Kathrada Foundation, thank you for recognizing my contribution.

This prestigious accolade is dedicated in remembrance to:
Babita Deokaren, Cloete & Thomas Murray, Moss Phakoe,
Marumo Eric Phenya, Xola Banisi, Jimmy Mohlala, and James Nkambule.

I extend my heartfelt acknowledgement to whistleblowers who confront circumstances akin to my own: Masilo Mothepu, Mthabisi Moyo, Bianca Goodson, and Martha Ngoye. I pray protection over your lives.

I wish to convey my sincere appreciation to the civil advocacy organization OUTA for their efforts in raising awareness about my challenges and my plight. Please sacrifice the cost of a cup of coffee and click the “join OUTA now” button so that government can be held to account.

I implore you to cast your vote for effective governance in the upcoming 2024 elections.

I thank you.