## NEW UNITY MOVEMENT



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## **INTEGRITY DEFICIT**

South Africa has for the longest time toiled under an umbrella of an Integrity Deficit. Since honour and probity were but some of the casualties among the many wrecks shipped in with colonial conquest, our country has till this day been in foster care of the worst kind.

Free Burghers and Settlers were gifted land and stock in an orgy of entitlement, forebears of scenarios centuries ahead. Defence of land and property was arrogantly characterised as theft, cunning and laziness and punished with extermination, execution or dungeons, portents of a future where the poor are chastised for being deprived of their means of earning a livelihood.

Forced removals and Bantustan creation continued the legacy of a dearth of integrity as communities were uprooted and geography was reinvented in the name of Separate Development. Opportunities were denied and doors were closed in a chauvinistic frenzy.

The integrity Deficit (ID) has been with us for so long, that you cannot switch on a light or open a tap for a glass of water, without wondering whether these things you take for granted may no longer be. The ID is being sustained by rallying calls of "A loota continua", furthered by cadre deployment and enabled by a bedrock of State Capture and delinquent governance without consequence.

One wonders how this will end. How long can garish opulence live unashamedly cheek by jowl with homelessness, hunger and abject poverty? Nothing is as permanent as change and it is up to us to ensure that the change which ensues, is a change for the better.

Mickey Titus 2 August 2021