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**Subject:** Zuma requests Christians to pray for Nkandla; lashes out at Malema's UNISA degree.

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Pretoria. After yesterday's condemnatory Constitutional Court verdict against both Pres. Jacob Zuma and Parliament, ANC spokesperson Vusi Tshabalala said any early comments from the ANC would be premature and are subject to the party's study of the ruling of the Court. Tshabalala did add, however, that pres. Zuma had requested that all South African Christians and Christian churches unite in prayer for Nkandla, so Nkandla would remain the property of Zuma's tribe. Although not expressly verbalizing the fact, Tshabalala hinted that, if the current ruling of the Constitutional Court would be enforced, the president would not be able to come up with the money in due time. The current ruling of the Court orders the National Treasury to establish the proportional amount that Zuma needs to cough up within 30 days as from 1 April. Zuma then needs to pay such amount to the Treasury within 45 days thereafter. At the media conference, Tshabalala asked astonished Christian members of the media to close their eyes for a minute and to pray for the Nkandla estate, its animal enclosure, amphitheater and "fire pool".

After an awkward minute of silence, Tshabalala continued to lash out against EFF leader Julius Malema's recently acquired BA degree from UNISA. According to Tshabalala, Malema took on the academic course simply to be acceptable unto the white DA establishment - in partnership with whom the EFF has brought Zuma's Nkandla case before the Constitutional Court.

When asked by a member of the press whether he made this allegation on behalf of the president, Tshabalala's response was: "I certainly do. Mr. Zuma was always of the opinion that Malema was in cahoots with the DA - and is even more so now."

Former DA leader and Premier of Western Cape Helen Zille broke into a giggle and put down the telephone when asked for her response.

- Trumpet AP

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