

# New archbishop greeted with ululation

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By Quinton Mtyala

Six months after he was elected, Thabo Makgoba was installed as the Archbishop of Cape Town at a packed St George's Cathedral on Sunday.

In this position he is also head of the Anglican Church in southern Africa.

Before his election Makgoba, 47, who is also a qualified psychologist, was the bishop of Grahamstown where he was active in rural development.

He replaces Archbishop Emeritus Njongonkulu Ndungane who has retired.

Makgoba touched mostly on the spiritual aspects that challenged Christians, saying that churches had to be active in communities to remain relevant.

"From local community issues to questions about the global environment and our own carbon footprints, Christ calls us to join his Spirit-led mission of peace and reconciliation, of empowering and transforming grace," he said.

Makgoba was greeted with ululation as he walked through an adjoining marquee and entered the church.

The services, in which several people read from passages in the Bible, was conducted in four languages - English, Xhosa, Portuguese and Afrikaans. Makgoba's ascension to the highest seat in the southern African province of the Anglican Church was greeted with sounds of kudu horns from a marimba band.

Premier Ebrahim Rasool said he had no doubt that, like his predecessors, Makgoba would continue being the moral compass of society.

President Thabo Mbeki, in his greeting, said Makgoba had since his youth dedicated his life to serving his country first as an activist and later as "a faith worker".

Mbeki said he had no doubt that Makgoba would continue to promote the values of non-racism and non-sexism.

"We feel greatly strengthened by your ascension. You will take this chance for the benefit of the teeming African masses," said Mbeki.

With some of the speakers offering gifts to the new archbishop, Mbeki joked that his gift of a goat would land him in trouble as it would fall foul of municipal bylaws if he brought it to the church.

"I'm prone to do wrong things and I don't want you to be blamed for these things... We should meet so we can discuss who keeps the name Thabo," joked Mbeki.

As he anointed the new archbishop, Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu remarked jokingly that not only was Makgoba young, he was also handsome.

<http://www.iol.co.za/news/south-africa/new-archbishop-greeted-with-ululation-1.394779?ot=inmsa.ArticlePrintPageLayout.ot>