

Dear President Zuma,

I am writing to urge you to do all you can to save the rhino. As I am sure you are aware, South Africa is home to about 75% of the worlds' rhino and they are being poached in ever increasing numbers – ON YOUR WATCH. Over 600 have been slaughtered this year – for what? You know the answer.

The rhino is a symbol of strength, an icon of Africa and South Africa should be its custodian. But you are falling short. You are allowing an ecological and environmental crime to be committed against, not only your heritage, but against the world. Why are you allowing this to happen? Do you not care?

You must know very well that rhino are one of the BIG 5. People from across the globe come to visit South Africa – a country with amazing scenery, fabulous wildlife, and delightful people. You should be protecting your heritage and that includes your wildlife, it includes the rhino.

The eyes of the world are upon you. School children, adults, governments, corporates, NGO's, charities small and large, conservationists, biologists – we are all watching you and will judge you.

Please put the greatest effort into this fight. You know where the poached horn is going, as we all do. And you have the power to say to Asia (and the Middle East) - leave South Africa's animals alone. In fact, leave ALL Africa's animals alone.

Once they are gone, they are gone. Do you want the world to hold you responsible for this extinction? Surely, the world will, if you do not act now? You have to power – ACT NOW TO SAVE THE RHINO.

I ask you to:-

- Commit more resources and personnel into the fight against the poachers
- Enter into talks with your South East Asian and Middle Eastern friends and tell them 'Africa's wildlife is Africa's, and no-one else's'.
- Anyone accused of poaching should NOT receive bail under any circumstances
- Anyone convicted of poaching or poaching related crimes – fake permits etc. should receive long prison sentences – 40 years is a good deterrent.
- If those convicted appeal against their sentences, ensure that their sentences can be increased also.

Ubuntu – and that includes our wildlife!

And thank you in anticipation.

Yours sincerely

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