



South African
Council of Churches

ANTI- CORRUPTION COVENANT

BEFORE GOD AND THE NATION



We stand, in good conscience, before God and the people of our nation, to declare our belief that Corruption:

1. Is against God's will and is therefore a sin.
2. Undermines the values of God's Kingdom and the character of the community God calls us to be.
3. Destroys the moral fabric of society and the conscience of individuals.

Our Confession

We confess that corruption:

1. Is theft—not only from the state but also from the people, especially the poor.
2. Leads to human suffering, death, and the destruction of creation.
3. Eats at the soul of the nation and deepens poverty.

Our Acknowledgment

We acknowledge that corruption:

1. Is a cancer that erodes public trust and weakens the pursuit of the common good.
2. Breeds unaccountable leadership and destroys transparency and justice.
3. Repurposes the state away from serving the common good to serving private interests at the expense of the nation.
4. Destroys the capacity of the state to deliver essential services to its people.
5. Inhibits the state's ability to confront and dismantle criminal syndicates from within and beyond its borders.

Our Belief

We further believe that God:

1. Is the God of justice and transformation.
2. Is the God of light and transparency.
3. Holds the powerful accountable for their evil deeds.

Values of the Reign of God

We uphold the following values:

1. **Integrity** – Honesty, transparency, accountability, and credibility in all we do.
2. **Dignity and Respect** – Upholding the worth of every person as created in the image of God.
3. **Justice and Solidarity** – Standing with the poor and oppressed, and working for a just society.
4. **Generosity and Sharing** – Living unselfishly, resisting greed, and ensuring others have enough.
5. **Mutuality and Honour** – Building relationships of equality, trust, and mutual care.

Covenant Commitments

As a Church Leader, I hereby covenant with God, my fellow Christian leaders, and for the sake of our people and our gospel witness to:

Acknowledge the Truth About Corruption

1. Recognize corruption as a sin against God's will and the values of His Kingdom.
2. Understand that corruption is theft, especially from the poor, robbing them of dignity.
3. Accept that corruption leads to human suffering, death, and destruction.
4. Acknowledge that corruption erodes public trust, deepens poverty, and destroys the moral fabric of society.
5. Realize that corruption repurposes the state from serving the common good to serving private interests.

Take Action Against Corruption

1. Fight all forms of corruption within my institution and broader society.
2. Lead my church in preaching and teaching against corruption with courage and consistency.
3. Create safe spaces and protect whistleblowers within my church and community.
4. Stand in solidarity with those who fight corruption with courage and integrity.
5. Teach by example and foster a culture that shuns corruption and values goodness.
6. Incorporate teachings on the sinfulness of corruption into church formation programs like Sunday school and confirmation classes.
7. Encourage public servants and private business members in my church to reject corruption and live by Kingdom values.
8. Strengthen constitutional institutions that fight corruption and promote transparent governance.
9. Celebrate and support those who prevent, stop, and expose corruption.

This covenant is my response to the call of our time as a nation, inspired by my faith in the God of Justice, encouraged by the values of the Kingdom of God, and committed to serving our people, especially the poor and vulnerable. I am deeply aware that all that is in darkness will be brought to light.

SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES NATIONAL CHURCH LEADERS' SIGNATURES:

Name: _____

Church: _____

Signature: _____