

As we commemorate 61 years of Zambia's Independence, I extend warm greetings to you all and invite each one of us to reflect on what this day truly represents. Independence is not merely a celebration of freedom won, but a solemn reminder of the duty we carry to preserve it through the fair, transparent, and independent administration of justice.

When I assumed office, I spoke of the need to transform the people's courts by rekindling public trust and confidence in the Judiciary. That vision remains as urgent and relevant today as it was then. It calls upon us to serve not only as interpreters of the law, but as custodians of hope, fairness, and accountability. Every judgement delivered with integrity, every act of courtesy extended to a litigant, and every reform undertaken in good faith contributes to a stronger, more trusted justice system, the kind our founders envisioned when they fought for a free and dignified Zambia.

As we celebrate this milestone, let us recommit ourselves to justice that is impartial, service that is honourable, and leadership that is humble yet firm in principle. Together, we can continue to shape a Judiciary that truly belongs to the people and reflects the Zambia we aspire to build.

I wish you all a meaningful and reflective Independence Day!

Mumba Malila, SC.

Chief Justice

