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Zimbabwe, Africa and the world in focus

KUZANA SCREEZY 2026 - Zimbabwe Moves to Turn Talent into Economic Value

Munhumutapa Day - When Zimbabwe Remembers Who It Has Always Been

Zimbabwe Celebrates President Mnangagwa's Birthday as Nation Marks Inaugural Munhumutapa Day

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Uncategorized

KUZANA SCREEZY 2026 - Zimbabwe Moves to Turn Talent into Economic Value

September 20, 2026 . Takasununguka Ziki

Sport -- The President His Excellency Dr. E.D. Mnangagwa is set to headline the inaugural KUZANA Sport and Creative Economy Expo of Zimbabwe (SCREEZY) in Bulawayo this month, as Government steps up efforts to position sport, arts and culture as contributors to economic growth and employment.

The five-day Expo, running from 7 to 11 October 2026 at the Zimbabwe International Trade Fair Conference Centre, will bring together policymakers, athletes, creatives, entrepreneurs, investors and industry players under the theme "From Talent to GDP:

Driving Zimbabwe's Vision 2030 through Sport and Creative Industries

President Mnangagwa is scheduled to officially open the Expo, giving it national prominence to an initiative centred on one of the country's key conversations -- how Zimbabwe can turn its vast sporting and cultural assets into sustainable economic value.

The Expo comes as Government increasingly looks beyond the traditional view of the arts as entertainment, placing greater emphasis on their potential for businesses, investment, tourism and exports.

The country's broader development agenda has increasingly recognised the potential of sport, arts, culture and creativity.

President His Excellency Dr. E.D. Mnangagwa has repeatedly emphasised that the creative industries must contribute to Zimbabwe's economic transformation and Vision 2030.

Speaking at the launch of the 2026 National Culture Month in Harare, President Mnangagwa described culture and heritage as important pillars of socio-economic development.

highlighted the potential of creative industries to create jobs, sustain livelihoods and contribute to economic growth.

That position closely mirrors the philosophy behind KUZANA S

Rather than treating creativity purely as cultural expression, the programme focuses on how music, fashion, film, sport, design, entertainment and other creative industries generate measurable economic value.

Under National Development Strategy 2 (NDS2), Government has identified youth development and entrepreneurship, alongside the growth of creative and cultural industries, as important national priorities.

The programme falls under the mandate of the Ministry of Sports, Culture and Arts, led by Hon. Lt. Gen. Rtd. Amb. AN. Sanyatwe.

The Ministry's stated vision is to develop "excelling and dynamic creative and culture industries by 2030." Its mandate includes creating an environment that supports the development of sports, recreation, arts and culture.

entrepreneurship, strengthening institutions and attracting investment.

For Hon. Lt. Gen. Rtd. Amb. AN. Sanyatwe, the development of the creative economy requires more than identifying talented individuals.

It requires stronger institutions, professional administration, infrastructure, investment and opportunities for people to build sustainable careers.

The Ministry has also been pursuing initiatives aimed at strengthening creative spaces, with the establishment of culture centres being a key focus. This includes developing talent, preserving heritage, empowering young people and creating livelihoods within the creative economy.

The central idea behind KUZANA SCREEZY is captured in its theme: 'Creative Zimbabwe, A Nation of Artists'.

Zimbabwe has produced internationally recognised athletes, musicians, dancers, performers, designers and other creative professionals.

Yet the economic value generated from that talent can extend

A successful athlete creates opportunities for coaches, trainers, sportswear companies, broadcasters, sponsors, event organisers

A musician supports producers, sound engineers, photographers, designers, digital marketers and distributors.

The same multiplier effect exists throughout film, fashion, visual arts, digital content.

The objective is therefore to develop an ecosystem in which talent generates economic activity.

Sport has increasingly become a global business, with revenue from broadcasting, sponsorship, ticketing, merchandising, tourism, and content and event management.

Zimbabwe has considerable potential in this area.

The country already has major sporting brands, passionate support and a new generation of young athletes.

The challenge is developing the infrastructure and commercialising the talent, converting this interest into sustainable economic activity.

The Sport Industry Conference at KUZANA SCREEZY will provide a platform to examine these opportunities and consider how investment can be used to strengthen the sector.

The Government's NDS2 framework has already established new policies, increased investment in sport and recreation, improved sporting infrastructure and the contribution of sport to GDP.

The Creative Economy Conference will similarly examine the e Zimbabwe's creative sector.

For years, many creatives have operated within informal or frag

The growth of digital platforms has opened new opportunities, commercialisation still depends on access to finance, professional intellectual-property protection, infrastructure and international

Government's creative-industry agenda recognises the importance of production, marketing and consumption of arts, culture and her

KUZANA SC EEZY therefore provides an opportunity to bring t with the private sector and potential investors.

Young people are expected to be among the major beneficiaries of the creative economy.

The sectors offer multiple entry points for entrepreneurship, from performing to managing events, producing content, developing merchandise and providing professional services.

President Mnangagwa's NDS2 agenda specifically places job creation for youth and women empowerment alongside the growth of sports industries.

This makes the Expo relevant not only to established sporting personalities, but also to emerging entrepreneurs seeking to build their skills.

Bulawayo is a fitting host for the inaugural Expo.

The city has a deep sporting and cultural heritage and has produced musicians, artists, performers and athletes.

The timing of KUZANA SCREEZY alongside the Zimbabwe Inter provides an opportunity to connect the creative and sporting sectors with the wider business community.

The Expo is expected to bring together investors, entrepreneurs, policymakers and other stakeholders, creating opportunities for new business relationships.

The sporting programme will include a major football attraction as Dynamos scheduled to meet in a Centenary Soccer Match at Bantu October.

The fixture adds a major sporting dimension to an Expo whose purpose is to demonstrate the commercial and social value of sport.

A major football match can generate activity across accommodation, hospitality, food, merchandising, broadcasting, media and entertainment.

Such events therefore demonstrate why sport can be viewed as a platform rather than simply a match played for competition.

KUZANA SCREEZY comes at a time when Zimbabwe is seeking to create new opportunities and expand the contribution of sectors capable of driving growth and entrepreneurship.

The Government's Vision 2030 framework identifies sport, recreation and tourism as areas that can contribute positively to economic growth and development.

For the Ministry of Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture, this means creating a supportive institutional and infrastructure environment in which talent can be nurtured.

For Hon. Lt. Gen. Rtd. Amb. AN. Sanyatwe, the task includes supporting sport, arts and culture while creating opportunities for youth participation.

For President His Excellency Dr. E.D. Mnangagwa, the wider context is harnessing Zimbabwe's human and cultural capital as part of the country's economic transformation.

2030.

KUZANA SCREEZY 2026 is therefore positioned as more than a

It is a conversation about the future of Zimbabwean talent.

It asks how a young athlete can move from a local playing field to a professional career.

It asks how a musician, filmmaker, designer or artist can turn a passion into an enterprise.

And it asks how investors, government, businesses and communities can work together in which Zimbabwean talent creates value far beyond the individual.

With President His Excellency Dr. E.D. Mnangagwa scheduled to

on 9 October, and Hon. Lt. Gen. Rtd. Amb. AN. Sanyatwe lead the inaugural KUZANA SCREEZY will place Zimbabwe's sports centre of a national conversation about jobs, entrepreneurship, transformation.

From talent to GDP -- the challenge now is to build the industrial investment structures that allow Zimbabwean talent to create la

Read online:

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Zimbabwe Celebrates President Mnangagwa's Birthday as National Day
September 15, 2026 . Takasununguka Ziki

Special - Zimbabwe today joins together in marking a historic calendar as the country celebrates the 84th birthday of His Excellency Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa while observing Munhumutapa proclaimed public holiday.

The occasion brings together the celebration of the Head of State and the recognition of Zimbabwe's deep pre-colonial heritage.

President Mnangagwa was born on 15 September 1942 in the Province. His early education began at Lundi Primary School b to what was then Northern Rhodesia, now Zambia.

This year's celebrations carry added significance following the September as Munhumutapa Day, an annual public holiday.

The declaration was made through Statutory Instrument 148 of Public Holidays and Prohibition of Business Act [Chapter 10:21] that 15 September shall henceforth be observed as a public holiday Day.

The inaugural observance therefore gives Zimbabweans an opportunity to reflect on the country's history, heritage and identity while celebrating the President's birthday.

The name Munhumutapa is associated with the rulers of the high Zimbo powerful pre-colonial civilisation that flourished across parts of the

and Mozambique from approximately the 14th to the 17th cent

For Zimbabwe, the Munhumutapa legacy forms part of a much civilisation, governance, trade, culture and state-building.

The history of the Mutapa state is closely connected with the b the Zimbabwe Plateau and the heritage represented by monun

Munhumutapa Day therefore provides an opportunity for citizen Zimbabweans, to learn more about the country's pre-colonial h societies that existed long before colonial rule.

It is also an opportunity to strengthen the teaching and preserv history, traditional knowledge, languages, arts and cultural heri

President Mnangagwa's birthday is being marked against the b political career, which began during Zimbabwe's liberation stru

His official biography records that he became involved in national politics as a young man and later underwent military training as part of the Rhodesian Army. He subsequently held a number of senior Government positions before becoming President of Zimbabwe in November 2017.

Today, he remains the President of the Republic of Zimbabwe and Commander of the Zimbabwe Defence Forces.

His administration has placed considerable emphasis on economic growth, infrastructure, agriculture, investment, industrialisation and the achievement of the development objectives.

Government institutions continue to frame national development policy and strategy, building a modern, prosperous Zimbabwe by 2030.

Beyond the celebrations, 15 September provides an opportunity to reflect on the country's journey and the future they want to build.

Zimbabwe possesses enormous natural resources, agricultural and cultural wealth. From the Great Zimbabwe monuments to the commercial farms, mines, industries and emerging technology sector, the nation evolves.

Munhumutapa Day can consequently serve as a reminder that it is not only about economic statistics and infrastructure.

It is also about identity, history, culture and the confidence of a nation's heritage.

For young Zimbabweans in particular, understanding the country's history provides a stronger foundation from which to engage with the future.

As Zimbabwe celebrates President Mnangagwa's 84th birthday, Munhumutapa Day, the day carries a message of national identity and responsibility.

The country's development ultimately depends on the participation of all Zimbabweans -- from farmers producing food and entrepreneurs creating business opportunities for the next generation, workers building infrastructure and young people with innovative ideas.

The national development philosophy captured in the phrase "Umba -- the nation is built by its owners --" speaks directly to this responsibility.

The future of Zimbabwe belongs not only to Government but to all Zimbabweans.

On this special day, Zimbabweans join in extending birthday wishes to President Dr Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa.

It is also a day to celebrate Zimbabwe's heritage and to remember the sacrifices of those who came before us.

As the country observes its first Munhumutapa Day, Zimbabweans mark the occasion not merely as another date on the calendar, but as a day of reflection on education, cultural preservation, national pride and reflection on the path forward.

Happy 84th Birthday, Your Excellency President Dr E.D. Mnangagwa

Happy Munhumutapa Day, Zimbabwe!

Nyika Inovakwa Nevene Vayo.

Read online:

<https://zimglobalmedia.co.zw/zimbabwe-celebrates-president-r-marks-inaugural-munhumutapa-day/zimglobal/>

Columnists

Munhumutapa Day - When Zimbabwe Remembers Who It Has
September 16, 2026 . Takasununguka Ziki

Special - From the stone walls of Great Zimbabwe to the struggle
from the memories of our grandparents to the Zimbabwe we are
Day invites us to look backwards before we march forward.

There are days when a nation simply turns a page on the calendar

And then there are days when a nation pauses, looks into the mirror and remembers who it is.

15 September is becoming one of those days for Zimbabwe.

Yesterday, Zimbabwe celebrated the birthday of His Excellency Robert Mugabe, while the country observes Munhumukuru Day, a public holiday dedicated to Zimbabwe's ancient heritage.

The day was formally gazetted through Statutory Instrument 14 of 2008, making 15 September every year a public holiday to be known as Munhumukuru Day.

But beyond the Government Gazette, beyond the speeches and the celebrations, there is something much deeper about this day.

It takes us back.

Back to the stories our grandparents told us.

Back to the names we learnt in history lessons.

Back to Dzimbahwe.

Back to the great stone walls of Great Zimbabwe.

Back to the Munhumutapa -- the powerful African rulers whose region and whose kingdom became part of the history of the Z

And perhaps, most importantly, back to the simple question:

Who are we?

For generations, Zimbabweans have grown up surrounded by that existed long before colonialism.

Some of us first encountered that history through the pages of

Others heard it from a teacher standing in front of a blackboard

Others heard it from grandparents sitting beside a fire in the ev

There were names that seemed almost magical to a child:

Great Zimbabwe.

Munhumutapa.

Rozvi.

Dzimbahwe.

Mambo.

Names that connected the present generation to a past that was bigger than the district and bigger even than the modern borders.

Today, Munhumutapa Day gives Zimbabweans another opportunity

The Mutapa state emerged in the 14th century and became one of the pre-colonial political and economic powers in the region. Its rulers controlled vast territories with extensive networks of trade, agriculture and

That history matters.

Because sometimes Africans were taught -- directly or indirectly -- that their history began as beginning with the arrival of Europeans.

It did not.

Zimbabwe had a story before colonialism.

It had kings.

It had farmers.

It had miners.

It had traders.

It had builders.

It had communities.

It had systems of governance.

It had culture.

It had ambition.

It had civilisation.

And those stories belong to us.

Travel to Great Zimbabwe today and stand before those ancient

Look carefully at the stones.

There is no concrete holding them together.

There is no modern crane standing beside the monument.

There is no architect's office nearby explaining how it was done.

Yet generation after generation has inherited the magnificent stones.

Those stones have survived kingdoms, colonialism, independence.

They have watched Zimbabwe change.

They have watched children become parents and parents become grandparents.

They have watched the Zimbabwean flag rise over an independent nation.

And they remain.

Silent, but never without a story.

That is why Munhumutapa Day should never become merely a day when Zimbabweans sleep late, attend celebrations and return home.

It should become a day when a father takes his children to a museum.

When a teacher tells pupils about Great Zimbabwe.

When young people visit heritage sites.

When grandparents tell stories.

When historians debate.

When artists create.

When musicians sing.

When filmmakers tell African stories from an African perspective.

And when Zimbabweans look at their own history with pride.

Zimbabwe's history did not end with the Mutapa state.

The centuries that followed brought other kingdoms, communities,

The Rozvi rose.

The Ndebele kingdom under King Mzilikazi became an important history.

Different communities established themselves across the land.

Different languages, traditions and cultures developed.

Eventually came colonialism.

Then came resistance.

Then the liberation struggle.

Then independence on 18 April 1980.

And suddenly, the country that had been called Rhodesia beca

That name itself was a declaration.

It drew from the ancient stone city whose ruins had stood for c

Zimbabwe was not an accidental name.

It was a reclaiming of identity.

The flag was raised.

The national anthem was sung.

The green, yellow, red and black became symbols recognised

A new generation was born into freedom.

And the stories of those who fought for that freedom became p

That is why Zimbabwe's history is not one single chapter.

It is a long book.

Munhumutapa is one chapter.

Great Zimbabwe is another.

The kingdoms that followed are others.

The liberation struggle is another.

Independence is another.

And the present generation is now writing its own chapter.

On this same date in 1942, a boy named Dambudzo Mnangagwa was born in Southern Rhodesia.

Today, 84 years later, that boy is the President of the Republic

President Mnangagwa's life has therefore travelled through several chapters of Zimbabwe's modern history -- from the colonial era to independence and the leadership of the post-independence

His official biography records his involvement in nationalist political liberation struggle before independence, followed by decades of and ultimately his assumption of the presidency in November 2017

His birthday now falls on the same date Zimbabwe officially obtained independence. The significance of that coincidence will naturally be debated by generations.

But whatever one's political persuasion, the historical symbolism is an important part of Zimbabwe's national conversation.

And that conversation should be bigger than one individual.

It should be about a country.

There is something deeply African about remembering.

Our elders did not always write everything down.

History travelled through voices.

A grandmother could remember a family genealogy stretching

A grandfather could tell you the name of a village headman when
independence.

A parent could tell you where they were when the national flag

A former freedom fighter could tell you about the long road to i

A teacher could explain the meaning of the name Zimbabwe.

These memories become part of the invisible architecture of a

And perhaps that is what Munhumutapa Day can become.

A day of remembering.

Not remembering only politicians.

Not remembering only governments.

But remembering ourselves.

For those who grew up in Zimbabwe in earlier decades, there a explanation.

The sound of the national anthem at school assemblies.

The morning flag-raising ceremony.

The green and yellow school uniforms.

The smell of dust after the first rains.

The sound of the radio in the kitchen.

The Sunday journey to the rural home.

Grandmother's cooking.

Grandfather's stories.

The excitement of Christmas holidays.

The long bus journey from town to the village.

The first television in the neighbourhood.

The old ZBC programmes.

Football discussions in the streets.

The sound of cattle bells in the distance.

The excitement when relatives returned from Harare, Bulawayo

The belief that tomorrow would be better than today.

These are not merely personal memories.

They are part of the emotional history of a country.

And Zimbabwe's national identity has always been built from memories.

Perhaps the most important people on Munhumutapa Day are the past.

They are those who do not.

Zimbabwe's young people have grown up in an entirely different

They live on smartphones.

They consume global entertainment.

They speak to people thousands of kilometres away with a few

Artificial intelligence is changing education and business.

The global economy is changing rapidly.

Yet beneath all this modernity lies a country with an extraordinary

The young Zimbabwean should be able to look at Great Zimbabwe

"This is mine."

Not because it belongs exclusively to one tribe.

Not because it belongs to one political party.

But because it is part of the heritage of the country called Zimbabwe.

The young Zimbabwean should know that Africans were not merely passive victims of colonialism.

We made history.

There is also a powerful bridge between the past and the future.

The ancient Mutapa state represents an era of African organisation and political authority.

Modern Zimbabwe faces a completely different world.

Our challenges are different.

Our opportunities are different.

But the fundamental question remains familiar:

What kind of country are we going to build?

Zimbabwe's current national development agenda looks toward infrastructure, agriculture, investment and the achievement of a society under Vision 2030.

The language may be modern.

The technologies may be different.

The economic systems may be different.

But the responsibility remains the same:

Build.

Build the roads.

Build the schools.

Build the hospitals.

Build the industries.

Build the farms.

Build the businesses.

Build the technology.

Build the communities.

Build the nation.

That is why the familiar national philosophy rings particularly loud

NYIKA INOVAKWA NEVENE VAYO.

The nation is built by its owners.

Zimbabwe should be careful not to allow Munhumutapa Day to
marked on calendars.

Let it become a national classroom.

Let museums open their doors wider.

Let schools organise heritage programmes.

Let traditional leaders tell their histories.

Let universities conduct more research.

Let filmmakers produce historical documentaries.

Let musicians celebrate Zimbabwean culture.

Let tourism operators showcase heritage sites.

Let young innovators reinterpret history through technology.

Let families tell their children where they came from.

Because a nation that forgets its history risks losing its sense of

But a nation that remembers its past can walk confidently into the

So yesterday, we celebrated.

We celebrated the birthday of His Excellency President Dr Em

We celebrated Munhumutapa Day.

But above all, we celebrated Zimbabwe.

The Zimbabwe of the ancient stone walls.

The Zimbabwe of the great kingdoms.

The Zimbabwe of the liberation struggle.

The Zimbabwe of Independence.

The Zimbabwe of our parents and grandparents.

The Zimbabwe of our children.

And the Zimbabwe that is still being built.

History has brought us here.

Our choices will determine where we go next.

From Great Zimbabwe to the modern Zimbabwean state, the s

The stones remain.

The memories remain.

The spirit remains.

And now, another generation has taken up the responsibility of

Happy Birthday, Your Excellency President Dr E.D. Mnangagwa

Happy Munhumutapa Day, Zimbabwe.

May we remember where we came from.
May we honour those who came before us.
May we build for those who will come after us.

NYIKA INOVAKWA NEVENE VAYO.

Zimbabwe -- Our Home. Our Heritage. Our Future.

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