



Making a fire: Orange Farm children carry sticks home to make a fire

increased rent, the only option is to move on. The effect of this continuous moving is detrimental to family life and the happiness of children who never come to know exactly which or where is their home'.

Most residents agree on one thing: what you have at Orange Farm belongs, or can belong to you.

Orange Farm may not be a great place to be because of the lack of proper infrastructure and the erratic transport system, but being an owner of your own shack seems to be the overriding advantage for the people there.

What this means is that once you are settled there, it is up to you what you do about your piece of land, whether you build a palace or a shack - one person even built a double-storey shack - or whether you construct a proper structure at your own financial pace.

The biggest challenge now for the people of Orange Farm and the TPA is whether the government will upgrade the area, and when that upgrading will start. As it is, the government's lack of commitment to providing black people with affordable and adequate housing in urban areas has been the cause of the mushrooming of squatter settlements

anyway.

For residents, the challenge is whether they will be prepared to wait for the government to effect its upgrading, or whether they will pressure the government to act quickly and in consultation with the residents.

The toughest of the challenges is the power relationship between the government and the residents. The question is who will seize the initiative first in laying the ground rules.

It also remains to be seen whether residents will wait for the government to set up its own collaborationist structures or whether residents will come up with their own organisational formations.

At the moment there is an eight-man committee which meets regularly with TPA officials to 'discuss' the development of the area. The majority of the committee members are formerly from the Weiler's Farm area.

It is well-known that structures of this nature receive no mandates from the communities they profess to be representing. And since the establishment of Orange Farm, there is no record of this committee having called any meetings with residents.

Since the area is still 'new', only time will tell which way the power relations will go.

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