Pieter-Dirk Uys, with Professor Cheryl Potgieter, the deputy vice-chancellor and head of the College of Humanities, at the University of KZN's graduation ceremony yesterday. The satirist received an honorary Doctor of Literature degree.

Be selfish. Vote for your future, says satirist

COMEDIAN and satirist Pieter-Dirk Uys yesterday urged South Africans to be selfish when they cast their votes in the general elections on May 7.

"We are seeing this election in the wrong way. People are saying your vote is for Madiba, for your community. Your vote is for your country.

"No! Your vote is for you. It's the most selfish thing you are allowed. It's about your life. It's about your future. So be selfish on May 7."

Uys was speaking at the University of KwaZulu-Natal's graduation ceremony where he received an honorary degree from Chancellor Zweli Mkhize, who is also the ANC's national treasurer. That, however, did not stop Uys from having a dig at the current political establishment while he explained to an enthralled audience about his choice of career.

"I wanted to be a Dutch Reformed Church dominee, an NG Kerk dominee, because you got a car and went straight to heaven.

"I was wrong, you had to be a member of the ANC to get a free car and go straight to heaven," he joked.

ANC president Jacob Zuma declared in 2008 that his party would "rule until Jesus comes back", while during the apartheid era the NG church was in favour with that government. – Sapa