TO THE

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COLOURED

**PEOPLE** 



## THIS IS ADDRESSED TO YOU AND EVERY COLOURED PERSON.

A liberatory struggle is in progress, a struggle with the aim of achieving full citizenship rights for all South Africans irrespective of race, colour or creed, in the political, social, economic and cultural life of our country.

In the pursuance and ultimate achievement of the above aim, organization of the people is necessary, for only a united body of all oppressed peoples can make their democratic aspirations powerfully heard throughout South Africa, heard as the voice of a united people demanding FREEDOM and heard especially by our oppressors the Strydom Government who, with every sitting of Parliament, make inroads on our rights and liberties.

## WHAT ARE YOU DOING to secure FREEDOM for yourself and your children?

- ARE YOU AWARE THAT your freedom is being curtailed and that your very existence is being threatened?
- DO YOU KNOW THAT the evil eye is cast on your homes, schools, work and churches? That these fundamental rights which are the basic needs of every human being are being threatened?
- DO YOU KNOW THAT the Government is planning laws to tell you what work you must do? That they may even tell you to work on a farm?
- DO YOU KNOW THAT very soon the Government, and not you, will decide what kind of education your children should get?
- DO YOU KNOW THAT the Government is planning to remove thousands of Coloured people from their homes in the Cape, just as they removed the Africans from Sophiatown?
- DO YOU KNOW THAT soon you will have a Minister of Coloured Affairs who, like Dr. Verwoerd, Minister of Native Affairs, will bully you and control every phase of your life?
- DO YOU KNOW THAT now you cannot leave South Africa, and very soon you will not be able to go from Johannesburg to Cape Town, unless you are prepared to say "YES BAAS! PLEASE BAAS!" and are prepared to WALK, TALK, SIT and EAT the way the BAAS wants you to?
- YOU MAY SAY THAT THESE THINGS WILL NOT HAPPEN TO YOU.
- WE SAY THEY CAN HAPPEN AND ARE HAPPENING AND UNLESS YOU ARE PREPARED TO STAND UP AND DEFEND YOUR RIGHTS AND LIBERTIES YOU WILL' LOSE THEM.

The African and Indian sections of the oppressed Non-European people have made great strides in the fight for freedom by organizing their people and establishing an AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS and a SOUTH AFRICAN INDIAN CONGRESS respectively. But what about the Coloured people? ? ? Can we point to any organisation of our own which can take its place with the AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS, the SOUTH AFRICAN INDIAN CONGRESS and the SOUTH AFRICAN CONGRESS OF DEMOCRATS and other democratic organizations in the common struggle? Or are we so childish as to believe that the oppressive measures launched by the Government do not affect us?

JOIN THE SOUTH AFRICAN COLOURED PEOPLES' ORGANISATION and enter the struggle to make South Africa a LAND OF FREEDOM.

PROTECT YOUR HOMES!

PROTECT YOUR TRADE UNIONS AND YOUR WORK!

PROTECT THE FUTURE OF YOUR CHILDREN!

SUPPORT THE CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE!

# LET US MARCH FORWARD TO FREEDOM! WHAT IS THE CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE?

The idea of the Congress of the People came into being through joint discussions of four organisations of the people, The African National Congress, South African Indian Congress, South African Coloured Peoples' Organisation and South African Congress of Democrats. The Executives of these four Organisations have appointed a National Action Council to prepare for the Congress.

These Organisations have sponsored the Congress, but it will be organised by the people of South Africa as a whole.

This great assembly will consist of delegates elected to speak on behalf of the people.

The Congress of the People will not be just another meeting or another conference. It will be a mass assembly of delegates elected by the people of all races in every town, village, farm, factory and kraal. It will be the biggest single gathering of spokesmen ever known in this country. The representatives of the people who come to the Congress will consider the detailed demands of the people, which have been sent in for incorporation in the Freedom Charter, and will embody them into a declaration. THIS FREEDOM CHARTER WILL BE THE SOUTH AFRICAN PEOPLES' DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, which every civilised South African will work to uphold and carry into practice.

The drawing up and adopting of such a charter of freedom is the purpose for which the Congress of the People has been called. THERE IS A GREAT NEED TO HEAR THE VOICE OF THE ORDINARY CITIZEN OF THIS LAND, PROCLAIMING TO THE WORLD HIS DEMAND FOR FREEDOM.

By decision of the Joint National Executive Committee of the sponsoring organisations, the Congress of the People will be held on the 25th and 26th of June this year.

Now is the time for you to plan your freedom. Discuss with your family and friends at home and at work the things you want from life.

Write down your demands and send them in to us so that they may be written into the FREEDOM CHARTER.

Elect a member of your club, street, factory, church or organisation to come and put forward your demands and take part in the assembly of the Congress of the People and adopt the FREEDOM CHARTER.

For further information write to P.O. Box 9207 or phone 33-9193.

#### WHAT IS IT?

S.A.C.P.O. is the SOUTH AFRICAN COLOURED PEOPLE'S ORGANISATION — designed to be the Mouthpiece of the Coloured People in Political, Economic and other matters.

#### WHAT DOES IT DO?

S.A.C.P.O. interests itself in all matters that affect the Coloured People, and will fight for the rights of the People.

## WHAT DOES IT STAND FOR?

S.A.C.P.O. stands for the full and fair treatment of all people as citizens of this country.

#### WHAT DOES IT FIGHT?

S.A.C.P.O. opposes all forms of racial discrimination and unfair treatment. It does not fight other organisations, but will criticize their aims and methods if they are undemocratic.

### WHY WAS IT FORMED?

S.A.C.P.O. arose out of the need for a really national organisation to which ALL Coloured People can belong, knowing that they lend their weight to a straight and hard struggle for justice.

#### WHO CONTROLS IT?

The members control S.A.C.P.O. The Executive Committee and the Officials carry out the wishes of the members.

The National Secretary is Mr. R. September, Walmer Estate; the Transvaal secretary is Mr. Stanley B. Lollan, P.O. Box 9207, Johannesburg.

#### HOW DO I JOIN IT?

Contact one of the officials, or post the attached form, and someone will be sent to you. If you do this, please try and have some other friends present.

#### WHO CAN JOIN?

Anyone, irrespective of race, male or female, who is over 17 years of age, may join.

#### WHAT DOES IT COST?

MEMBERSHIP COSTS TWO SHILLINGS PER MONTH.

The Secretary, S.A.C.P.O.,

P.O. Box 9207, Johannesburg.

Dear Sir,

I am interested in S.A.C.P.O. and would like to come to your meetings. Please inform me of your next meeting.

Yours faithfully, Name .....

Address

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# RECORDS RELATING TO THE 'TREASON TRIAL' (REGINA vs F. ADAMS AND OTHERS ON CHARGE OF HIGH TREASON, ETC.), 1956 1961

**TREASON TRIAL, 1956 1961** 

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