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CONSTITUTION OF THE DEMOCRATIC LEAGUE

1. TITLE: The name of the organisation shall be the Democratic League.

2. AIMS: 1. The Democratic League aims at the achievement of the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in particular strives towards the fulfilment of the following basic rights.

a) All people are born entitled to all rights and freedoms without distinction of any kind such as race, colour, sex, language, or religion. (Arts 1 & 2)

b) All South Africans have a full and equal claim to the rights of nationality and citizenship, including the opportunity to take part in government and to exercise voting rights which shall be based on the principle of universal adult franchise. (Arts 15 & 21)

c) Everyone should enjoy freedom of movement and residence, freedom of association and assembly and freedom of speech and belief. (Arts 13 & 20)

d) It is the duty of the state to guarantee all citizens the right to work or protection against unemployment; together with an equal opportunity to perform all types of work at equal rates of pay and freedom to form, join and administer trade unions. (Art. 23)

e) The State is responsible for providing free, equal and compulsory education for all. (Art. 26)

f) True justice demands the recognition of the equality of all persons before the law; the right of all to a fair and public hearing before an impartial court; the right of all accused persons to be presumed innocent, and protection against arbitrary arrest, detention, exile, torture or degrading treatment. No person shall be punished for an act which was not an offence when committed. (Arts. 5, 8, 7, 9, 10 & 11)

g) There shall be no discrimination or interference with the right of all persons to acquire, own and occupy property. (Art 17)

h) Society shall aim to preserve family life and safeguard it against all forms of interference which lead to its disintegration. (Art. 12)

II. Believing that differences between all nations great or small can best be settled by peaceful means, the Democratic League will strive and work for freedom, justice and peace among nations.

3. MEMBERSHIP:

a) Membership is open to all persons who subscribe to the aims of the League.

b) Application for membership shall be made in writing on the prescribed form.

c) Membership shall cease on resignation or expulsion.

b) A member shall pay a minimum of 1/- per month subscription. If he is more than 3 months in arrears his membership may be lapsed.

e) The committee may lapse a member; or suspend or expel a member if it feels the continuance of his membership is detrimental to the League, providing he is advised of the decision and is given an opportunity of being heard thereon.

4. ORGANISATION: A general meeting of members

i. The general meeting of members is the supreme authority on all matters.

ii. The annual general meeting shall be convened not later than 1st September of each year and shall elect a committee for the ensuing year.

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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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