

PROPOSAL FOR EXPANDING CAPE TOWN'S JUST PEACE MEMORIAL PROJECT INTO A NATIONAL PROJECT

why should it be a national project?

1. Scale: logistically, the project is too big for one centre.
2. Financial reasons.
3. This type of project is appropriate to more than one centre.
4. So far, we've had problems with meeting the deadline in Cape Town.
5. The project could unify ECC nationally.
6. The project would have a greater effect if carried out nationally.
7. The project could help build organisation within centres.
8. The project could help build links with other organisations.

Conception of the project

At this stage, the project is seen as a message from unwilling conscripts and their friends and families to the people of Southern Africa, but this is still open for discussion.

Aims of the project

1. Expose the role of the SADF.
2. Highlight the plight of the conscript (especially the conscript opposed to conscription).
3. To build non-racialism and solidarity.
4. To build relations with people and groupings outside South Africa.
5. To develop understanding of the nature and causes of violence in our society.
6. To promote ECC.

The form of the project

At this stage, a central memorial is envisaged (the number of memorials is open to discussion). The memorial is to be designed by Gavin Young and it will possibly be situated outside St George's Cathedral or the Baxter theatre, Cape Town. (Other sites are also being considered.)

Plaques could be set up in various centres and in specific symbolic sites, for example Crossroads, Sebokeng, Pretoria and in Southern Africa, for example Namibia, Maputo and Lusaka and in Europe, for example London.

Organisations involved

The statements expressed in the project come from conscripts and their friends and families, so ECC is best placed to be the central organisers in such a project, although we could work

with other orgs on specific plaques. (Initially, we considered forming a broad front with other orgs on the ground that it would share the load and offer protection, but this idea was not taken up.)

Process

1. The project should be discussed nationally and locally.
2. We need to consider its feasibility.
3. Appropriate sites in centres could be considered.
4. We need to discuss finance: the projected cost for the memorial is R15000, while the plaques are estimated at R250 each.

At a later stage, we can consider timing and national co-ordination.

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