

# JUNE 26.

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In keeping with what I hope will become an established Anniversary in the history of our Liberatory Movement in the Union of South Africa I find it right and fitting that, as President-General of the African National Congress, I should give this year as last year a message and call as we approach "JUNE 26", a date which has become a land mark of special significance to the oppressed people in the Union of South Africa in their fight for freedom.

Ever since 1950 "JUNE 26" has become a special day in the calendar of our Liberatory movement in the Union of South Africa. Its significance will grow with years and its zenith when in the not distant future we attain our freedom.

Wherein lies the significance of this day? It lies in the fact that it enshrines the determination of the oppressed people in the Union of South Africa to unitedly fight for their liberation from oppression; it enshrines their hope for the realisation in the not distant future, of a true Union of South Africa where we shall have in truth "a government of the people, by the people and for the people" and not for "EUROPEANS ONLY". The day is not one of rejoicing or frivolity but one of commemoration and dedication.

## 1. IT IS A DAY OF COMMEMORATION:

It is a day of commemoration when in the words of my message last year, "we must call to mind gratefully all those men and women from all walks of life - Chiefs and Commoners, educated and uneducated, leaders and followers of various movements and organisations - who at different times in our history have laid down their lives or made other sacrifices in the struggle for our rights and our freedom.

On this day wherever fighters for freedom foregather - at home, at work or at play - they are called upon to recount to themselves and to others the heroic deeds of our forebears in defence of their homeland and of their rights as free men.

## 2. IT IS A DAY OF STRENGTHENING BONDS OF SYMPATHY AND DETERMINATION TO BUILD A UNITED FRONT AGAINST OPPRESSION:

On this day we should remember sympathetically the suffering of others due to the oppression perpetrated on us by the powers that be.

RESOLVE AFRESH TO FIGHT AND DIE TOGETHER.

## 3. IT IS A DAY OF DEDICATION:

Remembering the past and bearing in mind our duty for the future we must on this day dedicate ourselves afresh to the cause of securing freedom in our land during our lifetime; and, inspired by the supreme sacrifice already made by many for the cause we should resolve afresh NEVER TO TURN BACK UNTIL FREEDOM IS WON.

## MESSAGE & CALL ...

BY CHIEF A.J. LUTULI.

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# Call to the <sup>(2)</sup> People... 6521

What then shall we do on JUNE 26, 1954, to commemorate our honoured forerunners and to renew our resolve to keep alive the sense of devotion which they demonstrated and the spirit by which they were inspired? I am inspired to call upon all Congress Branches and members - and in this call I include our gallant allies:-

1. On the evening of Friday JUNE 26, 1954, in the homes of all freedom-loving people, especially non-European - let there be a special act of commemoration and dedication, so that members of our house-holds, young and old, may be reminded about the significance of this day. Let the older members of ~~the household~~ tell the younger, so far as they know it, the story of the struggle of the African people in particular and the non-European in general for their liberation both in the area in which they are located and elsewhere in the country. Mention to them who have made their contribution to the struggle, whether they were against us or were for us. Those who are away from their homes should be able to find suitable ways in which they can carry out this aspect of my call.
2. At a time when this is going on we should light a fire outside our homes or place a lighted candle or a lantern as a symbol of the spark of freedom which we are determined to keep alive in our hearts and a sign to our followers - freedom-lovers - that we are keeping the vigil on that night. What a mighty inspiration it would be to us if we were to see all these lighted fires all around at a fixed hour to remind us of the undying flames of freedom which must inspire our struggle until our objectives are achieved! Let this fixed hour be 9.p.m.
3. Each Branch is asked to approach all the Ministers of the local churches to observe the Sunday following June 26, 1954, namely June 28, as a day of commemoration and Dedication. On that day let everyone who can attend the special Service decided upon share in the act of Commemoration and Dedication.
4. These injunctions are not intended to be exhaustive and so in addition any Branch may embark on other activities in keeping with the spirit of the day.
5. All Branches are required to send in a Special report to Provincial Head-quarters indicating how June 26, 1954, was observed in their areas. Provincial Headquarters in turn are required to report to the Head Office of how the Commemoration was carried on throughout the Province. These reports should be collated and published in a special issue of the Provincial Bulletin for the information of all the Branches in the Province. The National Head-Office will also in turn publish a special Bulletin for the information of all the Branches in the Province as to how June 26, 1954, was remembered throughout South Africa.
6. This message, in all its sentiments and force, is intended equally for the other communities associated with us in our struggle for freedom. I commend it to the leaders of these communities and respectfully request them to accept it and graciously convey it to their respective communities for acceptance and action.

Yours in the National Service,

A F R I K A !

(Sgd) ALBERT J. LUTULI  
PRESIDENT-GENERAL, A. N. C.

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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**

***PUBLISHER:***

*Publisher:- Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand*

*Location:- Johannesburg*

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