

THE LATE MR. A.I. KAJEE

The South African Soccer Federation was founded in the year 1952. There was the urgent need for a Federation trophy for competition on a national level amongst its affiliates. The members of the A.I. Kajee family readily acquiesced to a request from the officials and presented the magnificent A.I. Kajee Memorial Trophy to perpetuate the memory of a leading public figure who died in harness, as it were, on the 8th January, 1948. The trophy was to be known as the £500 A.I. Kajee Memorial Trophy. At the time of making the presentation of the trophy, the Donors in a message to the South African Soccer Federation ascribed the following message, namely:

"This trophy, we are sure, will stand for all those qualities of sportsmanship and good fellowship which the late A. I. Kajee possessed in such full measure. This trophy is intended not only as a memorial to one who devoted his lifelong energies to the interests of his fellowmen in this country, but also as an inspiration to all of us, on whatever field of activity we find ourselves. Association Football is one of those fields.

No game has gripped the imagination so much as soccer, a game that calls for physical fitness, great skill and imagination, and contributes very largely to brotherhood of man. Spectators and players alike find that in this field of sport exists a new and vital fellowship. Everybody admires skill, everybody admires sportsmanship. It matters little who wins the game. It matters much how the game is won and how the game is lost, how the spirit of goodwill is maintained, and how the best of a man's character is displayed.

My colleagues and I are overjoyed at the thought that the Federation is doing so much for the encouragement of good-fellowship between the various races of South Africa. We are proud to think that we can be associated in this great work. To-day the South African Soccer Federation is perhaps the best representative of good-will this country has ever known, and we should like to pay a tribute to the officials and the players, and to send a message to all who watch the game on the fields a message of good wishes for the present and for the future."

As one who has been associated with the Soccer Federation from the very inception, and in fact, as a founder member, I would like to eulogise and pay tribute to all the officials and members of both past and present who have worked relentlessly to further the interest of this code of sport, despite the many problems and vicissitudes that had to be encountered in our aspirations to consolidate ourselves locally, and to strive for international recognition. Needless to mention, the day is not far distant when our aspirations and ambitions will no doubt be fulfilled. In conveying my personal best wishes to the Transvaal Soccer Board who so kindly consented to play hosts to the officials and to the participating centres, and above all, for staging this bi-ennial tournament in Johannesburg at such short notice, it is my fervent prayer that the tourney will be a huge success, and hearty congratulations to the centre annexing the trophy.

### Article contributed by:

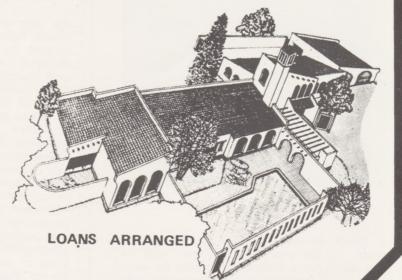


Mr. CHARLES M. PILLAY Life Member SASF

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## TOURNEY

by AMEEN AKHALWAYA

Slowly but surely, times are changing for our sportsmen. This Datsun tournament will be played on reasonable turf grounds, there is ample sponsorship and adequate seating facilities for spectators.

But it was nt always so. The last tournament in Johannesburg in 1972 was a bitter experience for players, officials and fans alike. At that time, the Johannesburg City Council's policy was to give its playing fields only to unions affiliated to the White football association.

The council refused to allow the tournament to be staged at the old Natalspruit ground, which, although it had no turf, was still one of our better playing fields.

The litter strewn Queen's Park ground in Vrerdedorp was chosen as the venue for the premier national amateur competition.

At the last moment, officials succeeded in getting a few stands erected and the playing field itself was scraped. That was not the end of it.



Queen's Park where the premier national amateur competition was played in 1972.

Queen's Park has no dressing rooms, so a hall behind the ground was used by players. I recall the past, not out of any bitterness, but to show what can be done by perseverence and sticking to principles.

Abdul Bhamjee and his co-officials, and particularly the then chairman of Bluebells, Vincent Naidoo, and his committee took the city council to task.

Under pressure from Press, public and administrators alike, the council eventually changed its policy regarding our grounds.

For the youth coming into the game, the lesson is simple. There can be no room for complacency. It has been a long, hard struggle to get non-racial football where it is today.

The struggle is far from over. We have to keep our battle to get the facilities and opportunities which are our right.

Things must come right, as, indeed, they will. One day we will play sports free of politics, bitterness and sectionalism.



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for
a
very
successful
tournament





R. K. NAIDOO

### President: South African Soccer Federation Professional League.

Regretably, in some quarters, professional football is looked upon as something apart from amateur football. This kind of attitude is even more harmful to the cause of soccer when it prevails in the abnormal situation that the South African Soccer Federation finds itself.

Of course it would be wrong on the other hand not to accept that there will be some differences. Money incentives result in more involved club administration and higher standards of football. But we must not get away from the fact that pro soccer is a development of amateur soccer — a step forward. Within the Federation, faced as it is with such unique problems probably not faced by any other national soccer organisation in the world, this consideration is all important. It is vital to our strugle to emphasise that the Federation Professional League is very much an integral part of the South Africa Soccer Federation. When Bluebells United or Cape Town Spurs or Berea or an other pro club go out there to do battle they are, first and foremost, carrying aloft the inspiring flag of the South African Soccer Federation. Let us not forget this. Any other attitude could lead to a fragmentation with sad consequences for the cause of our football, let alone standards.

As President of the South African Soccer Federation Professional League, my prime concern has been the upliftment of the lot of the non-racial footballer, a cause which I am sure all true sportsmen in this country subscribe to.

It is for this reason that I readily identify myself with the Datsun Tournament and wish it every success. Our amateur footballers have done us proud and I am sure that when Tournament is over, we will have written another very successful chapter in our struggle to implement true non-racial football in this country.



MALA MOODALEY,

### President, Eastern Province Soccer Board. Life Member, South African Soccer Federation.

Sports in its purity of indiscrimination is the most suitable answer to this project, Soccer has that equalty of all races whatever creed status or qualifications.

The loyalty to the cause of sport by the administration has set itself as an example to participants and patrons who have always rallied to the call made on them, thus solidifying the various functions into complete group which argurs well for posterity and progress.

The success of this tournament depends largely on the participants themselves by displaying the highest form of sportsmanship, thus adding goodwill among the multi-racial groups in South Africa.

May this tournament be crowned with success and may it give rise to greater enthusiasm among the ranks.

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## Abdul Bhamjee

(WITH APOLOGIES TO KAHLIL GIBRAN)

YOU ARE LIKE THE NECTAR
THAT SWETENS THE LIVES OF FOOTBALLERS
YOU ARE LIKE THE TORCH
THAT SHOWS THE PATH THROUGH A DIM ROAD
YOU ARE LIKE THE NEON LIGHT
THAT SHOWS THE WAY.
YOU ARE, DEAR BROTHER,
A COMRADE OF JUSTICE
LOVER OF HONESTY
FIGHTER OF DIGNITY
DEFENDER OF FAIRPLAY
SMILER WITH COURAGE.

ABDUL BHAMJEE
YOU ARE THE TREE
THAT CAME IN SPRING
TO BE BLOSSOMED IN SUMMER

YOUR SPRING MY FRIEND IS YOUR IMMEDIATE PAST YOUR SUMMER IS YOUR ROSY FUTURE.

WHAT WILL NON RACIAL SPORT BE WITHOUT A MAN WHO FIGHTS UNFLINCHINGLY AND NOBODY CAN DOUBT YOUR FORTITUDE AND COURAGE.

YOU ARE THE CHILD OF THE UNIVERSE

GROWN UP
INTO THE ADOLESCENCE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS
FATHERING THE DIGNITY OF ALL MEN.

YES ABDUL BHAMJEE
WHAT THE WIDE SCREEN IS TO THE MOVIES
YOU ARE TO SPORT.
AND WHAT THE SOUND IS TO THE TELLY
YOU ARE TO FOOTBALL.

(MAYBE KAHLIL GIBRAN'S VERSE WOULD BEST DESCRIBE THIS BUNDLE OF ENERGY, ABDUL BHAMJEE)

HE CAME TO SAY A WORD AND HE HAD SAID IT.
BUT IF DEATH PREVENTS TO SAY MORE,
IT SHALL BE SAID BY TOMORROW, FOR TOMORROW
NEVER LEAVES A SECRET IN THE BOOK OF ETERNITY.
HE CAME TOLIVE IN THE GLORY OF LOVE AND THE
LIGHT OF BEAUTY, WHICH ARE THE REFLECTIONS
OF GOD.

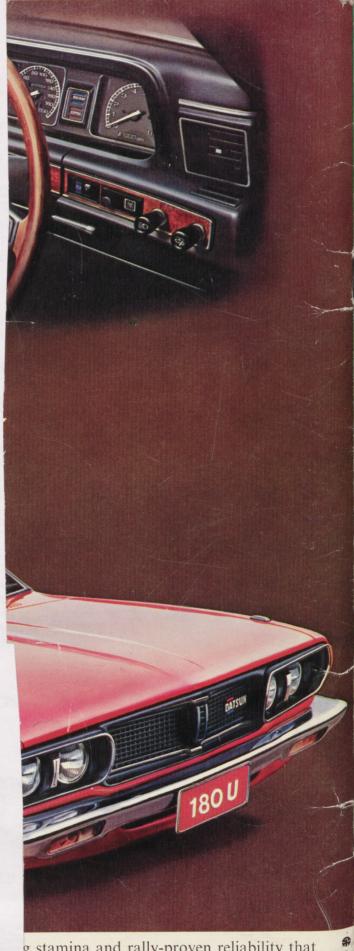
HE IS HERE, LIVING AND SO HE CANNOT BE EXILED FROM THE DOMAIN OF LIFE, FOR THROUGH HIS LIVING WORD HE WILL LIVE FOREVER.
HE CAME HERE TO BE FOR ALL AND WITH ALL, AND WHAT HE DOES TODAY IN HIS SOLITUDE, WILL BE ECHOED TOMORROW BY THE MULTITUDE.
WHAT HE SAYS TODAY WITH ONE HEART WILL BE SAID TOMORROW BY THOUSANDS OF HEARTS.



BY ZAF MAYET

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