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RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY A
CONFERENCE CALLED BY THE
JOHANNESBURG WESTERN AREAS
ANTI-GROUP AREAS JOINT-COM-
MITTEE, ON SUNDAY 14TH OCT.,
1956, HELD AT KINGSWAY CIN.,
MAIN ROAD, MARTINDALE, JHB.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

1. THAT this Conference of the people of the Western Areas of Johannesburg expresses its shock and alarm at the decision of the Nationalist Government to embark on an inhuman scheme, uprooting the people from their homes, destroying their properties and depriving them of their means of livelihood, completely disregarding the millions of pounds spent in the building up of these areas.

Conference rejects the Group Areas Act most uncompromisingly, and deploras the high-handed action of the Government in declaring the Western Areas to be White Areas despite the fact that it has been occupied by Non-Europeans for many years.

Conference highly appreciates the sympathetic attitude and the interest shown by the City Council of Johannesburg in the plight of the Non-Europeans and hopes that the Council will take more positive steps in opposing the very principles of the Group Areas Act and requests the City Council to meet the people of the Western Areas before sending a deputation to see the Minister of the Interior in connection with this matter.

Conference further endorses the resolutions passed at the Durban and Johannesburg conferences called in protest against the Group Areas declarations under the auspices of the Natal and the Transvaal Indian Congresses. In particular, conference welcomes the decision for the establishment of the Vigilance Committee and a Council of Action.

With reference to the Inter-denominational Conference held in Bloemfontein at the beginning of this month, this Conference of the people of the Western Areas wishes to express its complete association and support for the decision to call a multi-racial conference on the question of Apartheid.

Conference recommends to the National Organisations the formation of the a broad national Council of Action for the purpose of mobilising the people and co-ordinating activities throughout the country in the struggle against the Group Areas Act.

Conference calls upon the people of the Western areas to rise in unity in the fight against the evil of the removals - Group Areas Scheme, and to fight against Apartheid in every form it takes.

This Conference further calls upon the people of the Western Areas to establish a Vigilance Committee to mobilise the people against the Group Areas declarations.

2. This Conference of the people of the Western Areas whole-heartedly welcomes and supports the decision of the African National Congress and the entire Liberatory Movement to make the Pass Issue a major campaign in the struggle and to oppose the extension of the pass system to the African women. It clearly realises that the root of oppression and exploitation is centred in the pass system and that the fight for the abolition of this evil system takes a position of priority among the issues which face us.

Conference strongly condemns the increasing Police raids in the Western Areas of Johannesburg, for passes, taxes, beer, permits etc, etc. Conference being convinced that these provocations are employed for purposes of political intimidation and other purposes strongly protests against the brutality and vindictiveness of the Police, calling upon the Authorities to withdraw the raid-squads forthwith.

At the sametime, Conference, considering the seriousness of these persistent permits raids, calls upon the people of the Western Areas, especially the African men, women and children residing in these areas to work tirelessly and organise the masses of the people for a demonstration to present ~~the~~ their protest to the local Authorities.

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TREASON TRIAL, 1956 1961

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