

SAIC EM 3.1.2

**TWENTY-SECOND
CONFERENCE
OF THE
SOUTH AFRICAN INDIAN CONGRESS**

**HELD AT
JOHANNESBURG
AT
GANDHI HALL
FOX STREET**

**ON
19th, 20th, 21st OCTOBER, 1956**

**OPENED BY
CHIEF A. J. LUTHULI**
(President-General, African National Congress)

President :
DR. Y. M. DADOO*

Acting President :
DR. G. M. NAICKER**

Vice Presidents
DR. G. M. NAICKER
NANA SITA****

Joint Hon. Secretaries
**D. U. MISTRY
Y. A. CACHALIA*
DR. H. M. MOOSA**

Joint Hon. Treasurers
**J. NANABHAI
F. EBRAHIM**

NAME.....
PROVINCE.....

**Banned from Gatherings

* Banned from participating in the activities of the Congress by the Minister of Justice

SOUTH AFRICAN INDIAN CONGRESS

22ND CONFERENCE

19th, 20th, 21st, October, 1956.

A G E N D A

FRIDAY

19th October, 1956

8 p.m.

GANDHI HALL

JOHANNESBURG

1. WELCOME ADDRESS: Mr. D.U. Mistry, Acting-President
Transvaal Indian Congress.
2. OPENING ADDRESS: Chief A.J. Luthuli, President-General,
African National Congress.
3. PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS: Dr. G.M. Naicker, Acting-President,
South African Indian Congress.
4. MESSAGES: Dr. H.M. Moosa, Joint Secretary, South African
Indian Congress.
5. REPLY: (1) Natal Indian Congress.
(2) Cape Provincial Indian Assembly.
6. VOTE OF THANKS:

CONFERENCE WILL ADJOURN AND RE-
SUME AT 11 A.M. ON SATURDAY, 20TH
October, 1956, AT THE GANDHI HALL.

SATURDAY

20th October, 1956

11 A.M.

1. ROLL CALL
2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA.
3. ADOPTION OF STANDING ORDERS.
4. CONFIRMATION OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE AND ELECTION OF RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE.
5. NOTES OF MINUTES OF THE 21ST CONFERENCE OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN INDIAN CONGRESS HELD AT DURBAN ON 9TH, 10TH, 11TH JULY, 1954 AND MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM.
6. JOINT HON. SECRETARIES' REPORT.

CONFERENCE WILL ADJOURN
AND RESUME AT 2.30 P.M.

SATURDAY

20th October, 1956

2.30 P.M.

1. ROLL CALL
2. DISCUSSION ON JOINT HON. SECRETARIES' REPORT.
3. RESOLUTIONS.

CONFERENCE WILL ADJOURN
AND RESUME ON SUNDAY
21ST OCTOBER, 1956 AT
10 A.M. AT THE GANDHI
HALL.

SUNDAY

21st October, 1956

10 A.M.

1. ROLL CALL
2. JOINT HON. TREASURERS' REPORT, FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS.
3. HEADQUARTERS.
4. ELECTION OF OFFICIALS: (a) President
(b) Joint Hon. Secretaries.
(c) Joint Hon. Treasurers.
5. GENERAL.

M E S S A G E S

From:

MR. HOOSEIN ALA: Prime Minister, Government of Iran.

"I convey to the members of the Congress my sincere and fervent wishes for a just and peaceful solution of the problems confronting the Indian people residing in South Africa.

As you are aware, the Government and people of Iran have always declared themselves in sympathy with the cause of the Indians of South Africa, and have, at every opportunity, condemned the policy of apartheid which has brought so much suffering to the non-white population of that country.

The elimination of racial discrimination and the establishment of justice and equality are the aims which have been endorsed and supported by the Iranian Government at the United Nations, as well as at the Bandung Conference, and our attitude in this respect remains unalterable."

From:

Mr. S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike, Prime Minister of Ceylon.

"I have great pleasure in sending a short message to the 22nd Conference of the South African Indian Congress. I wish your conference all success in its great fight for the achievement of those human rights, economic social and political which the world is striving to establish and without which there can be no human progress or happiness."

From:

Mr. U.N. Dhebar: President, Indian National Congress,
New Delhi.

"I am glad to know that the South African Indian Congress is meeting on the 19th October. It is a matter of shame and disappointment that in the present age of enlightened universalism we should still be suffering from the malady of colour prejudice and racial discrimination. The South African Government betrays yet no signs of giving up its apartheid policy. The message, therefore, that I can give you on this occasion is, do not submit or surrender to racial tyranny, go on resisting with all your might. But your weapon should always be the weapon of non-violence, the efficacy of which has been more than once tested in our own struggle for independence. I emphasise that during your struggle against racialism and ever afterwards unity should be your watch word, unity not only among yourselves but also with your African brethren and all others who are your co-sufferers and comrades. I wish your Conference all success."

As partners in the Congress Movement we of the South African Congress of Democrats are proud to stand with you today. Like you we believe that the combined forces of progress will ultimately defeat all the vicious inhuman legislation of this Government, and together we shall bring about the realisation of the aspirations of the people of South Africa as expressed in the Freedom Charter, some clauses of which are particularly relevant to the grave issue before the people now, and are as follows:-

'All people shall have the right to live where they choose, to be decently housed, and to bring up their families in comfort and security fenced locations and ghettos shall be abolished and laws which break up families shall be repealed'.

We are sure that your deliberations will go forward in that great spirit of struggle which has marked the victory of oppressed peoples the world over."

From:

The President: South African Congress of Trade Unions.

"The Management Committee, Local Committees and affiliated unions of the South African Congress of Trade Unions regard it as a pleasure and a privilege to bring fraternal greetings to the 22nd Conference of the South African Indian Congress.

The South African Indian community has always lived under the perpetual threat of expropriation, economic insecurity and a blank future over which the larger threat of repatriation looms. 1939, 1943, 1946, 1949 to 1956 - Land Tenure Acts, Pegging Acts, the Group Areas Act - the years are milestones in the attempts made by South African Governments, both United Party and Nationalists, to isolate and turn into aliens and foreigners all the Indians in South Africa. Yet the South African Indian Congress has never wavered in its pursuit of the policy of integration of all Indians into South African society; it has never lost sight of its aim of a multi-racial South Africa where each group will be free to make its contribution to a distinctive South African culture.

It was the South African Indian Congress which first called for unity of all people opposed to the policy of white supremacy and, despite setbacks, disappointments and disagreements, it has fought for unity and today the fruits of this policy are seen in the National Consultative Committee of the five Congresses.

We in the South African Congress of Trade Unions, the only multi-racial trade union co-ordinating body in South Africa pledge our support to the South African Congress in the fight ahead against the implementation of the Group Areas Act. We are aware that our fight against the splitting of the trade unions into racial groups is a facet of the larger issue; the determination of the Government to split, divide and dominate all the non-white people of South Africa.

We believe that every South African, whatever his colour or creed, has the right to full citizenship and equality of opportunity and we will go forward together to make this a reality, whatever the hardships may be."

Messages:

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From:

The Federation of South African Women.

"The Federation of South African Women sends greetings to the South African Indian Congress on the occasion of the 22nd Conference. For many years your Congress has played its magnificent and militant part in the struggle of the non-white people for liberation and today the Indian people, together with other non-whites, are faced with the barbaric uprooting of thousands of people from their homes under the Group Areas Act and its savage proclamations. Human rights are brutally thrust aside to make way for the evil purposes of the Nationalist Government, for their frantic endeavours to establish and maintain white supremacy, no matter at what human cost.

Today, as in the past, the people of South Africa look to the South African Indian Congress and to the allies of the Congress movement for wise leadership and effective action, not merely to combat the evil effects of this vicious Act, but to destroy the Act itself as the corner stone of apartheid.

The Federation of South African women is pledged to defend the rights of women and children. The first duty of all women must be to defend the human life which we bring into the world, to protect our little children, to fight for their fundamental right to a home, to security and happiness.

It will be the task of the Federation of South African Women during the coming months to mobilise women of all races into the struggle against the vicious machinery of apartheid, against the Group Areas Act. We have proclaimed that the women of South Africa shall not be divided; we shall not cease to fight against the laws which seek to divide us, the same laws which seek to destroy our homes and happiness of our children.

The history of the struggle of the people of India for the freedom which they have gained pays tribute to the magnificent part played by Indian women in this struggle. The Indian women of South Africa have shown that they too are ready to play their part in our struggle for liberation. The Federation of South African women will call upon women of all races to rally to the side of the Indian women in their opposition to the Group Areas Act.

On behalf of the women, the Federation wishes the South African Indian Congress a most successful conference. We await with eagerness the guidance and the action which will flow from it.

Mayibuye Afrika!

From:

MR. R. PALME DUTT: Chairman, Communist Party of Britain.

"Warmest greetings and good wishes for the success of the 22nd South African Indian Congress. You may be sure that the ardent sympathies of all democrats all over the world are with you in your struggle for elementary human rights against the infamous oppressive laws of the present regime of white supremacy in South Africa. All history shows that such oppression can only end and has always ended in the destruction of the oppressors before the invincible forward march of humanity. I salute the courageous struggle of the South African Indian Congress, and assure you that we shall do all in our power here to make known your just cause and to win solidarity in your support."

From:

The National Council for Civil Liberties, London.

"The N.C.C.L. greets the struggle of the South African Indian Congress against racial discrimination and oppression.

The fight which is today being waged by members of African, Indian, Coloured and European communities in South Africa against the policy of 'apartheid' is an inspiration to us in the U.K. never to relax our efforts to destroy the colour bar in our own country."

From:

The Musicians' Union, London.

"We are indeed glad to learn that our efforts, limited as they may be, to help that vast majority of the South African population so arrogantly described by its oppressors "Non-European", have been noted by your organisation.

Please be assured that we shall continue our efforts whenever the opportunity occurs to ensure that the performances of British orchestras visiting South Africa and Rhodesia are heard by all sections of the population, just as we shall continue to oppose racial discrimination whenever it shows itself in our own country.

We send greetings and good wishes to your Conference, and are confident that the day will come when the activities of the advocates of so-called "white supremacy" will be stamped out in all countries where such activities exist, just as various other forms of racial discrimination have been stamped out in many countries throughout the world."

From:

FENNER BROCKWAY: Chairman, Movement for Colonial Freedom.

"The South African Government is notorious throughout the world as the embodiment of racial discrimination against both the African and Indian populations. You should be encouraged by the knowledge that world opinion is now steadily advancing towards a recognition of all peoples to equality whatever their race and colour, and South Africa cannot permanently remain unaffected by this universal moral claim. In all your difficulties you should receive inspiration from this fact."

Messages:

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From:

Mr. REGINALD SORENSEN: Chairman, India League, London.

"For your 22nd Conference on October 19th, 20th and 21st, please accept my greetings and best wishes. I trust your Congress will hearten you in the prolonged struggle for sanity and elementary human justice, and that however severe may be the circumstances confronting you, that you never waver in your conviction that you and your fellow members of the Congress are striving not only for the sake of Indians but also of our common humanity, to achieve that recognition of human dignity without which civilisation will in the end collapse.

Although some of us know we cannot help you as we would like to do yet be assured your movement is not forgotten and that in spirit we share your resolve."

From:

South African Coloured People's Organisation.

"The South African Coloured People's Organisation extends its sincerest greetings to the South African Indian Congress on the occasion of its 22nd Conference. Conference meets at a time when the "darkest cloud" over the Non-European population has burst. Through the unceasing struggle of the South African Indian Congress the implementation of the Group Areas Act has been delayed for over five years. But now the Government has gathered enough courage to fire the first shot. We have no doubt that this has been a shot in the dark. It has been fired in the hope of testing the strength and leadership of the South African Indian Congress. - Now the strength of the entire Congress Movement. Throughout its history the S.A.I.C has proved its ability to rise to any occasion when courage and determination have been called for. The whole country looks forward eagerly to the lead Conference is called upon to give. The S.A.C.P.O. together with the entire freedom loving peoples of South Africa pledge their support to the Indian people, if for no other reason but the fact that no racial group in South Africa has any alternative but to throw in their lot with the Congress Movement in South Africa."

From:

SOUTH AFRICAN PEACE COUNCIL.

"The South African Peace Council takes pleasure in greeting the delegates to the 22nd Conference of the S.A.I.C.

The heroic struggle of the Indian people for peace has encouraged the people of South Africa to intensify the fight for peace.

Long live the unity of the People for peace!

Long live the people's desire for harmony, peace and friendship."

From:
International Union of Students, Prague.

"International Union of Students expresses full support for and wishes every success in struggle against racial discrimination, segregation and injustices especially concerning right of all capable young people to higher education irrespective of race, colour creed and conviction."

From:
RAJA MAHARAJ SINGH: Former Governor of Bombay.

"With pain and sadness I view the increasing attacks on our Indian brothers and sisters in South Africa and indeed on all non-Europeans in that country. A few courageous and high-minded Europeans, to whom we are eternally grateful, have fought for justice and humanity. Non-Europeans had to contend against many difficulties and hardships when my wife and I were in South Africa from 1932 to 1935 but their position has worsened since those days and I see that more suffering must be expected.

Ultimately their righteous cause will prevail for Africa and Africans are steadily progressing and will be content with nothing less than the removal of the colour bar and all that this involves. Meanwhile I plead for unity among all non-Europeans and determination not to yield at all costs to cruelty and oppression. May god be with you all and defend the right!"

From:
ALEX HEPPLER: M.P.: Leader of South African Parliamentary Labour Party.

"The present times are difficult for all progressive-minded South Africans but particularly hard for that vast non-white majority of South Africans who are the victims of laws made by a parliament in which they have no say. Democracy in South Africa is a frail weakling because it rests upon the will of a mere one-fifth of the people.

Your Conference this year assumes especial importance because of the first proclamations under the Group Areas Act, which reveals how cruel and unjust the compulsory application of apartheid can be. All those who respect human rights and freedoms must support the protest of the Indian people against these proclamations. They, too, must protest against the gross injustices of racial discrimination.

These unhappy times call for brave decisions. Your deliberations will require clear thinking and great patience. I wish you every success to make your Conference a fruitful one."

From:
Father Trevor Huddleston, C.R.

"On the opening of the 22nd Conference of the South African Indian Congress, I am glad to be allowed to be associated with the Indians in South Africa on this great occasion. The proclamation of the Group Areas Act and its most disastrous and evil effects upon the Indian people in South Africa have not passed unnoticed in the press of this country. I am quite sure that all Indians will unite in the face of these evil and tyrannical acts which are so clearly a breach of all that we should understand in this modern world by civilised behaviour. They are a denial of certain fundamental human rights, and as such, have been condemned not only in South Africa, but everywhere where liberty and the development of peace and harmony in this world are cared for. Possibly, it may be that this very moment is the moment of decision. I only wish that I could be with you in South Africa but I do wish your Conference every success in resisting the encroaching tyrannies."

From:
SIR FREDERICK MESSER, C.B.E. J.P., M.P. LONDON.

"I am of the opinion that all men are equal; that it is merely by accident of birth that some are born in one country and some in another. Believing in equal rights, I am writing to express my hope that your activities will meet with success as they deserve; that the time will not be far distant when the struggle against racialism and injustice will result in its abolition from the face of the earth."

From:
SIR LESLIE PLUMMER M.P. LONDON

"Those of us who are engaged in the struggle against depression and poverty view with alarm the racialist policy of the South African Government which menaces not only the freedom of Africans and Indians but encourages racialism throughout the whole continent of Africa. For these reasons I wish you and your members all success in your campaign against the repressive acts of the South African Government."

From:
MR. W. A. HUNTON, FORMER SECRETARY COUNCIL ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS

"Please convey my warmest greetings to the 22nd Conference of the South African Indian Congress. I am sure that your deliberations will result in increased determination and strength in meeting the new challenge thrown down by the new evidences of the racist madness of the South African Government.

We in the United States, despite grave obstacles, are doing our best to make the facts and meaning of your heroic struggle known to the American people, the great majority of whom instinctively are on your side. But it is a source of shame and regret that we have not been able to effect any change in our Government's open support of the Strydom regime.

Messages:

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Nevertheless, it is certain that the tide of history is with you. With the growing unity of all the democratic forces in South Africa, and with the new relationship of world forces evidenced by Bandung and the Suez crisis, we can be confident of your final victory."

From:

Mr. JOSEPH REEVES, M.P., LONDON

"On the occasion of your Congress in October may I convey to you my sincere wishes for a successful time. The cause for which you struggle is the cause of man all over the world. You are championing basic human rights and in spite of reaction your cause must ultimately triumph."

From:

ARTHUR BLENKINSON, M.P., LONDON

"Every good wish to you in your campaign against racial discrimination in South Africa. I hope you will have a most successful conference."

From:

L. LOVELL, M.P., BENONI.

"I wish your Conference godspeed and hope it will succeed in its object. The Group Areas Act was conceived in hatred and its fruits are therefore poisonous. Those who believe that legislation of this kind can be benevolently administered forget the motives which inspired it and are being speedily disillusioned.

The Johannesburg proclamations in particular do not bring about racial separation. That exists already. They encourage racial spoliation.

I shall continue to campaign against what I am being driven to believe is the vilest of the unjust array of Apartheid laws!"

From:

MR. L. LEE WARDEN, M.P. (African Representative)

"On the occasion of your 22nd Conference I extend to you my fraternal greetings, and trust your deliberations will help to lay the foundation stones of a South Africa that is free from racial prejudice, oppression and poverty.

As a man who loves liberty, peace and freedom, I salute you, and wish you a most successful Conference."

From:

Rev. A.W. BLAXALL, Secretary Christian Council of South Africa

"I do sincerely hope that you will be led forward to find some sort of common action with which we can all associate. I believe the ruthless nature of the Western Area Proclamation has shocked thousands of people who are now waiting only for a lead. If the future action upon which you decide is of such a nature that I can take part in it, please do not hesitate to let me know."

From:

D.N. PRITT, Q.C., LONDON.

"One does not have to visit Johannesburg to give oneself an idea of the terrible hardships that the Group Areas Act must inflict on you all; but my one brief visit there certainly makes the problem even more vivid and harsh to me than it would otherwise be.

The cost in suffering, in humiliation, in insult to human dignity, to you Indians, to you African fellow-sufferers and to the decent human Europeans among you who resent the racialist policies of your present rulers is incalculable. But we know that however hard and long the struggle may at times seem to be, such injustices cannot long endure.

The verdict of history on your oppressors must, I think, be that they are mad, as mad as Hitler was. And madness comes to an end."

From:

DR. CHEDDI JAGAN, BRITISH GUIANA.

"I salute you on the occasion of your 22nd Conference. Your arduous work and your leaders' selfless service and self sacrifice in the cause of freedom, justice and humanity have been an inspiration to overseas Indians in particular and world progressives in general.

In your country as in ours, reaction has taken the driver's seat. Rights and privileges long held sacrosanct are now denied to you and to us. It is truly said that those whom the Gods would destroy, they would first drive mad. Facing defeat on the world front, reaction becomes more menacing at home.

Continue in your efforts to end this madness of the reactionary forces. I feel certain that we are on the threshold of a new age, and that the Nationalists and their evil apartheid, their Group Areas Act, etc. will soon be relegated to the scrap heap of history.

I wish your conference success in its deliberations and in its future activities."

From:

Mr. BASIL DAVIDSON, LONDON

"I should like to take this occasion of sending you my best wishes for the full success of your Conference. If my voice could reach your Conference, I should wish to say that its deliberations will be watched and listened to with interest, sympathy and respect by millions of people outside South Africa, who understand the great value and courage of your struggle against racialism. I should like to join my voice to theirs in expressing support for your struggle."

From:
Mr. Patrick Duncan.

"I send my warmest greetings of friendship to the 22nd Conference of the S.A.I.C. May it lead South Africans of Indian decent in this crisis, the gravest of many in the last 100 years. I am convinced that with courage and wisdom the cruel threat of the Group Areas Act can be survived and the future made safe. May a great common front be built to include all organisations that oppose the greed and tyranny of the Afrikaner Nationalist Government and that desire to see democratic freedom in our beautiful land.

With all good wishes for a successful conference."

From:
MISS DORIS LESSING.

"It is with very great pleasure that I send you my greetings and good wishes for your struggle against oppression.

I am banned from entering South Africa (and now from Central Africa as well) but I try to keep in as close contact as possible with those organisations and people in South Africa who are fighting against the wicked system which discriminates people because of the colour of their skins.

I hope that your Congress this month is very successful and will strengthen the forces of progress in your country."

From:
MR. C. W. M. GELL, Port Elizabeth.

"When the Group Areas Act was originally debated, Dr. Donges gave the very explicit assurance that it would be administered with "justice and fairplay to the Non-Europeans." Many of us - notably the A.N.C. and S.A.I.C. - knew that this promise would not be, and was not intended to be carried out. As we watched the officially-sponsored proposals coming forward coming forward from one Municipality after another - Lydenburg, Nelspruit, Wolmaransstad, Rustenburg, Ermelo, Klerksdorp, Glencoe, Vryburg, Durban, Cape Town and many others - we knew that our worst fears would be fully justified. Year after year we watched the Act being amended to make it more difficult for prospective victims to fight back or even obtain a hearing.

But to our every protest there was always one retort to which we did not have the final answer "These are only proposals", they said. "Wait and see the actual proclamations before you make unfounded allegations." We have waited.. We have now seen.

In Johannesburg the first large-scale proclamations have taken place. What have we seen, we have seen 100,000 non-whites uprooted and not a single white. We have seen all the Africans of the Western Areas condemned to regulated locations, most of them operated on a site and service basis. In place of long established residences and businesses at Pageview, Sophiatown etc. the Indians are offered the highest priced pieces of bare veld in South Africa, 22 miles out of the city. In place of prosperous townships like Albertsville, the Coloureds are apparently to sell up and move to extremely expensive industrial land.

Message:

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If this is "justice and fairplay", words have lost all meaning, as they usually do under a totalitarian regime.

I hope your Conference will recall the people of this benighted country to a sense of the values of the civilisation for which it professes to stand - and shame at what is done in its name.

In the meantime, let the victimised remember the words:-

"Out of the night that covers me,
Dark as the pit from pole to pole,
I thank whatever Gods may be
For my unconquerable soul."

Mayibuye."

From:

REV. FATHER N. JARRETT-KERR.

Greetings for your Conference in the Gandhi Hall. I pray that you may be successful and strengthened to resist the threats that face your people. If possible I will visit the Conference at some point to show my sympathies and concern for all you are doing."

Messages:

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From:
WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS----- PRAGUE

"On the occasion of your 22nd Conference the World Federation of Trade Unions wishes you together with all the people of South Africa every success in the struggle for democracy."

From:
WOMENS INTERNATIONAL DEMOCRATIC FEDERATION --BERLIN

"Wish conference every success. Warmest greetings to Indian women working with all people against discrimination, for security, for the defence of their children and peace."

From:
SOUTH AFRICAN LIBERAL PARTY -- PIETERMARITZBURG

"We send warm greetings on the occasion of your 22nd Conference. Best wishes in your discussions particularly in your continued opposition to the implementation of the Group Areas Act."

From:
MR. NORDMAN: Secretary, International Association of Democratic Lawyers.

"International Association Democratic Lawyers sends best greetings and wishes conference South African Congress."

From:
ALEXIA GUMA: South African Coloured People's Organisation.

"It is with great pleasure that the South African Coloured People's Organisation extends its sincerest best wishes to the South African Indian Congress on the occasion of your 22nd Conference.

The Indian people of South Africa, indeed all the oppressed non-white masses, stand today confronted by the terrible evil of the Group Areas Act. Millions of people stand in fear of mass removals, of being uprooted from their long established homes, of the destruction of their property rights, and the rigours of economic degradation. The foul atmosphere of all other oppressive laws pervades the entire South African scene. The oppressor, the protagonists of apartheid and white-baaskap, are determined to reduce the non-European masses to the position of serfs and helots in order to further the gains of the exploiting minority.

Thus it is that the South African Indian Congress meets at a most opportune time. At a time when preparations must be made to withstand the invasions upon the existing rights of the people, and to win greater victories for human dignity, democracy and peace. We extend our arms to you in friendship and alliance. We, the Coloured people, look upon you as our dearest allies in this our common struggle. We, together with the great

African National Congress, have come to be the vanguard of the struggle for liberation in our country. Of final victory we are all confident."

Delegates and friends, you will meet in a spirit of optimism, we are sure. Yet let us judge our position clearly. The enemy is powerful. So we must rally around ourselves more allies in the struggle for a better life. The Nationalist Government has enemies other than the Congresses. Let us stretch out our arms to them too. Let us help to build the great United Front against apartheid. Victory is on the horizon.

In conclusion, allow us to salute the heroes of liberation who have gone before us. Allow us to salute the heroic Passive Resisters who waged the staunch struggle against the Ghetto Act. Allow us to salute all those of your organisation who participated in the great Defiance Campaign against Unjust Laws. Inspired by their example, the forces of liberation will march forward,

All best wishes. May your deliberations result in success.

AWAY WITH GROUP AREAS.

AWAY WITH APARTHEID.

FORWARD TO PROGRESS AND PEACE.

FORWARD TO THE FREEDOM CHARTER."

STANDING
ORDERS

SOUTH AFRICAN INDIAN CONGRESS

S T A N D I N G O R D E R S

HOURS OF SITTING :

- (1) Unless Conference otherwise resolves the following hours of sittings shall be observed except on the opening day when the opening will be at 7.30 p.m., to the closure of the agenda for the day:

9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

with a break of 15 minutes for tea at

11 a.m. & 3.30 p.m.

ORDER OF BUSINESS :

- (2) The Agenda submitted by the Executive of the South African Indian Congress shall be accepted by a formal motion.

AGENDA:

- (3) It shall be competent for any delegate to move at any stage in the agenda that any item on the provisional Agenda have preference.

NOTICES OF MOTION :

- (4) No motion shall be moved, debated or voted upon unless notice thereof has been given.

All notices of motion shall be in writing and signed by the delegate moving same.

The notice of motion to rescind or re-commit a resolution passed during Conference shall not be accepted unless signed by ten delegates in addition to the proposer and seconder.

No notice of motion shall be received by Conference after a day and time fixed by Congress Executive except with special leave of Conference.

PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT :

- (5) The President or any one of the Vice-Presidents shall preside over all sittings of Conference. In case of absence of any of these Conference shall elect a temporary Chairman.

In the event of the delegate occupying the Chair wishing to take part in the debate he shall vacate the Chair for that purpose and another may be appointed to take his place.

SPEECHES - LENGTH OF :

- (6) The mover of an original motion and members of the Executive on subjects coming within their departments shall be allowed fifteen minutes in which to address Conference.

The mover shall be allowed to reply. All other speeches shall be limited to ten minutes.

Provided that it shall be competent to any member other than the speaker to move the indulgence of Conference; the motion of indulgence shall require no seconder and shall be voted on at once without discussion or comment.

Two minutes before an expiry of the time allowed for the speech the Chairman shall knock on the table or sound a bell and at the expiry of time he shall knock or ring twice upon which the delegate shall immediately resume his seat.

CONDUCT OF MEMBERS :

(7) A delegate can only speak :-

- (a) where there is a question before Conference;
- (b) on moving a motion or amendment;
- (c) to make a personal explanation;
- (d) to put or answer a question;
- (e) to a question of order or privilege;
- (f) if a Chairman of a Committee or a Sub-Committee seek a report;
- (g) if a member of the Executive require a statement;
- (h) after he has handed in his name, the Province he represents, to either the Chairman or the Agenda Committee.

A delegate shall rise in his place and speak standing and must always address the Chair.

When a delegate rises to speak his name and the Province he represents shall be called by the Chairman.

If more than one member rises only the one whose name is called shall speak, all other resume their seats.

Speeches must be relevant, temperate, and decorous. No member shall speak twice on any motion or on any amendment except :-

- (a) to make a personal explanation;
- (b) to reply;
- (c) on a point of order or privilege.

The Chairman must always be heard in silence and when he rises a delegate speaking or offering to speak must resume his seat.

A delegate must not interrupt another delegate speaking.

MOTIONS :

(8) Every matter requiring the decision of the Conference or of a Conference in Committee shall be decided by means of the question put from the Chair, or on a motion proposed and seconded by the delegates.

Subject to order (4) every member shall be entitled to submit a motion.

The following motions may be moved without notice :-

- (a) unopposed motions;
- (b) motions to postpone or discharge any questions on the Agenda for the day;
- (c) amendments to motion under discussion;
- (d) a motion for the adjournment of the Conference or the debate;
- (e) motions on matter of urgency;
- (f) motions of a special or unexceptional nature which Conference by a majority vote and there taken shall allow without notice.

A motion shall not be withdrawn except with leave of the Conference unanimously granted.

A seconder to a motion may reserve his remarks till later in the debate.

The Chairman shall have power to divide a motion into several portions and take a vote on each.

MOTIONS NOT COMPETENT TO AMEND :

- (9) It shall not be competent to propose any amendment to motions for :
 - (a) discharge of any question from the Agenda;
 - (b) reporting progress;
 - (c) the previous question;
 - (d) the closure.

MOTIONS NOT COMPETENT TO DEBATE :

- (IO) The following motions shall be put without debate :
 - (a) discharge of any question from the Agenda;
 - (b) the closure.

AMENDMENTS :

- (II) After a motion has been proposed and seconded amendments may be moved and seconded, and amendments must be :-
 - (a) to leave out certain words, or
 - (b) to insert or add certain words, or
 - (c) to leave out certain words in order to insert or add other words.

An amendment must be relevant to the question to which it is proposed.

The debate on the motion, and Amendment or Amendments may proceed simultaneously unless in the opinion of the Chairman it is desirable to dispose of them separately, in which case he shall suspend the debate on the substantive motion until the conclusion of the debate on the amendment and until a vote has been taken thereon.

A mover of a motion may with the consent of his seconder accept any amendment, in which case the motion as amended shall become the substantive question, but it shall be competent for any other delegate to move as an amendment thereto the rejection of the amendment so accepted.

Any delegate who has spoken to the original motion may speak again at an amendment, but shall confine his remarks thereto, and nothing herein shall authorise delegates to speak twice on a resolution after an amendment has been proposed, if they have not spoken before the amendment has been received.

After amendments have been voted upon, the Chairman shall put the question as amended or not without further discussion unless he has suspended the debate on the main question, in which case he shall allow delegates who have not yet addressed Conference to proceed with the debate, and the mover, to reply, after which the question shall be put.

AMENDMENTS TO AMENDMENTS :

- (I2) Amendments may be moved to Amendments and shall be dealt with as provided in the last order as if the latter were the original motion.
- (I3) A motion for the adjournment of a debate may be made and seconded at any time, and if carried Conference shall proceed to the next business on Agenda. If the debate is adjourned to a particular day, it shall be placed on the Agenda by the Executive on the most convenient day. A delegate moving the adjournment of a debate shall have the floor when the debate is again called.

RIGHT TO REPLY :

- (I4) A right of reply shall be allowed to a mover of a substantive motion, and any matter on the Agenda, but not to an Amendment.

DIVISIONS :

- (I5) When a debate is finished the Chairman shall read the question and put it to Conference and a decision shall be taken on a show of hands.

If his opinion is challenged the delegate or delegates can claim a division of the house.

If the Chairman is of the opinion that a Division has been frivolously claimed, he may ask those who dispute his decision to rise, and if they are in a clear minority, he may refuse a division.

A member who is in Conference when a question is put cannot leave during a division and must vote.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS :

- (I6) Questions may be put :-
- (a) to the Chairman concerning points or order;
 - (b) to the Members of the Executive concerning the action of that body.

Provided if put during the course of a debate, the subject of the question is relevant to the debate.

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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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