

Issued by the Transvaal  
Indian Congress.

"The All-In Conference on Group Areas convened by the Transvaal Indian Congress and attended by one thousand and fifty eight delegates representing, merchants, traders, professionals, workers, women, youth and students issued a stirring call to the Indian people of Transvaal not to go to the private township of Lenasia and not to accept Group Areas anywhere.

This Conference which was opened by Father Jarrett-Kerr C.R. on Saturday evening directs the Transvaal Indian Congress to establish a Council of Action for the purpose of mobilising the people effectively to defend their homes, properties and means of livelihood, and also to organise a Day of Hartal and Mass Prayers against the implementation of Group Areas in Johannesburg.

The main resolution which was moved by Dr. H.M. Moosa the Joint Hon. Secretary of the South African Indian Congress said, "This Conference, representing the entire Indian Community of the Transvaal, supported by the representatives of the major political organisations of the African and Coloured peoples and by European democrats, held under the auspices of the Transvaal Indian Congress at the Gandhi Hall, Johannesburg, on 25th and 26th August 1956, records its emphatic protest against the Group Areas Act, which is the pivot of apartheid, calculated to uproot and ruin the non-white peoples and to force them into ghettos.

**This Conference:**

1. VIEWS with horror and indignation the recent proclamation of group areas in the western suburbs of Johannesburg, which will displace over a hundred thousand non-whites and deprive them of their homes, properties and means of livelihood.

2. IS CONVINCED that the process of enforcing this vicious Act will have disastrous consequences on the lives and liberties of millions of people, will upset the economy and welfare of the whole country and lead the Union into racial strives and upheavals of a magnitude unknown before.

3. FIRMLY BELIEVES that the tyranny which flows from the whole policy of apartheid can only be finally overcome by the achievement of the true aims and aspirations of the people of South Africa as expressed in the historic Freedom Charter.

This Conference, having considered the full implications of the Act, calls upon all people of South Africa, both white and non-white, organised commerce and industries, trade unions and religious bodies, social, cultural, educational and sporting institutions to unify their forces in order to prevent the government from carrying out their inhuman policy of apartheid.

Conference therefore,

- (a) Calls upon the Indian people not to go to the private township of Lenasia and not to accept Group Areas anywhere.
- (b) Directs the Transvaal Indian Congress to establish a Council of Action for the purpose of mobilising the people effectively to defend their homes, properties and means of livelihood, and also to organise a Day of Hartal and Mass Prayers.
- (c) Calls upon the South African Indian Congress :-
  - (1) To take practical steps, in co-operation with the African National Congress, South African Coloured Peoples Organisation, South African Congress of Democrats, South African Congress of Trade Unions, and other democratic bodies, for halting the onslaughts of the Government;
  - (2) To seek the support of the Afro-Asian powers in influencing the member states of the United Nations to take necessary steps to compel the Union Government to cease violating the provision of the U.N. Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

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(d) Directs the Transvaal Indian Congress to raise funds for prosecuting a concerted campaign for the achievement of the above objects. "

Fraternal delegates representing the South African Labour Party, the South African Liberal Party, the African National Congress, the South African Coloured Peoples Organisation, the South African Congress of Democrats, the South African Congress of Trade Unions, and the Black Sash Movement expressed their wholehearted support for the struggle of the Indian people against the Group Areas Act.

A. E. PATEL & Magan Mitha,  
Joint Hon. Secretaries  
TRANSVAAL INDIAN CONGRESS.

26th August, 1956,  
37, West Street,  
JOHANNESBURG.

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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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