



1. President-general of the ANC from 1949 to 1952. A prestigious physician from a prominent landholding family in the OFS, he had the status and boldness required for national leadership in the ANC but lacked the political astuteness to always guide the organization forcefully during his presidency.
 2. Born in 1891 in Thaba 'Nchu, a great-grandson of the Tswana chief Moroka. After attending Lovedale, Moroka went to Scotland in 1911 and in 1918 graduated from the University of Edinburgh in Medicine. The practice he established at Thaba 'Nchu was very successful and he was widely respected in the community, even among local Afrikaners many of whom were his patients. (1, 2, 3, 4)
 3. First entering politics at the time of the Hertzog Bills, Moroka was immediately accorded a leadership role and accompanied the delegation of the All African Convention that confronted Hertzog in early 1936. Moroka made clear his opposition to any compromise on the proposals and thereby established a reputation for militancy that was eventually to carry him to national leadership of the ANC. (5)
 4. Believing that the way to expose the hypocrisy of the Natives' Representative Council was to get on it and then denounce it, Moroka stood as a candidate in 1942 and was elected from the Transvaal - Orange Free State Constituency and in 1946 he was in the forefront of those denouncing the NRC. (6)
 5. Moroka was elected as president-general of the ANC in 1949 on the pro-boycott platform of the Programme of Action. Moroka believed in militant action and made no attempt to prevent Congress radicals from proceeding with plans for the implementation of the Programme of Action. Moroka took part in the planning of the Defiance Campaign and used his considerable popularity with the African public to promote the new militant image of the ANC. (7, 8, 9)
 6. Because Moroka lacked a sufficient grasp of political complexities in the Transvaal, he blundered into several situations that caused dissension in the ANC and eventually led to his removal as president-general. In March 1950 he agreed to preside at the left-inspired Defend Free Speech Convention and in so doing inadvertently committed the ANC to support the controversial stay-at-home of May 1st. (10)
- In early December 1952, when African and Indian and Indian Leaders went on trial at the height of the Defiance Campaign, Moroka - perhaps taken aback at being charged under the Suppression of Communism Act and wary of the possible material consequences - dissociated himself from the other accused, engaged separate counsel, and entered a plea in mitigation that stressed his long friendship with and assistance to the Afrikaner people. As Albert Lutuli later remarked, "these things may have been true and laudable, but in Congress eyes the moment for drawing attention to them was ill-chosen." (11, 12)
7. At the ANC's annual conference of mid-December 1952, Moroka was defeated for reelection. He still lives at Thaba 'Nchu. (13, 14)

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