

THE BASUTOLAND INDIAN COMMUNITY,

P.O. Buthe Buthe,

BASUTOLAND.

18th August, 1950.

The District Commissioner,

BUTHA BUTHE.

Sir,

re PETITION TO HIS HONOUR THE RESIDENT  
COMMISSIONER.

I refer to your minute No 7/12/50 of July 24th 1950, having reference to the above matter. I am herewith giving further information regarding paragraphs 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8 of the above petition.

Re Para 3. The Indian Community feels that the administration's policy is to restrict expansion of Indians to other parts of the Territory by refusing several applications for transfer and new licences, such as: The application of S. M. Mosea & Ibrahim for transfer of two licences from R. Kou at Mafeteng in 1948. (2) Refusing to grant new licence to late Tayob Surtie at Nkheo's Leribe District, in January 1939, which matter went to the then Resident Commissioner on Appeal who directed in February the same year that the Application should receive further consideration in a year's time, "if no native applications are received meantime". No applications were ever made by natives, and application was again filed in January, 1940, but was still turned down by the licencing Board. (3) Another application for transfer

/ -er by Tayob Surtie

er by Toyob Surtie from Estate late Maiten at Manger's drift, Maseru District was granted after considerable delay and inconvenience on account of reluctance usually displayed by the Board. (4) Application for a new licence in Maseru by M. J. Daubha was refused early this year. (5) Application for a new licence in the Leribe Reserve by Mr Osman Cassim has been refused twice, that is in 1948 and this year. (6) Application for a transfer by M. H. Mahomed at Peka, Leribe district was granted after considerable delay and inconvenience to the applicant, that is from 1948 to 1950. (7) Hawker's Licences were refused to some Indians who held these licences for many years in Maseru district, about which matter representations were made by this community without success in 1946.

RE PARA 4. Europeans of any Nationality from outside the territory have been given privileges which are not allowed to Indians, such as employment in the public service.

Para. 5 & 6. The information above applies similarly in connection to these paragraphs.

Re Para. 8. sub para (1) & (2). The above information also applies in regards to these sub-paragraphs.

Sub-para. (3) of para. 8. Eleven Indians are without employment and therefore without the means of subsistence, as a result of the legislation regulating employment of shep-assistants etc, which adversely affects the Indian, as compared to the Europeans, as the latter can still find means of livelihood outside the territory in the event of their losing employment.

Sub para. (4) of para. 8. The Community feels that there would have been no cause for the Paramount Chief's withdrawal of her consent to the va-

sites had the licencing authorities proceeded with the hearing of the applications for licences within reasonable time instead of hesitating and displaying reluctance .

Sub-para. (6) of paragraph 8. The Community referred the number of stores occupied by Europeans and Indians under correction, but the fact remains that the distribution is not in proportion, especially when considering that the Indians have no other means of livelihood except trading, hence our suggestion for increased facilities for trading in paragraph 11.

It is hoped that the foregoing is sufficient information in substantiation of the points raised by His Honour.

UKZN  
Gandhi Luthuli  
Documentation  
Centre

to have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Your Obedient Servants,  
on behalf of the Indian Community.

.....  
Secretary

.....  
Chairman.