



APDUSA VIEWS

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THE MARK OF THE BEAST

The March 1986 issue of "DE REBUS", a lawyers' journal controlled by White Attorneys, published the following comments by a certain A. NAIDU on the Bill of Rights adopted by the Bantustan called Bophuthatswana:

"The Bophuthatswana Bill of Rights is not mere paper law. It is living law and is proof that the individual's rights are well protected in Bophuthatswana. The Bill of Rights sets an excellent precedent for other South African states . . ."

During the same month, the police of this Bantustan savagely attacked a peaceful assembly of people in Winterveld, shot dead 11 people and arrested 2 500 people. The arrested people were sjambokked and according to Dr Chanut, a French doctor, the police seemed to be having fun as they hit and kicked the local population.

Earlier that month, a weekly newspaper published shocking photographs of two men who were victims of barbarous brutality at the hands of the Bophuthatswana police. The photographs revealed numerous long, deep and open gashes on the backs and buttocks of these two men – the result of the use of sjamboks and metal whips.

So we ask A. NAIDU: "Is this how the individual's rights are well protected? Is this the excellent precedent you refer to? How did you become the praisesinger of a Bantustan whose despot, Lucas Mangope and his killers have unleashed a reign of terror against a defenceless people?"

There is a saying that a baboon doesn't become a gentleman simply by donning a tuxedo. Its tail is a sure give-away. And so it is with a Bantustan. A Bantustan will always remain a Bantustan and no number of Bills of Rights is going to change that.

That Bill of Rights, which caused A. NAIDU to push his pen so subserviently, has, not surprisingly, turned out to be a worthless piece of paper. It is a sham designed to deceive the outside world into believing that the Bophuthatswana Bantustan is not a Bantustan but a beautiful democracy! It is all part of a scheme hatched by the Government, Lucas Mangope and that camera-shy Sol Kerzner to attract tourists to the flesh pots set up in Bophuthatswana.

The Bill of Rights, therefore, was adopted for no other reason than to provide a human mask to cover the **MARK OF THE BEAST**.

The pirates of the old days flaunted their emblem of the skull and crossed bones on their flags. In doing so, those pirates displayed some degree of frankness as to their intentions.

Can Mangope match that frankness by adopting for his Bantustan the emblem depicting a mutilated human back with the sjambok and the automatic rifle crossing one another?

WHO DESERVES THE DEATH SENTENCE?

On 2 April 1986, RAYMOND LEON, a judge of the Natal Supreme Court, passed the **DEATH SENTENCE** 5 times on Andrew Sibusiso Zondo, a 19 year old son of South Africa.

Andrew's offence was that he had caused the death of 5 people and bodily injury to a number of people by the explosion of a limpet mine which he had placed in a shopping centre in Amanzimtoti.

The judge accepted the evidence that Andrew Zondo had not acted from motives of greed or personal benefit. He also accepted Andrew's statement that in placing the limpet mine he was serving his people.

We stand against capital punishment. The death penalty has never stopped people from doing things which are punishable by death. It is for this reason that all civilised people oppose capital punishment. Already, a number of countries have abolished the death penalty.

We believe that Andrew Zondo was sentenced to death as retribution or revenge. The judge's attitude is in keeping with that ancient practice of "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth". Andrew Zondo took lives and therefore his own life must be taken.