

Iqsisibenzi. Vol III Jan 1973

Words of encouragement to workers from the Chief Minister of KwaZulu
Legislative Assembly - M. Gatsha Buthelezi.

I wish all our Black workers to know well that we sympathise with them in their
struggle demanding those rights which must be applicable to all workers both in
this country and in all other countries.

It is our wish that difficulties of workers be solved amicably and peacefully.
We wish to encourage you in forming Workers' Committees in order to make
representations to your employers. We realize however, that some of you fear
victimization as you are here in Cape Town. The Prime Minister Mr. B.J. Vorster
has said that no one must be victimised because of membership in a Workers'
Committee.

We have tried to request that you be given the right to form Trade Unions. This
request has not been successful for the time being. But then do not lose hope
because we also are God's creation, let us not despair. Let us continue to
hammer for our rights until they are granted to us.

Unity is strength, I personally say to you all Africans unite as workers, let
there be no Zulu, Xhosa or Sotho. The rights which you desire are not meant
for one race, they are for all of you, the Black Nation as workers.

Listen to explanations given to you on how to organize yourselves in order to
get your rights as Black workers in a peaceful manner. I hope you have seen
how peacefully the Blacks have campaigned in Durban.

BE ORGANIZED AND BE UNITED

This is the text of a letter of encouragement written by Chief Buthelezi to
the Black workers of the Cape.

FREE LEGAL AID

We would like to bring to your attention the fact that in certain circumstances
you are entitled to free legal aid. In certain cases the Government will pay
an attorney to represent you in court whether you are the defendant in a
matter or the plaintiff. However not everyone is entitled to free legal aid
and not in every case. Before you may claim free legal aid you have to meet
certain qualifications. We shall examine these various qualifications (tests).

Who qualifies for free legal aid?

To qualify for free legal aid

- (1) A single African must not earn more than R300.00 per year.
- (2) A single African must not earn more than R300.00 per year plus R60.00
for each dependent child.
- (3) A married African must not earn more than R600.00 per year plus R60.00
for each dependent child.
- (4) An African who is separated from his wife must not earn more than R600.00
per year plus R34.00 for each dependent child.

You will not be entitled to free legal aid if the officer finds that you had
an idle or dishonest life or that you are unable to pay legal costs because
of your own misconduct or neglect. Anyone may apply for legal aid, women or
men.