

BLACK RENAISSANCE CONVENTION

- organised under the auspices of -

ASSECA - S.A. COUNCIL OF CHURCHES - N.G. KERK IN AFRIKA - CHRISTIAN ACADEMY -
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

3rd July, 1974.

Dear Friends,

You may or may not have heard about the forthcoming "BLACK PEOPLE'S RENAISSANCE" Congress on 13 - 16 December, 1974, at St. Peter's Seminary, Hammanskraal. It is being organised under the auspices of ASSECA, S.A. Council of Churches, N.G. Kerk in Afrika, Christian Academy and the Roman Catholic Church. For the obvious practical reasons, the organisers have unanimously agreed that participation will be restricted to Black People (i.e. Africans, Coloureds and Asians). Due to lack of space and other facilities, we cannot take an unlimited number of representatives or persons.

Your organisation is cordially invited to attend this projected Congress of the Black people, which promises to be a very important event. Please send us the names of three most suitable persons to represent your organisation. They will enjoy all the rights of delegates. A timely reply will facilitate our work tremendously.

Briefly, the objects of the Conference are as follows:

1. To re-examine our cultural heritage in the light of modern and contemporary developments.
2. To provide an occasion for Black people to communicate with one another, irrespective of religious affiliation, political allegiance or ethnic identity.
3. To rediscover the servant role of the churches in the world, with special reference to the South African situation.
4. To pray, meditate, worship together and ask for God's guidance.
5. To try and reach a consensus on our definition of Black Consciousness and other difficult questions.
6. To clarify our ideas on Black Renaissance, anthropology, traditional beliefs etc.
7. To facilitate the flow of ideas and to know one another.

The Steering Committee is determined to make this historic occasion worth your while. On behalf of the organisers, I wish to appeal to Black people to assist us in financing this venture. As it is meant for Black people, we feel that they should be practically involved in supporting our Congress.

We shall expect every delegate or invitee to pay their own travel costs. Registration fees (for 13th - 16th December, 1974) will be R10-50 per person. However, for those who have to travel very long distances to the Congress, the Steering Committee will be willing to consider an application for a subsidy. I want to stress, though, that every Black person must make a contribution, if the Congress is going to demonstrate our adulthood. At the same time, we would hate to miss you due to lack of money. In case of financial problems, please direct your application to:

The Ad Hoc Secretary or Deputy,
S.A. Council of Churches,
P.O. Box 31190,
BRAAMFONTEIN. Tvl.
2217