

THE NON-REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA  
WHAT IT MEANS FOR THE BLACK MAN.

The Republic? - a Nationalist ideal:

As long ago as 1942 Nationalist leader, Dr Malan, set out the objectives of the purified Nationalist Party as 'to strive for the establishment of an Afrikaner republic.'

Why a republic?

- \* to mark the triumph of Afrikaner nationalism
- \* to remove any vestiges of the British constitutional system which undermined the sovereignty and integrity of the Afrikaner majority of S.A.
- \* to establish an emotional growth point for the entrenchment of Afrikaner ideals

Who's republic?

- no blacks were represented in the conventions of 1909 that led to the founding of the Union of South Africa in 1910.
  - \* by the Land Tenure Act of 1913 blacks could not own land in certain areas.
- no blacks were represented in the London conferences between 1926-1931 which virtually granted independence to South Africa by the British Statute of Westminster of 1931.

"The parliament of the Union shall be the sovereign legislative power in and over the Union, and notwithstanding anything in any other law contained, no Act of Parliament of the U.K. and Northern Ireland passed after the seventh day of December, 1931, shall extend or be deemed to extend, to the Union as part of the law of the Union, unless extended thereto by an Act of the Parliament of the Union."

- \* Africans in the Cape were removed from the Common Voters' Roll in 1936.

in 1948 Nationalists came into power.

- \* security acts silenced all opposition
- \* Cape Coloureds removed from Common Voters' Roll 1956.
- \* Bantu Education
- \* Separate Universities ] Erosion of academic freedom

- 31st May 1961 Republic of South Africa was born.
  - \* an accomplishment of one of the primary aims of the Nationalist Party government.
  - \* question was put to the WHITE electorate in a referendum

result 52.3% FOR  
47.7% AGAINST

- \* the differences were not so much about the guarantees of human dignity to the majority population of black people but "the major subject of contention between

the government and the OPPOSITION was whether South Africa would remain in the Commonwealth once she became a republic."

no constitutional guarantees or entrenchments for the Rule of Law or the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

this is a WHITE REPUBLIC:

the Preamble to the Constitution reads:-

"IN HUMBLE SUBMISSION to ALMIGHTY GOD, who controls the destinies and history of peoples;

Who gathered our forebears together from many lands and gave them this their own

Who has guided them from generation to generation;

Who has wondrously delivered them from the dangers that beset them;

WE, who are here in Parliament assembled, DECLARE that whereas we

Are conscious of our responsibility towards God and man; Are convinced of the necessity to stand united.....

BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED....."

#### What is a Republic?

A commonwealth of people bound by law and owing absolute loyalty to the state as a sovereign entity

- a government of the people, for the people, by the people.

#### THE FACTS:

\* The South African population is as follows:-

	<u>1960 Census</u>	<u>1970 Census</u>
WHITES	3080,159	3,779,000
COLOUREDS	1,509,053	1,996,000
ASIANS	477,047	614,000
AFRICANS	10,922,222	14,893,000

Thus Blacks constitute 82.3% of the population and Whites 17.7%

\* The Whites claim for themselves 37% of the country while the 13% of the most barren and uneconomical parts of the country belong to over 70% of the population.

- Whites control 69% of the national purchasing power while Blacks have only 23% purchasing power.

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CONCLUSION:

For the Black man this is not a time for festivities but an opportunity to look at himself and take stock of himself and build within him a determination TO BE; to direct himself at the development of the black people and himself at the development of the black people and in solidarity and communion with all the suffering blacks evolve self-reliance as an element of the black consciousness and self-awareness programme. We must together resolve to build a nation and this does not now call for celebrating but to sweat and toil for those values and ideals all black people hold dear.

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