

**F**ifty percent of South Africa's black population of more than 20 million is under 15 years of age.

In less than a decade 10 million young men and women will be looking for jobs, marrying and starting families of their own.

In the new South Africa which will emerge, millions of new jobs will have to be created, millions of homes will have to be built, thousands of schools and numerous technikons and universities, hundreds of hospitals, clinics and centres for the aged and infirm. Massive quantities of food will have to be produced along with other commodities necessary for basic survival needs.

Already, more than 1.5 million black South Africans are kept alive by emergency feeding schemes such as Operation Hunger, whose organisers have warned that an "Ethiopia-type catastrophe" faces the country.

The land available simply cannot physically support the numbers involved. Towns and cities will have to be built along with new industries, new factories, new businesses. Commerce and industry will be required to perform as never before. This is why Inkatha calls for the abolition of the Land Acts of 1913 and 1936 so that there can be a fairer redistribution of land in South Africa.

About sixty percent of all black South Africans live in so-called rural areas where they eke out an existence by subsistence farming. Too many people on too little land. Government neglect of rural (and urban) black communities, drought and then floods have depleted resources to a critical level. In some areas irreversible erosion militates against even the most sophisticated use of natural resources. At the same time other areas are being rapidly denuded by land-hungry people battling, day by day, to survive.

In some areas of KwaZulu

# The free enterprise system: **Why Inkatha supports it**



*Inkatha calls for increased foreign investment*

## **Pragmatism not sentiment**

**Inkatha is cautious about socialism as it has been practised elsewhere on this continent as, regrettably, nowhere in Africa has it proved to be successful in alleviating the suffering of the masses. Nowhere has it been seen to build enduring economic infrastructures. Inkatha has therefore come to the conclusion that the free enterprise system, with all its faults and history of exploitation, remains the most powerful system man has yet devised which is capable of fostering sustained economic growth. This, however, does not rule out Inkatha's demand that the system should be "free" and "enterprising" for the oppressed blacks as well and not only for privileged whites. Pragmatism, not sentiment, has led Inkatha to these conclusions.**

and elsewhere, old age pensions are the major source of income. The economic recession coupled with sanctions and disinvestment has driven thousands of formerly economically active men and women, from cities and towns, back to their rural family environments. This overloading of resources has numerous disastrous consequences.

Competing communities literally go to war over life-saving resources — land, homes, food, water, jobs. Social systems break down. As it is, apartheid has brutalised generations of men, women and children to such a degree that it is nothing short of remarkable that the crime and violence (as distinct from the political violence) which

instance, under the inspired leadership of President Nyerere, that with the best will in the world it has not been able to match aims and aspirations with results.

Economies cannot be switched on and off like taps. Nobody can afford to tinker with South Africa's finely tuned economic system without clearly understanding that mechanisms can and will break down.

Economic growth is essential and this is why Chief Buthelezi and Inkatha have, after closely examining the alternatives, come to the conclusion that they are justified in being cautious of socialism at the present time.

"I see no reason why, with sound political and economic management, all the peoples

ahead" of rank and file union membership.

Inkatha sees South Africa locked into a global north/south axis and wants the country to continue to develop as an industrial nation.

There are some, of course, whose political roots are firmly planted in socialist/Marxist ideology and who fundamentally oppose Inkatha's economic viewpoint. The President of the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), Mr Elijah Barayi, is an avowed socialist. Many other union leaders are too. And, of course, the External Mission of the ANC has made it clear it favours a socialist system for South Africa.

Speaking in Johannesburg recently the general secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers, Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, said: "It is too late for free enterprise to save South Africa. Workers are now demanding a socialist system . . . we believe that apartheid and capitalism have always been inter-related."

On the other hand, a director of the giant Anglo American Corporation, Dr Zac de Beer, holds the view that "capitalism, properly understood, demands the rejection of apartheid."

Acknowledging a tendency towards socialism in the black union movement, Dr de Beer attributed this more to "a generalised resentment of a system which has oppressed black people than to an objective evaluation of the merits of socialism and free enterprise."

South African history, he said, had led many people to link capitalism with apartheid, with "Marxist thinkers" doing all they could to encourage the confusion.

He agreed that big business had yet to demonstrate to workers that they had much to gain from free enterprise. This could be achieved through black advancement in commerce and industry, a fair wage policy and the provision of decent conditions for workers — both in the workplace and outside.

# The free enterprise system

characterises many of the country's black areas is not much worse.

People are desperate. Many die of hunger in South Africa. Children are permanently brain damaged because of malnutrition.

*If this continues, what will there be left upon which to build the new order?*

What hope will there be? Political slogans don't feed people.

*The reality is that the new leaders of South Africa will not have the time, the expertise or the resources to experiment with social and economic solutions which may — or may not work.*

It is a fact that many blacks, with good cause, equate the free enterprise system/capitalism with exploitation. It is also true that, to date, the free enterprise system has shown itself the only economic system capable of sustaining economic growth.

Socialism, on the other hand, has not been a success in Africa. Tanzania has shown for

of our country cannot share in its wealth," says Chief Buthelezi.

Inkatha believes that black South Africa does not wish to destroy the economic foundations of the country. Those economic foundations are deeply rooted in the free enterprise system.

At numerous mass rallies held by Chief Buthelezi and Inkatha, hundreds of thousands of black South Africans are asked to voice their opinions.

Without exception, the clear message given is that they want more jobs, more investment. At the same time Inkatha and its leaders hear very clearly (and support) black South Africa's intention to move rapidly into trade unions where they will organise to protect worker rights.

On this issue it has been shown that in many cases, workers interests sometimes conflict with the political interests of their union leaders. Workers are not consulted. Labour experts have, in fact, noted that "radicals are often