Inkatha gets a new look

Mr SJ "Johnny" Mhlungu, the Chairman of the Action Group for Democracy, which was set up by the Central Committee of Inkatha to carry through the transformation of Inkatha into a national, all-race, political party, has announced details of Inkatha's "new look".

he name of the party will now be:
"The Inkatha Freedom Party".

It is assumed that the new party will in future be referred to as either the IFP or as Inkatha, for short.

The reasons for these changes, he stated were:

 To clearly signal that the move from a liberation movement to being a political party had now taken place.

To confirm that the Party is now an organisation that is open to all races and all people in South Africa who support the principles of the new Party. To signal that the new Party is now going to operate on a national basis.

4. To confirm that the new Party is especially concerned to stand up for the right of all individuals in South Africa to be guaranteed all those basic rights that constitute democratic freedom in a modern society. In particular to protect the right of individuals to have choice, without which there will be no democracy in the new South Africa.

5. To include in the basic identity of the new Party the original inspiration of Inkatha when it was formed in 1975, namely the fight for freedom from the iniquities of apartheid, and to clearly establish our belief that we must now turn from being against something towards being a force that intends to positively establish, for all time, those basic human rights for all our people that will protect them from any form of tyranny, wherever it may originate.

 But at the same time to continue to hold on to the strengths of our foundation as Inkatha, which form the basis of our new drive forward.

The new Inkatha symbol The dawn of an era of hope in South Africa

The new "sunrise" symbol of the Inkatha Freedom Party, which appears in full colour on the back cover of this issue, symbolises the dawn of a new era in South African politics.

he "sunrise" effect is intended to represent the new beginnings for Inkatha and to demonstrate the new hope that we have for the creation of a new, free, democratic and non-racial South Africa.

Mr SJ Mhlungu, Chairman of the Action Group for Democracy, said the IFP was dedicated to creating a society that can solve the problems of the people, not add to them. The new symbol would be a constant reminder to those of us working within the new Party, as well as to all those who vote for the IFP in a free election, that we are here to bring about a new dawn for every individual in our society, and that each day we must rededicate ourselves to that purpose.

The new flag, proudly unfurled on the front cover of this issue, incorporates the traditional colours that remind us all that the roots of Inkatha are to be found in the prearmed struggle and violence-embracing days of the old ANC. The red and white colours were added to remind us all of the blood that our people have shed in the fight for freedom from apartheid, and for the establishment of a democracy through peaceful negotiation. They also firmly establish that peaceful means of solving political problems (the "white" colour is for peace) have always been a major element in the Inkatha character.

The new name, symbol and flag will be officially introduced at the special General Meeting that has been called for December. 1990.