This reality underlined the potential of regional government to which Dr Buthelezi had made a "decisive and important" contribution.

But President de Klerk emphasised that regional government structures should not be seen as a substitute for full participation in central government structures.

Referring to the traditional leadership, President de Klerk said he did not believe it would be possible to govern the new South Africa without the help of traditional leaders "as heads of natural socio-political entities in their communities."



His Majesty, King Goodwill Zwelithini and Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi at the opening of the Legislative Assembly.

Afrikaners "at end of Great Trek"

resident FW de Klerk and his wife,
Marike, were the guests at a luncheon at the
Emandleni-Matleng training camp,
following the official opening of the
Legislative Assembly.

In a brief speech at the luncheon, His Majesty, King Goodwill Zwelithini, said the Afrikaner people were coming to the end of the Great Trek, where they were discovering that a democracy for themselves could only be achieved in a South Africa where there was a shared democracy for everybody.

President de Klerk was beginning to finish what the first South African Prime Minister, Louis Botha, had started in the Afrikaner's search for a democratic society.

The King also dwelt on the theme of

forgiveness and reconciliation, as typified in the Zulu spirit of Ubuntu-Botho, and its importance in the current political debate in South Africa.

King Goodwill added: "We must move to the point where Zulus and Afrikaners together commemorate the things in the past that have moved the Zulus and the Afrikaners to become the actors that they are in the South African situation.

"It is entirely idle to say that Afrikaners are not playing a role as Afrikaners in the shaping of the new South Africa. They are playing a role. There is no escaping that either. There is also no escaping the need for Zulus and Afrikaners to play a joint role in creating the new South Africa. That joining of forces will and must come."