supportive of several national organizations that are leading the anti-apartheid campaign in this country? the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, Trans-Africa, the Washington Office on Africa and the National Black Leadership Roundtable, all based in Washington, D.C.

I intend to do all of the

The Reverend Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., is executive director

above, but also go on step further, I am no longer going to whisper the name of the African National Congress (ANC), as if mention of direct support for that organization would bring retribution from the powers that be. From now on, everywhere I speak and preach I " will be calling for direct

of the United Church of Christ Commission for Reciel Justice in

financial contributions to the ANC. The handwriting is on the wall. The torture of African children will be stopped; only by the victory of the ANC and SWAPO (the liberation movement of Namibia) and by the victory of all the peoples of southern Africa over the forces of oppression.

New York City

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## PROFILE OF A RAVING PEOPLE'S THEOLIGIAN

BORN 37 years ago in Soweto, Frank is the second in a family of seven. His father is a minister of the Apostolic Faith Mission. He matriculated at Orlando High School in 1971 with a first class pass after passing his junior certificate with distinction at Musi Secondary. At the time he was an active member of the Students Christian Movement.

In 1972 he went to Turfloop's University of the North for a degree in science. It was at this time that his religious life experienced a fundamental metamorphosis from a spiritual reductionism to a broader faith embracing social and political concerns. Impressed by student leaders like Abram Tiro and Aubrey Mokoena, his political formation matured and it was not long before he became a leader of SCM at Turfloop. During this period the foundations were shaken by Abram Tiro's shattering graduation address followed by the mass walkout of students from Turfloop. Student militancy had reached such heights that being a Christian was tantamount to being a collaborator or traitor.



As a leader of the Christian Movement during this time, Frank campaigned for a form of relevant faith that sought not to moralize but also to conscientize students and by 1974 SCM had gained its revered credibility. During this time he teamed up with Ishmael Mkhabela (present Azapo President), Lybon Mabaso (past Azapo President) and Cyril Ramaphosa (present General Secretary for NUM). As fate would have it his studies were once more interrupted following the Viva Frelimo Rally and the subsequent crackdown on student leadership.

Back at home Frank taught

privately at Morris Isaacson inth before joining 1975 ministry of the Apostolic Faith 37 Mission in 1976. He served hin! probation at Kagiso durin<sup>n</sup>p which time he worked at thoit University of Witwatersrar Ti as laboratory assistant until Pis ordination in 1980. pastor of Kagiso parish, ly founded an Interdenomiant h tional Youth Christian Ciudy (IYCC) which strives to briree together the youth of differ cor enc<sup>ocab</sup>, denominations and them in programmes of sc responsibility and action. cause of the inseparable between the youth and page: community to which sible belong, Frank saw IYCC and ing in its social welfare des to sion and resulting in the Kust at Self-Help Scheme consisting the various community prhinking such as women's sewinist bei knitting clubs, blind careion of care, housing, and educ consci p constitu cumbursary fund Both IYCC and "tion Scheme are still of an ∍re : to the present day." ministry came to in: all halt in 1981 when his ve of rac District Council susper! In

yertly "being involved in

k's acquaintance with unity police dates back when he was detained isiting a family whose were detained. Therefore was picked up at short intervals spending or months in detention, vas the most severe, he erned for 8 months and sulted in the deterioratios his health.

idy in 1981 prior to his on, he had joined the Contextual for y as Research Officer. 3 he was appointed Secretary of the Instiposition he held till gifted science scholar, ias never been able to e his B.Sc. degree the fact that when he floop in 1974 he was nai year. His periodic have been very ecause every time it e lost yet another year . He has since started in Theology.

is practical about his politics and compelling about the exampte he gives. A gifted public speaker he often remarks in passing that he "does not have anything new to tell the people but has a new way of telling they them what already know." Frank is a tireless amazingly worker who manages to honour his appointments for large meetings and and gatherings small attend his Sunday worship at his father's church at Naledi every Sunday. He is always minister so willing to people in crisis situations that he often overstretches himself. His only fault, the one which never ceases to worry about, is that he spends little

There is a joke that Frank is so busy that his wife has to negotiate an appointment in his diary to see him. He rather responds by saying "maybe we have reached a stage in the fight against apartheid where priorities must be readjusted. Maybe the times dictate that the fight for justice in our society should not be subordinated to such noble commit-

ments as an evening with your wife or an uninterrupted year of study at University." However, as a family man he is a source of inspiration and a model to countless young couples. He married in 1980 and together with his wife. Kagiso, they have two children. Frank's political background and formation is the Black Consciousness movement of the 1970's. He was involved in the founding of AZAPO and also delivered a paper at the inauguration of AZAPO in 1979.

However, during the early 1980's his ideological base shifted to the non-racial position espoused by the Freedom Charter, a document he holds in high esteem, second only to the Bible. Until recently he was the vice-president of the United Demogratic Front an alliance of organizations opposing apartheid and unpholding the non-racial ideal.

Frank undoubtedly is a model par excellence of the new brand of Black Theologian of liberation. He is a people's theologian.

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e redistribution of and opening up of to all. The constitualso be such as to the habits of noniking, the practice of behaviour and the nof genuinely shared onsciousness.

nmitted Christian of

de morat standards, he

nstituion must give

tion to the fundaan rights of all

re shall be equal
all individuals,
of race, colour, sex
In addition, it

requires the entrenching of equal cultural, linguistic and religious rights for all.

Under the conditions of contemporary South Africa 87% of the land and 95% of the instruments of production of the country are in the hands of the ruling class which is solely drawn from the white community. It follows, therefore, that constitutional protection for group rights would perpetuate the status guo and would mean that the mass of the people would continue to be constitutionally.

trapped in poverty and remain as outsiders in the land of their birth

Finally, success of the 1 constitution will be, to a large extent, determined by the degree to which it promotes conditions for active the involvement of all sectors of the population and at all levels in government and in the economic and cultural life, these fundamental Bearing objectives in mind, we declare that the elimination of apartheid and the creation of a Continued on page 28 🕡