

B.P.C. E.I

# BLACK PEOPLES CONVENTION

P.O BOX 11427,  
JOHANNESBURG.  
28th February, 1973.



BROTHERS/SISTERS,

The BPC National Executive Committee deems it imperative for Black people to recall the disaster of Sharpeville in 1960 lest we forget the victims of the racist regime.

"Sharpeville Day" will go down in the annals of history as one of our bitter experience when Blacks ( 69 ) were shot dead and 200 others wounded by the officials of the racist regime in defence of racism and oppression.

All Black people are called upon to rededicate themselves rather than mourn the death of these Sons and Daughters of Africa. They must also remember that several Blacks suffered a loss of limbs and are presently cripples some with no form of sustenance to this day. *Pa. K. K. K.*

We realise this brutal act occurred on the 21st March, 1960 and think this day should be the date for this commemoration of Sharpeville. We, therefore call on all Branches of BPC and all Black organisations as well as all Black campuses to plan the observance of this day. Should you decide to involve members of the public who will be at work on this day we would suggest you utilise Saturday 24th March to this end.

It is not our desire to suggest the nature this commemoration should take in view of your better acquaintance with the environmental set up in your area but, however, we strongly recommend as big an involvement of the general Black public as possible.

During day-time on the 21st March, in particular we recommend that all Black people wear Black attire or Black armbands. This should be done openly without fear of any form of intimidation. If Whites openly celebrate our defeat at Blood River on the 16th December we have all the right and obligation to observe and recall their brutality and what is an important event in the Black struggle for liberation.

We appeal to all Black people to observe this day not only in remembrance of the Sharpeville Massacre but of other instances that occurred in our history where Black people died for their political convictions and zest for liberation.

At this stage we assure you of further assistance as regards the factual situation by way of a circular which will reach you soon. Should you require guidance in spite of this circular, kindly communicate your request to the people's office in Johannesburg.

SECRETARY GENERAL  
BLACK PEOPLES CONVENTION  
BOX 11427  
JOHANNESBURG

" BREAKING THE CHAINS."  
SIPHO BUTHELEZI.

( SECRETARY-GENERAL )