

example of the success of the tactic used by Hitler and Mussolini in the early phases of the world crisis, namely, WHEN YOU CAN GET PEOPLE TO DEMAND WHAT YOU WISH THEM TO HAVE (like a multi-party conference, negotiations, etc) then you have them completely within your control. The New Unity Movement will have nothing to do with this contemptible sort of deception.”

EDITORIAL NOTE

This article was written prior to the PAC Conference of 16 December 1991. At that conference, the rank and file delegates wasted no time in rejecting CODESA. The collaborationist elements in the PAC's top leadership came under scathing criticism from irate militants for its participation in CODESA. In fact, the militants came out for their scalps. The collaborationist section had to do some fancy footwork to hop from a collaborationist to an ultra-militant position. All this to escape the ire of the militant cadres of the PAC, PASO and AZANYU. To these principled comrades we say: BRAVO!

THE PRAISE-SINGERS OF BETRAYAL

Whilst most living creatures accept mortality with a resignation, born out of ignorance, human beings are in constant war against it. Even where there is acceptance of physical mortality, people aspire for immortality through decendants or through some act which will make succeeding generations remember them. For such people, to be forgotten is final death – something their entire being revolts against.

Persons with such aspirations will do anything to be remembered. One such method is to get themselves a place in the history books. For most of the participants in CODESA, the occasion was not only to get a dose of respectability but also a place in history. One has merely to listen to the opening speeches of the delegates. They were all designed for the history books.

It began with a certain Mr Corbett who officially opened CODESA. By profession, he is a judge. By rank he is the Chief Justice of the Appeal Court in Bloemfontein. Initially there was some half-hearted opposition from the ANC to him opening CODESA. After all he does occupy the chief position in a judiciary known for its naked racism, its cowardice in matters of justice and human rights and its slavish eagerness to implement some of the most inhuman laws in modern history.

Corbett, as a true servant of the system, adhered strictly to the entrenched language clause in the 1910 racist constitution. He divided his speech equally between English and Afrikaans. In the course of his opening remarks he referred to Sir Henry de Villiers as “distinguished”. And who was this “distinguished” knight in shining armour? He was also a Chief Justice. He also opened a constitutional convention – the 1908 Convention which gave birth to Racist South Africa (RSA). The person who was midwife to RSA is described as “distinguished” by the official midwife of CODESA.

Corbett saw no contradiction between the 1908 Convention and CODESA. In a real sense he is correct. The fate of the toiling masses in a society fashioned by CODESA will not be substantially different from their fate in the society fashioned by the the racist 1908 Convention.

Corbett, the praise-singer of the racist Sir de Villiers was, in turn, the object of a praise song from Ismail Mahomed, now known as the judge without the vote. Of Corbett he sang that he (Corbett):

“ . . . graced the occasion by the dignity of his office and the sensitivity of his character and the wisdom of his intellect . . . ”

What was the cause of this unsolicited song? The chief praise-singer of CODESA was merely warming up!

Ismail Mahomed, then unofficially opened CODESA. With TWO openings and both by learned judges, CODESA’s day was made!

Ismail Mahomed, more than any other participant, scrambled the hardest for his place in history. He came to CODESA with two prepared speeches. One for the opening and one for the closing. Both speeches cried out loudly for a place in the history books. Both speeches were overdressed with ostentatious imagery. They were contrived and phoney as paste jewellery. It reminded one of Neil Armstrong’s artificial speech on the moon. For the benefit of the doubtful reader we set an extract from Mahomed’s closing speech:

“Experience matured us all . . . sometimes opened painful wounds and sometimes lifted us to states bordering on spiritual intoxication. And even pain acquires a strange kind of sweetness under the balming influence of a renewed faith . . . We have argued, we have confronted and we have loved all at the same time . . . ”

Surely, Ismail Mahomed could not have employed this extravagant language on the likes of the Rajbansis, the Nats, Bantustan stooges and killers, sellouts and traitors, capitalist bloodsuckers, etc. But that is precisely what he did. That ought to earn him a place in history. An intellectual composing an Ode to Human Garbage!!