



## Inkatha's strength

*Negotiating role recognised, says Chief*

There has not been one single reform in South Africa to date which has even hinted at power sharing, Chief Buthelezi told the 10th annual general conference of Inkatha in Ulundi recently.

"There has been no movement against White domination at the national political level and I still find it impossible to talk to the State President formally about the future of our country because he refuses to talk outside the corners of his new-style apartheid..."

Chief Buthelezi added that the State President, Mr P W Botha, could not as yet publicly admit that South Africa was one country with one people who shared but a single destination.

"He has given no indication that he is prepared to talk about power sharing within this context."

Chief Buthelezi continued that he felt the "possible bridging" of the impasse which has existed between himself and the State President for four years — which emerged after his informal discussions with him late last year — was now beginning to appear illusory.

He then emphasised Inkatha's negotiating strength to the delegates and said the movement had "matured into an employable political force."

Black South Africans, he said, wanted leaders who were capable of negotiating with the government about real change. They wanted leaders who could hold their own once negotiations started. They wanted leaders capable of bringing the National Party to the negotiating table — kicking and screaming if necessary. Inkatha could do that.

Inkatha's negotiating position was rapidly being recognised and the movement was drawing support across racial barriers.

He then warned the conference "of the fact" that the ANC Mission-in-Exile were "actually committed" to the annihilation of Inkatha.

"They too perceive that the politics of negotiation is becoming a probability in South Africa and they recognise that Inkatha will play a dominant role in representing Black South Africa around any negotiating table which may be worth attending," Chief Buthelezi said.

"Every step of true reform which leads to Black/White power sharing is a step which threatens them and out-dates all the things they are committed to."

"The ANC Mission-in-Exile is not sustained by the hopes of non-violent advances in South Africa. They are sustained by the hope that they alone can play a meaningful role in circumstances where violence is absolutely essential."

"They are trying desperately to create those very circumstances which we are working so desperately to avoid."

Chief Buthelezi emphasised that Inkatha, unlike the ANC, was not fighting to take over the reigns of the South African Government. It was not, like the ANC, striving to obliterate free enterprise.

"Every one of our successes is an ANC Mission-in-Exile failure," he said.

"We must be aware of these hard truths and we must be aware that every time the National party kicks and screams because we are dragging them to the negotiating table, the ANC will encourage Black South Africa to think that the National Party's resistance is proof that there is no prospect of negotiating a South African settlement between Black and White."

## SACC

## DECISION

## CHALLENGED

The stand taken by the South African Council of Churches at its recent conference to support disinvestment and economic sanctions against South Africa was unanimously criticised and challenged by more than 12 000 Inkatha delegates.

A strongly-worded resolution said Inkatha "deplored" the stand taken by the SACC at its conference held in Johannesburg on June 28.

The SACC, said Inkatha, did not have a mandate from "the Black masses" to serve as "arbiters in these life and death issues..."

The Inkatha resolution continued: "Most of us who are delegates to this conference belong to churches that are affiliated to the South African Council of Churches."

"We want to point out that our churches are affiliated to the SACC through their synods — which make decisions for our churches."

"We wish to challenge ministers and other heads of affiliated churches to report to their synods whether the SACC's decision was taken on behalf of individual Christians who belonged to churches affiliated to synods."

"We further question the morality and sincerity of the SACC resolution in view of the fact that it was reportedly piloted by Dr Alan Boesak. We note that in South Africa the Coloured group to which Dr Boesak belongs is not affected by laws such as influx control which hinders the African people's ability to acquire the few available jobs in the labour market."

"Consequently, we dismiss the SACC resolution as grossly insensitive and as a calculated strategy to worsen an already alarming situation in the African labour scene."

In another resolution the conference said Black South Africa "welcomed" international pressure on the South African Government, but those pressures should not be exerted at the expense of suffering Black South Africa.

"Those who champion the disinvestment cause are not constituency leaders holding responsible positions in membership-based organisations, and have no right to speak on behalf of the country's workers and peasants."