

We Mark Our National Days With Battles

We are approaching two landmarks in our well-defined path to freedom, special days for waging battles.

DECEMBER 16 marks the 20th Anniversary of the birth of our people's army, Umkhonto we Sizwe. This day symbolises the unity between the heroic efforts of our ancestors who in defence of our independence and freedom shed their blood on the banks of Ncome River (1838) and throughout the length and breadth of our country and won an astounding victory over the marauding forces of the British imperialists at Isandlwana (1879) and numerous other battles, on the one hand, and the new current stage of our liberation struggle when our people confront the enemy using modern weapons as a united and organised force guided by deepened clarity of our goals thus ensuring our victory.



MK Combatants in action.



Rev. John L. Dube - first President of ANC

JANUARY 8, 1982. On this historic day the entire freedom-loving mankind will be joining us in marking the 70th Anniversary of the formation of our people's organisation, the African National Congress. This is the day when by unanimous decision of the entire people of our country, South Africa, as well as our brother peoples in the then colonised African states represented at our Founding Conference held in Mangaung (Bloemfontein), the banner of national unity and unity of our entire continent were sown on our soil. This day highlights the still-overriding task of strengthening our unity for victory.

WHAT SHOULD BE DONE TO MARK THESE DAYS?

In marking the two coming great occasions let us remember the clarion call made by Comrade President O.R. Tambo at the beginning of the year. "We urge the workers to reach out to organise the unorganised, to bring about the unity of the democratic trade union movement and to intensify the struggle for a just wage and for freedom. We urge all the black people to smash the institutions of separate development including the community councils and the local management committees, and to thwart the attempts to revive the South African Indian Council. We call on all the women to build on the advances they have made during the Year of the Charter, to strengthen their organisation, to draw the millions of our womenfolk into the struggle in the year of the 25th Anniversary of the famous Women's March on Pretoria, steadfastly to follow the example set by the leader and heroine, Lilian Ngoyi. We call on all black professionals; teachers and lecturers, journalists, medical practitioners and nurses, lawyers, social workers, office workers and others, to resist and thwart the attempts of the enemy to turn them into a collaborationist middle class and to stand firmly with the majority of the people for liberation. We call on our people in the countryside to unite themselves into popular organisations and join in the fight against the balkanisation and fragmentation of our country and people. The churches, mosques, religious organisations and Christians and Moslems at large should further enhance the dynamic role they have begun to play in moving the Christian and Moslem masses of our country into the forefront of our battle for a free and humane society. Workers in the field of culture and sport are urged to make greater use of their skill and talent to promote the people's cause. To honour our heroes and heroines, to inspire all of us into great feats of revolutionary daring and sacrifice, the black business community has a duty among other things to help by providing financial and material means, without which no struggle can be conducted."

**FORWARD TO THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR
PEOPLE'S ARMY, UNKHONTO WE SIZWE!**

**FORWARD TO THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ANC,
OUR PILLAR FOR NATIONAL UNITY!**

**LET US FIGHT FOR UNITY AND
FIGHT IN UNITY FOR VICTORY!**