

NUSAS CAPITULATES TO FAN AFRICANIST VIEW

In the course of human political processes, certain home truths are enunciated for all the world to see and judge.

Sometimes these enunciations are rejected outright by blind prejudiced demagogues, who do this simply because they happen at the time to be selfishly opposed to those who enunciate them. So to speak, they tend to fear the Greeks, even when they give gifts.

But, with the march of time, such demagogues by sheer force of events and chimerical pressure of worse things to come are compelled to capitulate and mouth the same truths they had denounced, with shameless plagiarism.

When, on Saturday April 4, 1959, Mangaliso Sobukwe, who was to be elected President of the Fan Africanist Congress on the Monday following, unequivocally declared inter alia that, "The Africanists stood for a democratic rule of an African majority".

This declaration led some mischievous critics and misinformed simpletons to probe him to declare what we understood by the term "African", and following the Fan Africanist Political Connotation, he defined it as follows :-

"We stand for Government of the African, by the African, for the African, with everyone who owes his only loyalty to Africa and is prepared to accept the democratic rule of an African majority being regarded as an African".

This clear and unequivocal postulation was turned out to be a bitter pill to swallow to many, because it shattered and shamed for all time those who had spent their time accusing Africanists of racialism, chauvinism, narrow nationalism and what-have-you.

At their last conference in July, 1963, in Johannesburg, Nusas embraced this interpretation of an African and accepted the view that those who live in Africa must serve Africa, that to them it is Africa first, Africa last, Africa all the time. This acceptance that those who want to live in peace in Africa must owe their allegiance only to Africa, to the whole continent of Africa, is the hallmark of Fan Africanism and transcends the petty ideas of sectionalism, especially South African exclusivism which must be crushed in due course in the march to a greater and concrete Union of African States.

It took NUSAS four years to realise this.

We salute them and know that many will wake in their failure to realise this or be crushed by the naked force of reality.

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