

and social equality were ruthlessly repressed the Old
"divine right" monarchies sought to entrench themselves once more.
While certain European powers arrogated to themselves the right
to intervene across territorial boundaries to reverse the tide

Yet in the three decades preceding the birth of

of history.

During the course of this region freed themselves from Spanish
colonial yoke.

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In the past three decades, we have witnessed the liberation
of millions of people in Africa, from Belgian, British, French

and Portuguese colonialism.

approached the borders of the apartheid state in South Africa.
The racist regime has set itself the aim of once more trying

But as revolutionary change has

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to turn back the tide of history.
Regression within South Africa, the apartheid regime has sent
its marauding forces across the borders of South Africa to

Resetting to ever-increasing

spread death and destruction. In the newly independent countries

of Southern Africa.

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The apartheid regime chose to follow the words of the Bible: "What the people
want is not liberty but peace" and to achieve it through force, to

impose subordination to Pretoria, to accept apartheid rule
and acquiescence in its continuation.

In the lifetime of Bolívar, on the pretext of reaping out the
European power, an American President declared a US sphere

of influence as he proclaimed the Monroe Doctrine.
Another President, President Reagan, has incorporated the

Today.

continent of Africa and other parts of the world into the US
sphere of influence. So the right of self-determination of the

Namibians

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in the 1960s and South African peoples in Subordinated to the primacy of US interests: while Angola's right to detain its territory must give way to what is perceived as the paramountcy of US strategic needs. Bolivar dispelled prophetic vision when he said:

"The US seems to be guided by provocation *0 Spread misery in the name of liberty."

Today, with the American press carrying reports about a new - offensive to maintain Latin America as, a sphere of US interests." ; 'Bolivar's fears are being confirmed over and over again.

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Sharing similar fears for Africa and Nelson Mandela\ warned in 1958:

"Whilst the influence of the old European power has sharply declined", he said. "and whilst anti-imperialist forces are winning striking victories all over the world, a new danger has arisen and threatens to destroy the newly won independence of the peoples of Asia and Africa.

It is American imperialism which must be fought and decisively beaten down. If the people of Asia and Africa are to preserve the vital gains they have won in their struggle against subjugation." .'

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Like Simon Bolivar, Nelson Mandela has been a great organiser.

In 1962 he travelled to many independent African states in East, North and West Africa to seek united support for the South African struggle.

One year later, the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) was formed, the cornerstone

The presentation of this historic Award to Nelson Mandela alongside an esteemed personage as His Majesty King Juan Carlos of Spain, and in the presence at this august ceremony of so distinguished a galaxy of eminent leaders and personalities from different countries and continents, must and will penetrate the fortified walls behind which Nalpo Mandelg and his OOlbdbUEQ are held in captivity. Isolation of bans and restrictions imposed on Winnie Mandela and O 1.111131? vltlms O1' apartheid?egâ\200\230teisalgâ\200\230can proclaiming, and promoting support and solidarity for our ntruÃble . a call which will resonate in the hearts of the South African people and on all our allies and supporters; the world over.

with us at this ceremony. and living through the emotional experience of a momentous event for her family. Is Princess Chuni Dlamini. wife of Prince Tumbumuzi Dlamini of the Kingdom of Swaziland. and eldest daughter of Nelson and Winnie Mandela.

Her presence sharpens the meaning of their involuntary absence.

Lian Simón Bolívar the Liberator. who "fought neither for (personal) power. nor for fortune. nor even for glory. but for liberty alone ..."o Nelson Mandela would not wish to accept and receive this Prize for himself.

Accordingly on behalf of his fellow leaders with whom he has been serving life imprisonment and other captives for the apartheid regime. on behalf of the African National Congress and the combat forces of the people of South Africa Organized in

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EXCELLENCY. rug razsxuzur or ran nzrunbxc or vznzzwaha.

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. htinue of its nmticy heini-\\201 the struggle for the total
liberation of Africa.

For that Specific purpose the DA\\200\\235

established an OAU Canordinating Committee for the iiberatinn
of Africa. with its Headquarters in Tanzania. consietent with
the crucial role that this country played. had continues to
play. in the liberation struggle
eaeplallt 9f Southern Africa.

Because of this fact Tanzania waa the firstjarrlcan independent
country where Nelson Mandela set font afterjleaving South Africa.
and

the last he visited before returning t9 South Africa where.

a few wee\\200\\230s later. he was arrested.

The charge on which he

was avreated and subsequently sentenced t9 Å© years impqsehnment

in 1992 was. aigniflcautly.that he had organised a most

SdCOGSi-\\201fU1 illegal national strike or staywat-home. that he

had left South Africa illegally to visit African independent

stutea ahd'Ehglan. and that he had receivei-\\201 military traininh.

It gives us immeasurable strength that we can count'hn the
United Nations Organisation; UNESCO and the.nations represented

here to stand side by side with us until Vittory is won and this

burnished Prize is placed on a worthy peueetat within our country

auwh that our people can reflect on the hombre visage of

Simon Bolivar. the Liberator. and reflect within themselves

that he too was with us when our turn came~to lay down our lives

in Order to assert therihht of a people to a free life.

he take this opportunity to extend cur heartfelt congratulations

to his Majesty. King Juan Carlos. on his inveatiture with the

International Simon Bolivar Prize and feel Å©8p601ally honoured

that a South African patriot should have been selected to share

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The time comes in the life of all oppressed people that some among them should, as rebels, lay down their lives to affirm

the very humanity of the Oppressed. This serves as an assertion of fact that all oppressors are themselves mortal beings who are as subject to the regularities of human development as those over whom they exercise lordship.

The act of unpremeditated sacrifice

That time came to this continent when Simon Bolívar mortgaged his life to the vision of freedom, independence and equality

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The presence here of the Prealdea of the

among people.

independent republics of Bolivia, Venezuela and Panama are a tribute to the glorious service he rendered to the people of an entire continent. Yet the example of his life must lead us to conclude that if he were able to speak to us today, notwithstanding the world we live in, he would ask to live his own life over again. It is possible that Simon Bolívar could have stood aside while the

For 1818.

Upruoted

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uprooted Palestinian nation bled to death in the ghettos of
Beirut.

He could not have stood aside while the 3011 of El Salvador
and the sands of the Sahara turned rust brown from the blood
of the innocents.
Observers as the Namibian oppressed were shot down in Katutura
and Kassinga and their South African counterparts were
massacred in Soweto. Matola and Maseru

He would not have been an indifferent

Simon Bolivar was and is a Liberator. He hated oppression
because he hated it. He fought to destroy it. He hated falsehood
and therefore perished for the truth. He loathed barbarism
and consequently sought to secure human dignity.
He sought to do away with everything which aimed to perpetuate misery on the
peoples of this continent and the world.

He fought to

and

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The African National Congress and the people of Africa
are inspired by the fact that today we are linked with such
a man. We feel immeasurably uplifted that on this day
should fall the obligation to transfer a new meaning into the
glorious example which was set by Simon Bolivar.

In choosing Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela our outstanding and
esteemed leader of the liberation struggle of the South African
people, to be the other or the first ever two recipients of the
International Simon Bolivar Prize, the International Jury has
bestowed an honour of rare elegance upon Africa upon the
struggling people of South Africa and
Congress. and

above all. upon Nelson Mandela himself.

the African National

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Simon Bolivar once observed correctly that "an ignorant people is a blind instrument of its own destruction." (The Angestura Discourse)

He therefore wrote of the need to liberate those

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"(whose) limbs (were) benumbed by chains that: night dimmed by the darkness of dungeons; and their strength zapped by the pestilence of servitude. ... (to march) toward the august temple of Liberty ... ". and to create a new equilibrium for the universe."

These words written more than a century-and-a-half ago; strike a resonant chord in our hearts because they describe exactly

—

the purposes pursued by Nelson Mandela. Walter Sisulu. Govan Mbeki. Ahmad Kathrada. Dennis Goldberg. Dorothy Nyembe. Elias Motsoaledi. Andrew Mlangeni. Hurray Gwala and many others who are serving life and other prison sentences because they dared to struggle to create a new equilibrium for the universe»
f.

These words move us because they describe the condition of our own people who have, through struggle and under the leadership of the African National Congress, transformed themselves into an instrument for their own salvation. They manage, whose strength the oppressor had sought to strip by the pestilence of servitude, are today marching confidently towards the august temple of liberty.

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Writing from Jamaica. Simon Bolivar

asked he had ransom to hope

that the civilised nations would hasten to his aid in order that he might achieve that which must prove to be advantageous to both hemispheres.

(The Jamaica Letter: September 6, 1815.)

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Thus, the Great Atlantic Ocean separating our continent must

be a bridge of friendship, uniting Latin America and Africa
through a system of political, economic, social and cultural
interdependence. that system of relations must be

equitable.

For South Africa and Namibia are concerned. the betwixt the

people of this continent and the struggling masses of

the Caribbean and the African National

(human and SWAPU.

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Since the dawn of the 19th century Latin America

has been the theatre of the Spanish invasions
(committed by the Spanish invaders
throughout the centuries) as mythical. because they appear to be

buying human capacity for evil."

(The Jamaica Letter.)

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region and the people under oppressive, exploitative aggressive

and unhumanising whose criminality is sometimes not properly

understood perhaps because the atrocities it is committing daily

go far beyond human capacity for evil.

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Ana GHL Luis is a woman which has properly been categorised in
international law as a crime against humanity. justice under
the Law of the International Convention for the Suppression of

the crime of genocide or the Crime of Apartheid.

In many this is the only occasion when any social system

Apart from Nazism .

has been branded a crime against humanity by the international

(*) x = zri i 15y ,

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That is the reason in the denial of all democratic rights to

25% of the population. ~ 5 per cent of our population. - by

Jirag Lumir rave and cmln.

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It consists in the conscious

aim. the r clatu. who have no more respect for human life than did their Eazl mentors. have acquired a nuclear capacity which they believe will give them the decisive ability to preserve the apartheid system for ever and to terrorise the whole continent of Africa into submission.

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South African Patriots such as Nelaeh Membele. have therefore always viewed the struggle for liberation in South Africa as one that must, by its victorious contribution to the creation of a new equilibrium for the universe.. It is for this reason that he and his organisation, the African National Congress, are feared and hated by those who do not wish to see a new world order come into being. as Simon Bolivar and his revolutionary armies were feared and hated by those who sought to keep this continent a colonial appendage of an imperial power.

In the new equilibrium that our certain victory will bring about; the world community will be able to deal with Africa, in particular will be rid of this inhuman base and reaction. of inhumanity. racism and war.

Thus Africa will be able to devote her undivided attention to solving the basic economic problems confronting her teeming millions.

Our victory must and will contribute to the ongoing process of creating a new equilibrium for the universe in which nations can co-operate to mutual advantage. in conditions of peace and equality among the peoples.

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observed then that not only the Europeans but even his brother
by its very essence. was the most Just. and in its CON-
the moat noble.

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we too. in South Africa. have reason to hope that this continent.
true to the ideals for which Simon Bolívar fought and sacrificed".
will come to our aid to expand the frontiers of liberty in our
part of the globe.

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We are however deeply concerned that some countries' of the
continent of Simon Bolívar should continue to entertain
intercourse with the apartheid regime. whose brutal purposes
are little different from those of the conquistadores who invaded
this continent. massacred whole peoples and destroyed ancient
(1:1 Vi Li ti. am; .

Let in our fervent hope that the people and governments of Latin
America will reject every form of relationship. collaboration
and alliance with the Pretoria regime.

Instead, we stand for

another alliance - that between the peoples and governments of
Latin America and the independent states of Africa. especially
those of Southern Africa.

We believe that the act of awarding
this peerless Prize to Nelson Mandela no less than this moving
'ceremony in Law City or Caracas. will contribute to the deepening

and the strengthening of relations between Latin America and Africa.

It is that great vision of international solidarity among
free peoples which gained Simon Bolívar that he prepared for

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Thus

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om'rua OCCASION 09 THE PRESENTATION mo NELSON MANDELA
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CARACAS

JULY 24TH

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Umkhonto we Siawe ~ the Spear of the Nation ~ the name of

the entire democratic movement and the struggling people of South Africa. in the name. and on behalf of Nelson Mandela himself. we extend our profound gratitude to UNESCO. and the Director-General. His Excellency Amadou Hachimi M'Bow. and the International Jury. for the award of the International

Simón Bolívar Prize.

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Our times and circumstances demand that our people. in 1983

than those of this continent two centuries ago. should provide men and women with the clarity of thought. the nobility of vision. the dedication to the cause of liberty as well as the daring. tenacity. courage and audacity in its pursuit. that Simón Bolívar displayed in his brief lifespan of 47 years. the age of 46. when he was condemned to life imprisonment. Naima Manuela had already displayed these attributes.

In 21

At

years of harsh incarceration. he has lost none of them.

though they are the products of the differences of

two peoples divided on two continents by ocean and time. Simón Bolívar and Simón Bolívar stand out to the similarities in

or their lives and understanding of their times.

Eamh came from a noble background. yet. enjoyed a life of privilege. both chose to devote themselves to the liberation of the oppressed who sought to judge him a

for their people.

primal. Mandela said:

"If I had my arms I would do the

same again. as would any man who dared to call himself a man." Just so did Bolívar declare. "I shall not let my arm fall or my soul rest until I have broken the chains in which the will

of the Spanish power holds us."

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genocidal destruction of millions of Africans by banishing

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them to the so-called Bantustans which are nothing but vast

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camp of hopelessness and death.

It means massacres of unarmed civilians, the use of torture.

assassination and terrorism as a matter of state policy against

all those who uphold the cause of the struggle. In 1976 the murder of

prisoners of war as happened on June 9 when the apartheid

regime executed the three patriots: and combatants Simon

Magoerane. Thabo Mbeki and Jerry Mofokeng.

It means the

incarceration under inhuman conditions of thousands of anti-apartheid

representatives of our people came of whom. Many of them

have been in prison for more than 20 years.

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The crime of apartheid also means the violation of and aggress-

ion against peoples beyond the borders of our country. According-

ly, as we speak here, large areas of the People's Republic of

Angola are under occupation by South African racist troops.

The

Kingdom of Lesotho is under a virtual state of siege.

The

Republic of Seychelles has had to beat back an open act of

invasion. Countries such as Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana and

Zambia are subject to continuous acts of destabilisation and

subversion.

Namibia remains colonised;

All these activities in South Africa, Namibia and the rest of

Southern Africa have but one aim, namely, to transform the

100 million people of Southern Africa into political, economic

and military vassals of the racist White minority. In South

Africa and its US and other western allies.

To achieve this

aim

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