

. Aim NATIONAL CONGRESS(SA)

DEVELOPMENT CENTRE - DAKAWA

THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY: 8th March 1981.

The emergence of the International Women's Day is inseparably linked with the Development of the struggle of Women's workers against the dual exploitation to which they were subjected to as workers and as women, for social justice against militarism and imperialist war for peace, democracy and social progress for women's equality.

International Women's Day was born on the 26/27 August 1910.

On the basis of the experience of the first high women's struggles for instance:- The first women's demonstration on the 8th March 1851 when women of the needle trades demanded better working conditions and the right to vote in the streets of New York.

The second International Conference of Socialist Women in Copenhagen in 1910 on a motion from Clara Zetkin resolved to "observe an annual women's uniform International Action! As a new way of struggling to incorporate masses of working women in the International struggle for fundamental Democratic rights, peace, national independence and social progress.

What started as Women's Day of Struggle in only a few European countries united women from ever more countries of Europe as well as Asia, Africa, North, Central, and Southern America and Australia from year to year.

The millions of women and mothers from many countries who had fought against fascism and war came together in Women's International Democratic Federation in Paris on the 1st of December 1945 to work together in an organised manner for the protection of children, for their rights, in defence of peace, for democracy, national independence and social progress have carried on the tradition of International Women's Day and spread its ideals around the world.

Today, 76 years later, the many millions of women who unite in the most diverse ways in powerful democratic demonstrations on March the 8th are countless.

- Women from all continents, almost all countries of the world,
- Women from all sections of the populations, workers and housewives, teachers, and researchers and practising, artists,
- Women from industry and agriculture,
- Women of all political tendencies and religious affiliations
- Women organized in women's organizations, trade unions and political parties, as well as unorganized women, on International Women's Day they all jointly proclaim their determination to take the cause of preserving peace and averting a nuclear catastrophe, ensuring social progress and achieving equality into their own hands. On 8th March 1986 women of all continents are celebrating the 76th anniversary of the founding of the Women's International Democratic Federation, millions and millions of women on five continents will add new, splendid pages to the history of International Women's Day.

Because of the dissatisfying conditions that prevailed in South Africa, our women decided to come together and form a Federation. This Federation of South African Women decided to come together and form a federation in 1959 and it was named the Federation of Women (FEDSAW). Comrade Ida Mntwana was elected as President with Comrade Ray Alexandra as the Secretary.

On the accession of the 76th anniversary of International Women's Day, the Dakawa Women's section greets all the peace - loving women of the world. particularly those engaged in struggles against racism, fascism, colonialism and anti - peoples regimes.

This year we commemorate the 8th of March with redoubled commitment to ensure the liberation of our Motherland from the monstrous apartheid regime.

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,This year we commemorate the 8th of March with redoubled committment to ensure the liberation of our Motherland from the monstrous apartheid regime.

The Declaration of the National Executive Committee of the A.N.C. of 1986 and the year of 14.x. has added responsibilities on all our people, to mobilise the greatest number of men and women and consolidate their fighting power for the final onslaught on the apartheid rulers.

We call upon our sisters in the International Community to demand the unconditional release of all our women in gaol, particularly brave fighters like Barbara Hogan, Lillian Keagile, Thandi Modiaie and all political prisoners and detainees in the apartheid dungeons.

Faced with ever - growing resistance to its genocidal policies, the minority regime has embarked on a campaign of blackmail of the countries of Southern Africa in an effort to lure them into submitting to Pretoria's diktat.

South Africa has intensified her policies of destabilisation of the frontline countries by increasing her support to the rebel groups such as Unite in Angola, the so- called Mozambique Resistance Movement and in Lesotho has staged managed coup.

Meanwhile, inside South Africa, the regime is mrthering to entrenching white minority domination by continuing to kill and murder our people cold blood.

There can be no real peace in Southern Africa, Africa, or even in the whole world, until the people of South Africa are afforded their rights under a government elected by the majority of the people, black and white.

We therefore call on the democratic Women's movement the world over to intensify the struggle for the complete destruction of the minority regime.

We greet our sisters in the frontline countries and assure them of our committment to the destruction of a regime that has denied them and their peoples a right to enjoy the freedom they so gallantly fought a for.

We greet our sisters in Africa and urge them to continue the fight to strengthen our continental organisationb. The Pan African Women's Organisation. and the Organisation of African Unity.

We salute the gallant women and peoples of the Socialist countries for their continued comitted end unflinching support for our struggle.

We greet all our sisters and all progressive forces in the capitalist countries who continue to tight the evils of their governments. which have chosen to collaborate with apartheid against the wishes of their people.

We especially extend our warm fraternal greetings to all the women and peoples struggling to end the injustices perpetrated against their peoples - To our comrades in SWAPO and its Women's Council, the Polisaro Mont, our fellow combatants in the ranks of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation and the General Union of Palestinian Women.

We greet the women of El Salvador, who are waging a bitter struggle against the anti-powlar United States - backed regime.

We hail the victories scored by the gallant people of Nicaragua and all young states waging a bitter struggle against the forces of Imperialism reaction.

We stand shoulder to shoulder with our mensfolk.

We will fight side by side through our lives until we have won our liberty.

Forward with the Year of M.K.

Forward for the Liberation of the Peoples of South Africa!

Forward QC with the Struggle for Peace and Social Justice!

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All Power!

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