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HUMAN RIGHTS PHOTO EXHIBITIONS

MACHIDA SOKA GAKKAI CULTURAL CENTRE - 26TH FEB.1992

Distinguished guests and freinds,

It is my pleasure to have been invited to the official opening ceremony of the Human Rights Photo Exhibition, here in Machida. A week ago, my entire family came to Maohida, invited by the local Soka Gakkai Youth to take part in the impressive and succesful Bazar for "Children of South Africa". I am overwhelmed by the love and human spirit of Soka Gakkai members in Maohida and elsewhere.

On four oooassions in the past, I had an honour of Joining Japanese citizens in official opening of similar photo exhibition in Yokohama, Nagoya, Sagamihara and Mitaka. In all these oooassions I could, together with Ambassadors or Representatives of African Missions in Japan, enjoy your warmth and gather your deep commitment to the struggle for Human Rights, fundamental freedoms and friendship of nations worldwide. It is your Vision of ooexistanoe, cooperation and harmony of this big one-family-of-nations that has won you our respect. This Vision was clearly elaborated during the historic meeting between President Ikeda of Soka Gakkai International and President Nelson Mandela of ANC. Their collective wisdom should inspire us to work towards a peaceful, just, democratic and fair society for all.

In our country, Apartheid is facing crisis of great proportions. It is difficult for Apartheid to die. We still have Apartheid constitution, with 32 laws, racial laws still intact, we have white only parliament, the white minority leader F.W. de Klerk wants to call a white-only-referendum in March to ask whites if they want to change and if they accept Codesa decision that he dissolves his unrepresentative regime and installs Interim Government, which the ANC demands. ANC is the biggest and most representative organization in S.A.. Our voice and your voice can help to crush Apartheid and bring peace, democracy and just South Africa.

We thank you so much for your support. We hope that the thousands of Machida citizens will come to see for themselves the realities of South Africa and the devastation of Apartheid.

Let's work together for a bright future for human kind.

Thanks

J. Matsila