

DAILY NEWS MONDAY JANUARY 10 2000

â\200\230Dawn of T  
the African  
centuryâ\200\231

By ELIJAH MHLANGA

CELEBRATING the ANC's 88th birthday at the

Umkhumbane Multi-Purpose Centre in Cato â\200\230  
Manor was â\200\234historically symbolicâ\200\235 because the  
residents there had experience gross human  
rights violations in the past.

So said Minority Front (MF) leader Mr  
Amichand Rajbansi, whose party enjoys a close  
working relationship with the ANC. He told the  
gathering that it was never thought that the area  
would one day host an event of this magnitude.

He referred to the brutality of the police when  
people protested against injustices during the  
1960s. The colourful celebration was punctuated  
with multi-cultural dances and singing of  
freedom songs.

KwaZulu-Natal ANC chairman Mr Sâ\200\231bu 'Ndebele  
addressed a crowd of supporters at  
celebrations in Durban on Saturday morning.

The ANC was formed on Jantuiary 8 1912 and  
grew to become Africaâ\200\231s biggest and oldest i  
liberation movement. At the 88th celebration, |  
with the theme â\200\234The Dawn of the African  
Centuryâ\200\235, Ndebele promised that the ANC would  
ensure that the year 2000 marked the dawn of the .  
African century.

Ndebele thanked the SA Communist Party  
(SACP) and the Congress of SA Trade Unions for  
their support. He also read a statement from the  
national executive committee, simultaneously  
read out by ANC President Mr "Thabo Mbeki in  
Thohoyandou, Northern Province.

Ndebele credited the SACP for playing a part  
in turning the ANC into a party of â\200\234actionâ\200\235.

He said residents in KwaZulu-Natal should re-  
affirm their commitmernt to peace in the  
province. He said he would raise the possibility  
with his partyâ\200\231s leadership of members of the  
ANC and IFP carrying dual membership cards  
openly, since the groups were no longer at war.

Those attending the celebrations included  
national MPs, MPPs, mayors, councillors and  
representatives from the SACP, South African  
National Civic Organisation, ANC Youth and  
Women's Leagues, Cosatu and the MF,



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Piratey and Kaizer Giets and when  
ctween the two  
hat will he de? He

By Mbongeni Hlophe

INKATHA Freedom Party has  
scorned the idea of dual membership  
for its members. saying it was just a  
ploy by the African National Con- teams co

gress to undermine the strength of might end Mp scoring home.â\200\235 said  
other political parties and kil them IFP SPe 4n Reverend Musa  
from within. Zondi

This comes amid a proposal by  
ANC KwaZulu-Natal chairman Mr  
Sâ\200\231bu Ndcbele who called on his  
partyâ\200\231s lifelong political foes - th  
IEP - to allow their members to  
the ANC while maintaining  
loyalty to the lFP.

Ndehele had said the  
no qualms about ityâ\200\235 members  
Joining the IFP as A gesture of  
strengthening the peate process.

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porters and they wou

who their real leaders are.  
â\200\234The utility of having â\200\234\_ dual

heir membership s just impossible

because a person has one vote lo cay

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about voting and delivery.â\200\235 said

Zondi.

He said the TFP was comforiable

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with the Kind of cooperation it wa ;  
getting from the ANC at nation: |  
level but this should not translat :  
into it (IFP) being swallowed an |  
becoming part of the alliance th  
ANC has formed with the Sout  
African Communist Party (SACP  
and the Congress for South Africa  
Trade Union (Cosatu).

â\200\234We can never aaccept to be swal  
lowed. We believe we have power  
stand on our own and we hav  
proved it. We should not forget th  
differences we have with the ANC  
when it comes to policies of gover  
nance,â\200\235 said Zondi.

But, he said, these difference:  
Should not stand in the way o  
deliyery the two organisations have  
lo prvide to their supporters.



An imbizo called by traditional leaders in - KwaZulu-Natal is likely to oppose the proposed new demarcations for municipalities, write Daily News Reporters Eric Ndiyane and Jani Meyer. More than 200 traditional leaders in KwaZulu-Natal will

meet in Umlazi at the weekend to discuss issues

such as the demarcation of municipal boundaries and the continued faction fighting.

The key issue on their agenda will be the proposed new demarcations of municipalities. Many amakhosi in KwaZulu-Natal are opposed to the new boundaries because they feel they will interfere with their authority

However, members of the Qadi tribe, claiming to be the biggest in the province, said yesterday that they supported the proposals of the Demarcation

Amakhosiz fear loss of authority

#### TRADITIONAL LEADERS GATHER TO VENT FEARS OVER PROPOSED RESHUFFLING OF BOUNDARIES

Board and viewed them as a new turn in their lives.

The imbizo, to be held at Mangosuthu Technikon on Saturday, should reach a unanimous decision by the amakhosi on the proposed new boundaries. The subject of faction fighting will also be raised as the fighting predominantly takes place in the areas controlled by traditional leaders.

Inkosi Ndabakayise Gumede said the imbizo would help clarify the position of the amakhosi

on the issue of demarcation and how they would be affected by it.

Some of us do not want this demarcation because it will

interfere with our authority We were not consulted when they decided to earmark our areas for themselves.â\200\235

Gumede said that the traditional leaders were disturbed by the killings taking place in their areas and it was important to find solutions. Inkosi Hambanathi Mchunu said the gathering was important and

would enable the amakhosi to speak with one voice.

â\200\234We decided that this issue needed to be looked at by all the amakhosi because we do not know what it means to us and the people we are leading. They talk about expanding municipalities, but they do not say anything about the amakhosi in those areas.

â\200\234As long as the amakhosi are not consulted on issues concerning land, it will cause problems. That is why we need our repre-

sentatives in government to explain these things,â\200\235 he said. Mr Petros Mnyandu, of the department of traditional affairs, said those attending would include the head of traditional leaders in KwaZulu-Natal, Inkosi Mangosuthu Buthelezi, and the provincial

mwini ofu\ nf fraditinnal affaiva adadiaaln aaldiulida duiasd s,

Inkosi Nyanga Ngubane.

In a statement, the Qadi tribe said it was instructed to denounce the proposals of the board and to â\200\234fight for their land

or be robbed of itâ\200\235 and â\200\234to use every type of weaponâ\200\235.

However, at a meeting of the Qadi Tribal Court, the â\200\234concerned members of the Qadi tribeâ\200\235 said the meeting was a â\200\234testimony to the bondage under which people under the nmkhnei liveâ\200\235

â\200\234Enough is enough: let the democratic transformation of tribal areas take its course

unhindered.â\200\235 The members said  
they supported the proposed  
structures in rural areas.



Leaders say no to  
new boundaries

By Mfanafuthi Mhlongo

THE wrangle between the municipal demarcation board and AmaKhosi in KwaZulu-Natal over the board's proposed new boundaries for metropolitan and district councils intensified at the weekend. This followed a mass meeting last Sunday at the Emaqadini Tribal Authority, north of Durban, where a local leader of the Inkatha Freedom Party urged the community to resist any attempts by the board to incorporate them

urge you  
to be ready  
to fight

of the tribal areas being incorporated into the newly demarcated municipal structures.

The plan infuriated 28 AmaKhosi from KwaMaphumulo on the North Coast, who have also planned a protest march.

If we allow this demarcation, our ancestors' graves and tombstones will be destroyed and dug out and that is against our tradition, Geabashe said.

He said if people allowed the plan to go ahead, poor people who can't afford to pay will be evicted from their homes and join scores who slept in the streets of

into the new municipal structures for your Durban.

; e There will be many Umzinyathi [FP branch, streetkids and adults roaming

chairman Mr Jubilec the streets and this is uncalled

Gcabashe said: I urge you to

be ready to fight for your land and prepare whatever weapon you'll use to fight when the war breaks out over these proposed demarcations.

He urged residents to join a march at Umlazi's Mangosuthu Sports Ground on Saturday.

The proposed boundaries will see some

for.â\200\235 Geabashe said.

Amaqadi chief Inkost Mzonjani  
Ngcobo said the proposed demarcations  
were going to bring suffering to ordinary  
people.

â\200\234The proposed municipal demarcation  
will cause people to rent their homes for  
dwellings that are new and unacceptable to  
us,â\200\235 Ngcobo said.

There appears to be general  
applause for the Catholic  
Church's public pardon  
move, writes Elijah  
Mhlanga.

HE universal public

pardon sought by

Roman Catholics, who

gathered in their thou-

sands for a special Jubilee 2000

mass at Kingsmead -cricket

stadium in Durban yesterday,

has been widely accepted by the

communities to whom this was  
directed. \_

Political parties and religious  
organisations applauded the  
"bold step" taken by the  
Catholics publicly to admit their  
mistakes.

IFP national spokesman  
Reverend Musa Zondi said what  
the church had done deserved  
"very high praise", because the  
situation in the church was still  
embarrassing.

He said the church had not  
begun to address within itself  
the issues such as racism, which  
was rife.

"I just wish that all other  
churches could follow and do  
this because they still have prob-  
lems. Some are dogged by divi-  
sion between blacks and whites.

African Renaissance.

The situation is "lamenta-  
ble," Zondi said. .

He said African people were  
"forgiving people", even though  
they had been stripped of their  
dignity.

Durban Jewish leader Rabbi  
Isaac Richards said that in the  
Rivonia trial - in which Mr  
Nelson Mandela and others  
were tried for political crimes -  
there were Jewish people  
involved.

Oppression

He said: "It is fine for the church to seek pardon because

they were not outspoken when :

the oppression happened."

And ANC spokesman Mr :

Mtholephi Mthimkhulu said that the Roman Catholic Church's plea for pardon was appropriate and we applauded it.

"This is going to take us a long way in the process of reconciliation, especially in this province

where

it is more important

-because of the political violence.

This bold step to publicly seek pardon is applaudable and it challenges other churches to do the same."

He said they were doing this at the time termed the Dawn of the African century, in line with the

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Jewish people,

and other

Led by Archbishop of Durban Wilfred Napier, Roman Catholic Church members publicly and loudly sought pardon for the first time from African societies for the part played by the church in the disruption and even destruction of their cultures, apartheid victims, women, Aids sufferers and their families, the

Christian churches.

The Catholics also sought pardon for all the failings of the church and its members going back 2000 years, and for the harm and pain this had caused in the communities.

"Repentance for past wrongs is certainly good, but they should include a firm intention

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Approval

â\200\230REPENTANCE NEVER LATEâ\200\231

not to repeat anything similar in future which will oppress people politically or militarily And if they are courageous enough to compensate what they took away from the people. they should give it back,â\200\235 said Moulana Abdoor Roaf Soofie, of the Westville Mosque.

Soofie said it was not enough to express in words a desire for

or

pardon if they were still in possession of other peopleâ\200\231s property. But he said the gesture was significant because â\200\234repentance is never lateâ\200\235.

Wheelchair-bound Mrs Rose Mthembu, from KwaMashu, who joined the church in 1947, said she was touched by the move taken by the congregation because it had noticed its mis-

y

Cardon

takes. â\200\234I hope that from today people will find the church a place of peace and freedom of the soul,â\200\235 she said.

"Mr Clem' Darne said:

- â\200\234REvervhndv has smething ta

apologise for because at some stage we have all done wrong.â\200\235

But he supported the churchâ\200\231s decision taken to seek public pardon.

Prerule: Steven Naioo

WE BEG YOURPAMON: Archbishops Dennis Hurley (left) and Wilfred Napier at Kingsmead Stadium with thousands of worshippers, where they made a historic public request for pardon for the church's past failings

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MANAGING EDITOR: TOM ROY

Catholic church  
plea for pardon

WAZULU-Natal Catholics this weekend showed  
Ktheir fellow church members throughout the

world - one billion in number - the road to  
forgiveness and reconciliation.

The comprehensive pardon the Catholics sought  
from those who may have been hurt or offended by the  
churchâ\200\231s actions over the past 2 000 years, without  
demanding anything in return, is ground-breaking if  
not, at this scale, unsurpassed in the churchâ\200\231s history  
and may still be felt all the way to the Vatican.

Seeking pardon for their own sins against God, the  
Catholics, lead by Archbishop of Durban Wilfred  
Napier, sought pardon from African societies whose  
cultures the church had a role in disrupting or even  
destroying; from the Jewish people who suffered  
horrendous human rights abuses while the world  
watched; from other Christian churches for failures  
in dialogue and unity of purpose, and even from Aids  
sufferers for a lack of support and compassion.

The pardon also sought from the Muslim communi-  
ty, which endured the brutality of the Christian cru-  
sades to capture sites of holy significance, appropri-  
ately came at a time when Muslims worldwide were  
celebrating Eid-ul-Fitr. But the pardon that Catholics  
sought from apartheid victims is of particular inter-  
est, for it was in fear of losing white members that the  
church did not act decisively against the policies of  
the previous apartheid regime. South Africa stunned  
the world by achieving a peaceful political transition  
and reconciliation against insurmountable odds. .

We commend the Catholics for following this recon-  
ciliatory path, but critics will find it rather unfortu-  
nate that they still baulk at granting women equal sta-  
tus, continuing as their Church does to deny them the  
right to be ordained. However, this olive branch that  
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