

THE SOUTHERN AFRICA INDIAN WHO'S WHO



CHARLES, R. L.: Lecturer - Science, b. 1930, Durban. Edu.: Port Shepstone, Sastri College and Fort Hare. Qualifications: Bachelor of Science; U.E.D. One of outstanding Science Teachers in the Republic. Began teaching career on the North Coast, Tongaat, Stanger and in 1959, Swedru College, Ghana, as Senior Science Teacher. From 1962, M. L. Sultan Technical College, Durban, and in 1967, Head of Department, Springfield College of Education. Awarded U.S./S.A. Leader Exchange Fellowship in 1965. Attended Summer Science Institute at Knox College, Galesburg, Illinois, U.S.A. Made special study P.S.S.C. and C.H.E.M. approaches to modern science teaching in the U.S.A.



CHOUDEE, Ashwin: Attorney-at-Law, b. 18th February, 1910, Durban. Eldest son of P. Choudree. Educated: Marine College and Natal University - B.A. Early entry into estate agency field. Established own business in 1932 - Ashwin Choudree & Co. (Pty.) Ltd. Subsequently took up law as a career. Was the first non-white graduate at the University of Natal. He provided the avenue to article clerks studying law exams by serving their articleship under him. He was an outstanding Political, Cultural and Educational

figure. He was a Joint Secretary and Past Vice President of the N.I.C. and the youngest member of the South African Indian Council conferences and was advisor to the Indian Delegation to the U.N.O. on South African Indian Affairs during 1946/47/48. He was prominent during the Defiance Campaign in this country and served a six month sentence for his convictions. Incidentally, he served his first jail sentence in India during the Gandhi campaign when only a schoolboy. He was instrumental in having the Durban Indian Market remain in Indians hands after a move by the City Council to abolish tenure. This also resulted in the adjoining land being given to a consortium of market stall-holders for the erection of a new market place so that the character of the area could be retained. He was Secretary of the Durban Hindu Temple and a Grantee of the Temple School. He was a President of the non-White University Students' Association and the first elected Non-White President of the S.R.C. - University of Natal. In London, he was closely associated with Mr. Krishna Menon and Mr. K. S. Shelvankar (present Ambassador to Vietnam) who were both members of the India League in London. The latter was foreign corr. of the "Hindu Times" in London at the time. In 1948, he was a guest of the Indian Prime Minister, Pandit Nehru, during a tour of India and in 1957, was invited to a luncheon by Mrs. Indira Gandhi at New Delhi. He was responsible for the drafting of the M. L. Sultan Trust which resulted in the founding of the M. L. Sultan Technical College for the advancement of Indian technical education in Natal. He also initiated the Centenary Bursary Trust. He died in July, 1969.



DADA, Ayob: Director of Companies, b. 26th August, 1936, Lydenberg, Transvaal. Educated: Standerton. Eldest son of Ahmed Dada. Entered Retail trade, 1954, Klaserie, Eastern Transvaal - A. Dada & Co., Wholesale trade, 1956, same name. Settled in Zambia, 1965/73. Established Consolidated Dress (Zambia) Ltd., Ndola. Established ARAF, firm of Realtors and Shipping, Gillespie & Co. Other Activities: Only Asian to be elected Jaycee's President, Ndola, Zambia, 1969/70. Past President: Moslem Society, Ndola,

Zambia. Interested in all Sports, Golf and Tennis. Married: Hawa A. C. Ayob of Rustenburg; S 1; D 2. Add.: 1 & 2 Goodhope Centre, 92-96 Queen Street, Durban - Phone: 20773/4/5.



DESAI, Goolam Hoosen: Branch Manager: Natal Building Society, b. 29th April, 1923, Waschbank, Natal. Educated: Hindu-Tamil, Carlisle Street; Greyville and Sastri College, Durban. Part-time at M. L. Sultan Technical College. Son of Hajee M. A. Desai of Chiplun, District Ratnagiri, Bombay, India. Joined Natal Building Society after number of years in Commerce in 1958 as a Cashier/Clerk at the Prince Edward Street Branch. Promoted to Senior Clerk in 1960, and in 1969, was appointed

Branch Manager. In 1970, the Natal Building Society moved to new premises at the corner of Victoria and Albert Streets. Was first Indian in this country to be appointed Branch Manager. External activities: Trustee: Grey Street Mosque; Joint Secretary: M. L. Sultan Technical College - Business Alum.; Committee Member: Orient Club; Chairman: Asiatic and Coloured B/S Emp. Association. Interests: Comp. Religion and Cultural activities; Married: Jainab, daughter of Abbas Mohamed of Cape Town; S 1; D 2. Bus. Add.: Natal Building Society - C/r. Albert and Victoria Streets, Durban, Natal - Phone: 69034/316204; Res. Add.: Flat 3, 94 Prince Edward St., Durban - Phone: 63593/21926.

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DEEPLAUL, Thula Devi: Medical Student, b. 6th February, 1945. Educated: Plessislaer, Girls' High (P. M. Burg); Salisbury and N.R.S. Medical (Calcutta). Left South Africa - 1963, Final Year Medical Student. Interests: Music, Literature and Tennis.

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KHAN, Mehrah: b. 1895. Leading businessman and Social, Cultural and Religious leader of Zeerust, Western Transvaal. Was Secretary of Western Educational Trust and a Trustee: S. M. Nana Trust. Prominent Member of the Zeerust Muslim Community. Married: S 2; D 2; Died at Gabarones, Botswana at the age of seventy six.

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KOLA, Mahomed Ahmed: Businessman, b. 1919. One of leading Muslim businessmen of the Western Transvaal. Director: Kola & Co., Ottosdal. Prominent Member of the Muslim Community - Ottosdal and District. Was Chairman and Trustee: S.M. Nana Trust. Married: S. 1; D 5. Died: 1971.

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LAHER, A. A.: b. 1915. Was one of leading businessmen in Johannesburg. Managing Director: Universal Fabrics & Gift Centre; Laher Bros. (Pty.) Ltd. A leading Philanthropist and social worker. Was one of Founder Members and Vice Chairman: C.I.T.; Trustee: S. M. Nana Muslim Trust; Akoob Laher Trust. Member: Islamic Country Club and Alipur Muslim Association. Tragic death in Motor Accident - 1971.



Victoria Street, Durban - Phone: 66529.

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LATIB, Hanifa Osman: b. Leydenberg, Transvaal. Eldest daughter of Hajee Osman Latib. Qualified Dressmaker. Was in representative field, 1950/60. Established own business, 1960 - Simplex Radio Sales & Services. Wholesale & Retail. Assisted by only son. Interests: Music and Travel. Has toured India, Pakistan, United Kingdom, Europe, United States, Canada and South America. Haj: 1971. Married; S 1; D 4. Res. Add.: 2 Tunstan Walk, Mobeni Heights, Durban; Bus. Add.: 90c

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MOHAMMED, Makki: Editor & Publisher of Makki Publications, 100 Brickfield Rd., Mayville, Dbn, S.A. Born at Kosamba, Dist. Surat, India on 22nd Jan., 1909. Arrived in S.A. with parents in 1929. Edu: in India and S.A. Attended High Grade School, Carlisle St., Dbn. and also took part-time studies at the then Marine College, Dbn. Took up Course in Journalism, with International Correspondence Schools of Johannesburg. Received religious tuition for

over 7 years under the famous Sufi Scholar, Al-Haj Ahmed Mukhtar Siddiqui of Meerut City, India. Mr. Makki was among the first to invite international Muslim Lecturers for the guidance of Muslims in South Africa. First in 1934 and then in 1952 he invited Moulana Muhammad Abdul Aleem Siddiqui, Al-Qaderi, the brother of Moulana Ahmed Mukhtar, on lecture tours to South Africa. In 1936 he brought out Dr. Khalid Sheldrake of London and in 1970 Dr. F.R. Ansari of Karachi was invited on a lecture tour. Mr. Makki was also among the first to start Muslim publications in South Africa. The "Ramadan Annual" and a quarterly magazine called "Five Pillars" were founded by Moulana Abdul Aleem Siddiqui during his visit to S.A. in 1934. The latter publication was absorbed into the "Muslim Digest" monthly in Aug., 1950, which, together with the "Ramadan Annual," are published to this day. Mr. Makki has travelled extensively through all the countries, from Lagos to Zanzibar and Cape to Cairo. He has served Muslims in the religious, social and educational fields for the last 39 yrs. His publications are read all over the world by several tens of thousands of people each year, who find guidance and consolation in their pages.