

From: A.J. Lutuli,  
President-General: African National Congress,  
South Africa.

"In the name of Afrika and Freedom I greet you All ! AFRIKA !  
AFRIKA ! MAYIBUYE ! INKULULEKO NGESIKHATHI SETHU (Freedom  
in Our Lifetime).

"N.B. Let us sing together to Freedom "Mayibuye i-Afrika."

"I am happy and proud on my behalf and on behalf of the  
African people I have the honour and privilege to lead under the  
banner of the African National Congress, to send you, our  
comrades, this Afrika message of greeting and expression of our  
deepest appreciation in the African National Congress for the  
most cordial and friendly active association with you. We have  
enjoyed it in our common and joint fight against forces of oppre-  
ssion in our land.

"The way before us may be long and dusty, but ultimate  
success must be ours because, as confirmed by progressive world  
opinion, our cause is just. But, as a sine qua non to the  
successful prosecution of our task, we must work in the spirit of  
sincere and unreserved devotion, sacrifice and service and bring  
into play virtuous human qualities such as patience, tact,  
forbearance, courage, vigilance, foresight, honesty, loyalty  
and love.

"It is fitting and proper to impress upon you most strongly  
the formidableness of our task by reminding you that in the  
Nationalist Party of Dr. Malan we are facing a ruthless, deter-  
mined enemy of true freedom that would rather scuttle the ship  
of State than make civilisation and democracy a possession of all  
in our land, regardless of colour, race, or creed, and that in  
our home-front we have many well-meaning people who suffer from  
ignorance of the true import and significance of Freedom. Also,  
unfortunately, we are not free from Quislings in our midst.

"We must fight on in all fronts along the path of non-  
violence and when, at times, the human weakness of despondency  
assails us, let us gain courage and inspiration, not only in the  
justice of our cause, but in its universality in all ages. We  
should be stirred to greater effort by the knowledge that it is  
our underserved honour and privilege to be numbered among the  
followers of the HEROES OF FREEDOM of all lands and ages: men  
and women who have so meritoriously championed the cause of  
Freedom

"With so much already done but still so much to be done-  
indeed with much at stake- we dare not be unfaithful to the noble  
cause and its noble heroes, past and present. If we do, we shall  
deserve the ridicule and scorn of our contemporaries and the  
contempt and curses of posterity.

"As you leave the Conference room to translate your resolu-  
tions into action I assure you that the African National Congress  
leadership is determined as never before to spare no effort and  
to count no sacrifice too great in our joint effort to mobilise  
the masses and progressive forces in our land in the fight for  
Freedom.

AFRIKA ! MAYIBUYE ! INKULULEKO NGESIKHATHI SETHU !

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From: Paul Robeson,  
 President: Council on African Affairs,  
 United States of America.

"I salute you. The raised-thumb "Afrika" salute, the heroic sacrifices, and the firm and unbending unity and discipline manifested by you and the South African Indian Congress in alliance with the African National Congress have been a tremendous inspiration to black Americans who likewise struggle against the humiliation and degradation of racial oppression.

"I know that your Congress at its 7th Annual Conference will rededicate itself to carrying forward the great task of combat-ing and defeating the forces of fascism and racist tyranny in South Africa and of achieving full freedom and equality for all the peoples of that land.

"We who are on the side of Peace and Freedom in the United States can well understand the desperate nature of the struggle in which you in South Africa are engaged. For if you have your Malan's and Swart's, we have our McCarthy's and Brownell's. South Africa's notorious suppression of Communism Act is paralleled by this country's equally notorious Smith Act and McCarran Act, whereby the ablest leaders and most militant organisations of the American Working class are being jailed and hounded and the way is being prepared for fascist dictatorship.

"Under the McCarran Act, the Council on African Affairs, which I and my esteemed colleague, Dr. W.E.B. DuBois have the honour of heading, is at the present time being prosecuted as "subversive", along with other progressive organisations of black and white Americans. The Council's 'subversiveness' clearly lies in its having taken and maintained a forthright and uncompromising stand for the freedom of Africa's subject peoples and against those forces, including and indeed led by powerful interests in the United States, which would keep Africa enslaved and continue to exploit it for profit and war.

"But their arrogant ambitions are doomed. Their greedy schemes will be ripped to shreds in Africa as in Asia. For the strength of a people determined to be free is invincible.

"No matter how dark the present hour may be, I have absolute confidence that the future will belong to us and our children and our children's children - a future of peace and social progress, of human freedom and brotherhood. I am sure that this same spirit of confidence will illuminate and guide the deliberations of your Conference. I wish you all success."

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From: Mr. Fenner Brockway, M.P.  
Chairman - Congress of Peoples Against Imperialism,  
LONDON.

"The movement of non-violent resistance to Colour Laws which the African National Congress and your Congress initiated during the past year has been an inspiration to all who believe in Racial Unity throughout the world. Despite your present difficulties you should have confidence in the Future! History is on your side and Dr. Malan can no more defeat natural laws than could King Canute!"

957/242

From: Mr. Louis Sallant,  
General Secretary - World Federation of Trade Unions,  
PARIS - FRANCE.

"On behalf of 83,000,000 workers World Federation of Trade Unions sends warm fraternal greetings to the 7th Provincial Conference of the Natal Indian Congress. WFTU resolutely supports fight for Peace, Freedom and Democracy for all people of South Africa. Powerful lead from World Federation Trade Union Third World Congress inspires greatest unity in action of all those denied just rights. World workers condemn repressive fascist activities of the Malan Government. Evergrowing unity of African, Indian, Coloured and White workers strengthens the fight in all lands for peace, freedom and democracy and improved standards. Wishing every success to your 7th Annual Provincial Conference."

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From: Madame Marieclaude Vaillant Costurier,  
General Secretary - Womens' International Democratic  
Federation,  
BERLIN - GERMANY.

"Womens' International Democratic Federation greets the 7th Annual Provincial Conference of the Natal Indian Congress and sends its warmest greetings. We assure you our continuous support for the struggle for peace, freedom and democracy."

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From: Mr. Julius Silverman, M.P.,  
Hon. General Secretary - The India League,  
LONDON.

"On the occasion of the 7th Annual Conference of the Natal Indian Congress, the India League sends you greetings and congratulations on your great struggle for justice and in defiance of tyranny.

"The India League, with the great mass of British public opinion, will support you in your fight."

957/245

From: Mr. N. Ntsekhe,  
National Secretary - Basutoland African Congress,  
BUTHABUTHE - BASUTOLAND.

"On the occasion of your 7th Provincial Conference the Basutoland African Congress greets you and declares its untiring solidarity with the struggles of your organisation. Long Live Indian African co-operation for National liberation."

From: Mr. G. Surtie,  
Secretary - Basutoland Indian Community,  
BASUTOLAND

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"On behalf of the Basutoland Indian community I wish to send you greetings on the occasion of your 7th Annual Conference. The fight of the undertrodden Indian peoples of Southern Africa is indivisible. Forward to universal victory."

From: Messrs Yusuf Cachalia & D.U. Mistry,  
Jt. Hon. Secretaries - S.A. Indian Congress,  
JOHANNESBURG.

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"We have great pleasure, on behalf of the South African Indian Congress, in greeting you with a message of support and solidarity on the occasion of the Seventh Annual Conference of your Congress, which is being held at Durban on the 5th, 6th and 7th February, 1954.

"We look back with satisfaction and pride to the days in 1945 when the present leadership, on popular vote, defeated the forces of reaction within our own community. This victory was based on carrying on a policy of militant struggle in defence of the rights of the people of South Africa in co-operation and unity with all the democratic elements in our country in our common fight against injustice, oppression and tyranny.

"In the years that followed the Natal Indian Congress, in co-operation with other organisations, made valuable contribution in the direction of consolidating the forces of liberation. Following upon the heroic Passive Resistance Struggle of 1946, which was jointly conducted by the Natal and Transvaal Indian Congresses, each and every endeavour in which your Congress participated brought nearer the ultimate goal of freedom.

"The historic Defiance Campaign has opened wide the doors of progress and we are now able to march hand in hand with all sections of the South African population, both white and non-white, for the realisation of our common objective. Having consolidated our victories we are called upon to move further along the broad highway of liberation to free the unhappy people of our country from the clutches of fascism.

"During the year your Congress will be called upon to play more vigorously its part in the struggle that lie ahead, and, we are confident that it will, under your wise and able guidance, lead the Indian Community of Natal to greater heights of achievement.

Forward to freedom ! "

From: Mr. M. Matji,  
Secretary - CAPE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.  
PORT ELIZABETH.

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"Warmest fraternal greetings to President and delegates. May this message symbolise the enduring strength and vitality of the ties of kinship uniting our organisations. May all your deliberations be directed towards the achievement of freedom in our lifetime."

From: Mr. A. M. Kathrada,  
General-Secretary - South African Indian Youth Congress,  
JOHANNESBURG.

Q57/249

"The South African Indian Youth Congress sends you its heartiest greetings and best wishes on the occasion of your 7th Provincial Conference.

"You are meeting at a time when the attacks on the meagre rights that we still enjoy are being intensified and becoming mere wishes. Some of the best and most loved leaders of the Natal Indian Congress are no longer able to be with you at Conference because of the bannings. In every aspect of our lives we are faced with greater repression and new threats to our existence.

"But repression is greater only because our movement for freedom is gaining strength day by day.

"Repression is greater because our oppressors are weak.

"This is the time, dear friends, to intensify our organisation, to consolidate our unity and to forge ahead towards greater progress.

"We are confident that the NIC will emerge from this Conference a stronger organisation.

"Please remember that throughout your deliberations you carry the best wishes and loyalty of the entire Indian youth of South Africa.

AFRIKA !            AFRIKA !            AFRIKA ! "

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From: Mrs. Rica Hodgson,  
National Organiser - S.A. CONGRESS OF DEMOCRATS,  
JOHANNESBURG.

"The National Executive Committee of the S.A. Congress of Democrats greets the Conference of the Natal Indian Congress, and through it the Indian democrats of Natal, who stand as we stand for the obliteration of the colour bar and for the fight to win for all South Africans the right to enjoy equal treatment, privileges and opportunities in every walk of life. We pledge the support of democratic white South Africans to your fine struggle, and look forward to long and fruitful co-operation between our two bodies, together with others who think like us, until our cause is won."

From: Mr. A. Domingo,  
Secretary - Coloured People's Council of Action,  
DURBAN.

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" I take this opportunity of wishing Conference success in its deliberations.

From: Mr. P. Raidoo,  
Hon. General Secretary - Natal Indian Teachers' Society,  
DURBAN.

Q57/252

"My Society wishes the Conference every success".