

ZULUS RISE FROM ASHES

ULUNDI — The Legislative Assembly Building situated at Ulundi has been officially opened by Dr M.G. Buthelezi, the Chief Minister of KwaZulu.



During the opening of the new KwaZulu Building.

The official opening of the Building was indeed an important event with far reaching implications. Scientific research showed that throughout KwaZulu this was the best site. Communications could be effected by rail, road and by telephone. The topography of the place is flat and its make is for building. Water is easily available from the White Umfolozi River.

Apart from the Scientific reasons there are bare faced historical accounts. Not far from Ulundi there is Emakhosini place where lies the mortal remains of Zulu from whom the Zulus are named. Again, not far from Ulundi there is Umgungundlovu the Royal Residence of King Dingane with its Historical significance. A few hundred meters from here lies the mortal remains of King Mpande, the father of Indlunkulu yakwa-Zulu. About 5 km or so from Ulundi is Ondini Royal Residence of King Cetshwayo. Over the veld just below this building the might of the Zulu power fell to the British Squares on July 4, 1879.

It is indeed of importance to us to

recall that under King Cetshwayo the Zulu forces that devastated the British Square in Isandlwana and gave the last meaningful resistance to the British Colonialist were led by the Valiant Chief Mnyamana Buthelezi — the Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief of all Zulu Forces of the day — the Great grandfather of His Excellency the Chief Minister. It was therefore only too appropriate that on these very planes the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly Building should rise from the very ashes of KwaZulu power that was.

This rising from the Zulu ashes, symbolises the strength of the Zulus, not outside South Africa, but as an integral part of the Republic of South Africa to which the citizens of KwaZulu have contributed so much to its existence. After all the Gold mines of the Transvaal and the Orange Free State, the skyscrapers of Durban, Johannesburg and Cape Town, the agricultural fields all over the Republic, have been nurtured by the sweat of all South Africans — including KwaZulu citizens.

Prince M.G. Buthelezi, who officially opened the Building, said the white politics, unable to destroy the seed in 1910, threw it on the most barren piece of political ground they could possibly find; they stamped upon it, they cursed it; but within this seed there was a germ of life and purpose which was indestructible.

Centuries of Zulu history had evolved the germ of political life which is now breaking out of the soil on these great Ulundi plains where the full might of the British army finally destroyed the Zulu Kingdom. Across the length and breadth of KwaZulu these seeds are coming up, nurtured by a true Black South Africanism and watered by the Black politics of hope. What we see in the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly Building is the re-emergence of Zulu political life itself. It is not the beginning of a new schism and it does not mean the blowing out of the flame of one South Africanism which burns within our hearts.

KwaZulu was a great Kingdom with its own social, economic and

political systems, forged in the traumatic nature of the 19th century global human experience. This building arises from the soil of KwaZulu to stand as a symbol of the great achievements of the Zulu people in the past, the achievements of which we are proud and achievements which will yet emerge as one of the most valuable ingredients in national reconciliation. This building stands as a Zulu national achievement of political solidarity. It is for this reason that this building

warms Zulu hearts and the fires of Zulu South African patriotism are kindled.

Whether we like it or not, Zuluness amongst six million people is a profound reality in this country. One cannot talk Zuluness out of the hearts and souls of 6 million people. What is commonly termed the Black Consciousness Movement in the company of White intellectuals and the fully mobilised support from the External Mission of the ANC or a

paltry little force in comparison with the other forces of history which did their damnest to annihilate Zulu identity and to make it subservient to party political needs.

There is absolutely nothing incompatible between Zulu pride and South African patriotism. There is nothing inherently wrong in Zuluness which disqualifies those who are Zulu from playing national roles.

LABOUR PARTY GIVES PIE-IN-THE-SKY PROMISES, CHIEF BUTHELEZI RESPONDS

ULUNDI — Mr Neil Kinnock, the leader of the Labour Party of Britain, is reported to have made a promise that when the Labour Party returns to power, it will reverse the policy of the Conservatives "which has been to protect, encourage and co-operate with South Africa". During a 50 minute meeting of the House of Commons with Mr Oliver Tambo, the leader of the ANC External Mission, Mr Kinnock also said that the Labour Party's approach would be to "isolate apartheid South Africa and to promote effective action to hasten liberation."

After the meeting, the Anti-Apartheid Movement distributed a statement, wherein Mr Kinnock stated that he was very delighted to have met Mr Tambo and express "the solidarity of the Labour Party with the South African Liberation Movement" in person. He said "We are agreed that while apartheid remained, nobody in Southern Africa can be truly free".



Prince Dr M.G. Buthelezi, President of Inkatha.

Prince Dr M.G. Buthelezi, the President of INKATHA and Chief Minister of KwaZulu responded to Mr Kinnock and said . . .

"We in this House need to remind Great Britain and Mr Kinnock that it was not the Boers who destroyed the Zulu Kingdom. It was Britain acting on the advice of her representatives "to destroy Zulu power once and for all" who

waged a full-scale war against us in 1879. It was Britain who first betrayed us by succumbing to the Natal Colonial Government's pressures to take away KwaZulu's protectorate status. It was Britain who annexed KwaZulu and included us as part of Colonial Natal. Had this not been done we would today probably be in the same position as Lesotho, Swaziland and Botswana.

What Afrikaners are now attempting to do by trying to incorporate a big chunk of our territory, Ingwavuma, into Swaziland with no regard to our feelings about the matter is something which as former subjects of Britain they learnt from Britain. We were betrayed yet again when Britain gave South Africa autonomy through the Statute of Westminster unconcerned about whether or not we had a vote in the Union of South Africa. This was a monumental betrayal of us by Great Britain. We were not conquered by the Afrikaners here. Britain handed us over to the Afrikaners on a silver platter.

Our own King Cetshwayo travelled to Britain and informed the British Government about the state of affairs here, and the various delegations which the African National Congress sent to Britain also informed the British Government of our views at the