

Francis Baard

It is a great honour for me to open up this wonderful rally and I welcome all delegates and everybody who is here. It reminds me of a song we used to sing at school - it was 'land of hope and glory, mother of the peace'. That means South Africa is our mother land and South Africa is going to be free even if the government does not want it.

I want to call upon our leaders. As we gather here in Cape Town they are locked up next door to us. So, I want to go out of my way to say: "Mandela come out, roll out, with all the rest of the political prisoners" We say we demand your release today because we want to take you home.

I say Mr Chairman, with all the blessings to all you people here, and I am asking the blessings to lead us to the different towns, villages and homes and with the same blessings I say to the people of Cape Town who have kept us here and giving them blessings to remain with them.

We say, South Africa, we want a parliament among the people here. We want a government of the people and our government would have to be elected among you people.

Now with these few remarks Mr Chairman, I declare this rally open.