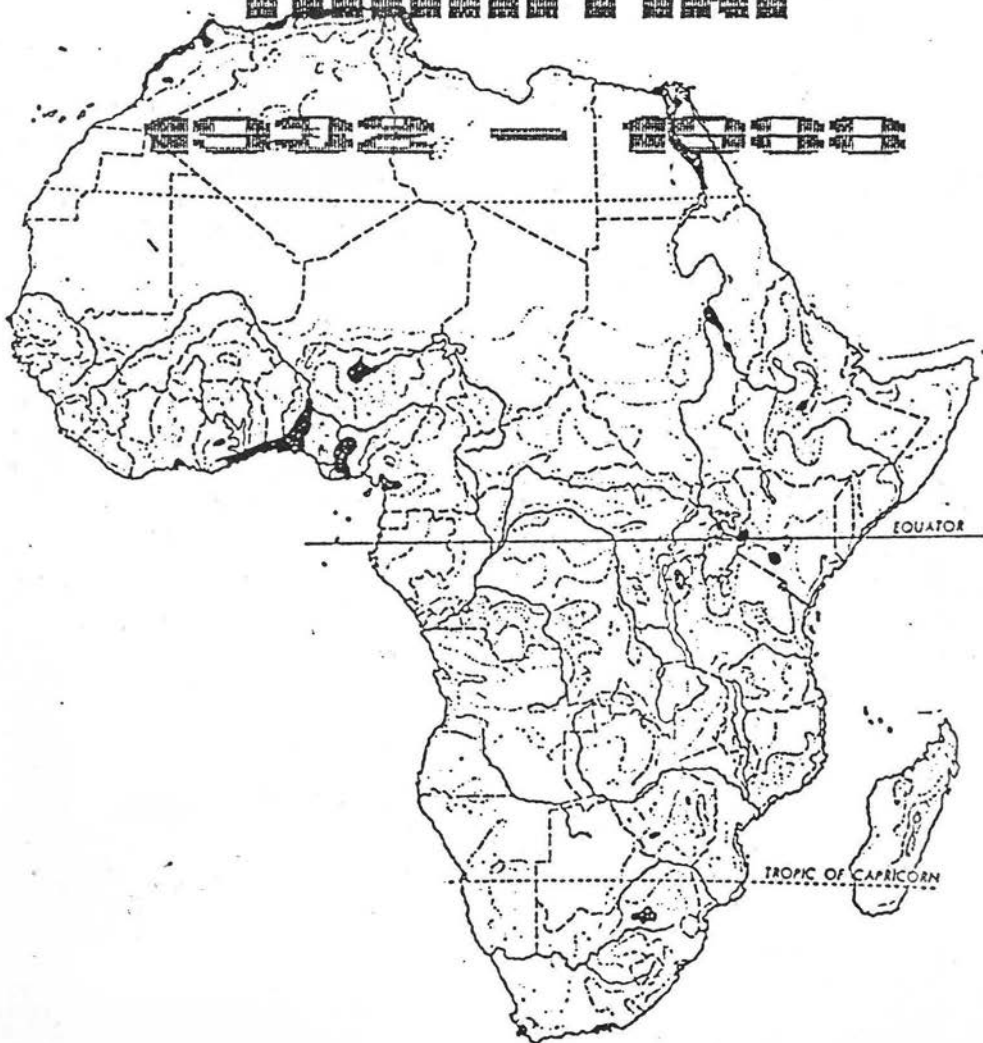


AFRICA

PHYSICAL

MAP



MEMORIAL SERVICE
for
MFANAFUTHI JOHNSTONE MAKATINI

CANAAN BAPTIST CHURCH OF CHRIST
in Harlem

16 December, 1988 — Half after Six P.M.

The

Obituary





THE OBITUARY

It is with deep sorrow and a profound sense of loss that the African National Congress announces the death of Comrade Johnstone Mfanafuthi Makatini. Comrade Makatini, popularly known as "Johnny" was Director of the ANC's Department of International Affairs and a long-standing member of our National Executive Committee. He passed away on the 3rd December, 1988 at 12.00 hrs GMT after a short illness. He had been admitted to the University Teaching Hospital (UTH), in Lusaka, Zambia the previous Tuesday with complications arising from a diabetic condition from which he has been suffering during the past year.

Born in Durban on 8th February, 1932, Johnny was a bright and gifted child. A talented debater at school, he was articulate, with an aptitude for languages - qualities he developed from his mother, Mama Jali, who was a well-known radio personality.

Johnny attended high school at Adams College, Natal, where he was one of the soccer stars. Upon matriculating, he went on to train as a teacher. He taught at Mzinyathi in the Inanda area, and was soon active in organised opposition to the imposition of Bantu education in African schools. Rather than serve under this hated system, he resigned from the teaching profession and registered as a part-time law student at Natal University. He devoted the rest of his time to organising the people as an activist of the ANC, becoming a key youth and student organiser around Durban and in the rural areas of Natal. He was actively involved in all the ANC campaigns of the period and was arrested on numerous occasions. Johnny was one of the principal organisers of both the historic Pietermaritburg Conference of March 1961

which was addressed by Nelson Mandela and the highly successful anti-fascist republic strike of May 1961.

In 1962, Johnny was among the first group of volunteers from Natal to be sent out of the country for military training. In Johannesburg they were joined by volunteers from other parts of the country and Johnny, assisted by Joseph Jack, was put in charge of the combined group. Nelson Mandela, the then "black pimpernel" gave the group a staggering shock when, wearing a holster with a pistol and looking like an accomplished soldier, he suddenly walked into a room, in Dar es Salaam, interrupting a song about him which the group were singing, believing him to be in South Africa. Johnny often referred to that incident, claiming that he nearly fainted.

Johnny led part of the group to Morocco, with instructions that on completion of the training he should remain in Morocco to receive new groups of trainees, which meant he was our representative in that country. This was the beginning of a record of diplomatic work in the service of the people of South Africa that today stands unsurpassed.

Trudging the streets of Rabat on an empty stomach and thrown out by one landlord after another for unpaid rent, Johnny nonetheless quickly lapped up the French language and within a year he spoke it with surprising fluency. This proved invaluable and fed into his inexhaustible zeal for discussing apartheid and the struggle with every one he met, for 24 hours if necessary. It gave him access to the vast French and English speaking world, which he exploited to the fullest.

In Morocco he worked and struck a close friendship with leaders of liberation movements from the then Portuguese colonies, among them, Marcelino dos Santos of Mozambique, Dr. Agostinho Neto of Angola and Amilcar Cabral of Guinea Bissau.

In 1963, Algeria became independent. An ANC Mission was promptly opened in Alger, headed by Robert Resha, a member of the National Executive of the ANC. Johnny, his vision of the struggle broadened and deepened by fraternal association with freedom fighters from other African countries, was transferred to join Robbie Resha in Alger. The two made a dynamic partnership. Alger, which hosted many liberation movements mainly from Africa, and including the PLO, was a beehive of political activity involving solidarity support for the liberation struggle. Robbie and Johnny proved more than equal to the challenge. The status of the ANC in Algeria rocketed.

Apart from his close friendship with freedom fighters whose countries later became independent, Johnny was an active and leading member of the Pan-African Youth movement most of whose members grew to hold important positions in government.

In 1966, Johnny succeeded Robert Resha as Chief Representative in Algeria, and soon extended the activities of his mission to cover France, where he became a well-known personality in the circles of the solidarity movement. By this time he was beginning to emerge as one of the ANC's most accomplished diplomats. From his Algerian base he invaded Western Europe, often shooting down meetings the ANC considered detrimental to our cause. In 1974 Johnny became a member of the National Executive Committee of the ANC. He was already a well-known figure in OAU and UN circles where he earned a

well-deserved reputation as an articulate champion of the cause of our people. It was these qualities that contributed to his appointment as head of the ANC Mission to the United Nations in 1977 and later, in 1983, as head of our Department of International Affairs.

Johnny's unique flair for diplomatic work flowered during his years at the United Nations. No UN diplomat did not know Johnny Makatini and few escaped his persuasive tongue. The point was even reached when some accused the ANC of dominating the UN.

While establishing strong relationships with government representatives, organisations and people from all corners of the world, and particularly in Africa, Johnny paid special attention to the solidarity movement in the United States, winning millions of friends and supporters for our struggle, not least among them, the Reverend Jesse Jackson.

After the 1985 National Consultative Conference of the ANC, Johnny was transferred to Lusaka to give personal attention to his departmental responsibilities.

Johnny Makatini was an indefatigable organiser and campaigner on behalf of the African National Congress. He worked tirelessly and travelled ceaselessly on our work throughout Africa and to many parts of the world in pursuit of a single goal - the liberation of our people. This took its toll on his health, and despite the appeal and remonstrances of his colleagues, he stubbornly persisted with a rigorous schedule of appointments and meetings. The very weekend before he was hospitalised he had returned from strenuous missions to Nigeria, Mali and Egypt, which he had

continued with even when he started feeling unwell.

With the departure of CDE Johnny Makatini, the African National Congress and the oppressed people of South Africa have lost a most dedicated and talented fighter and leader who gave his whole life in the service of his people and country. His passing leaves a gap in our ranks which will be difficult to fill. His shining qualities will continue to inspire his colleagues and the younger generation with added determination to complete his life's work.

Comrade Johnstone Mfanafuthi Makatini is survived by his wife, Valerie, and a five year old daughter, Nandi, as well as by his mother, three brothers, and a sister. To his entire family the National Executive Committee of the ANC express its deep-felt condolences.

6th December, 1988
National Executive Committee Secretariat,
Lusaka

PRELUDE:

Voice of Johnny Makatini

(COURTESY OF: W L I B, INNER CITY BROADCASTING CORP.)

THE SERVICE OF MEMORY and CELEBRATION

WYATT TEE WALKER, Presiding

Call to Worship and Invocation

The Congregational Hymn

The Lessons of Scripture

Old Testament:

BISHOP NORMAN QUICK, COGIC

New Testament:

CANON FREDERICK B. WILLIAMS

Prayer of Consolation

DR. M. WILLIAM HOWARD

Special Music

VOICES OF CANAAN

C. EUGENE COOPER, Director

TRIBUTES (4 minutes)

U.S. Anti-Apartheid
Movement

JENNIFER DAVIS

The American Labor
Movement

CLEVELAND ROBINSON

United States
Support Groups

LENNOX HINDS

Activist Community

ELOMBE BRATH

The U.S. Political
Arena

HON. DAVID DINKINS

MUSICAL TRIBUTE

DOLLAR BRAND

INTERNATIONAL TRIBUTES

THEO -BEN GUIRAB

**Secretary for Foreign Affairs
South West Africa Peoples' Organization
(SWAPO)**

**His Excellency Lt. General PETER DINGI ZUZE
Chair, African Group of Ambassadors**

**His Excellency Major General JOSEPH GARBER
Chair, U.N. Special Committee
Against Apartheid**



AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS TRIBUTE

Honorable TEBOGO MAFOLE
Permanent Representative to the U.N.
African National Congress

THE NATIONAL HYMN
N'KOSI SIKOLELA AFRICA
The Sechaba Singers

THE BENEDICTION

HONORARY MEMBERS

ORGANIZATIONS

- National Council of Churches
The United Methodist Church
United Church Of Christ
Locall 1199 - Dennis Rivera
District Council 37 - Stanley Hill
Local 420 AFSCME - James Butler
District Council 65 UAW - Cleveland Robinson
Amalgamated Clothing and textile Workers Union - Davis Dyson
United Mine Workers of America - Richard Trumka
International Brotherhood of Teamsters - Dan Kane
Coalition of Black Trade Unions - Jim Bell
Coalition of Labor Union Women - Joan Cohen
Women for Racial and Economic Justice - Cecilia McCall
Women's International League for Freedom and Peace - Vinnie Burrows
SANE - FREEZE - William Sloane Coffin
US Peace Council - Michael Meyerson
National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression - Frank Chapman
Mobilization for Survival
Mobil Out of South Africa Coalition - Donna Katzin
Coalition for a Free Southern Africa (Columbia University) - Tanaquil Jones
Communist Party of the United States of America - Charlene Mitchell
National Conference of Black Lawyers - Wilhelm Joseph
Puerto Rican Socialist Party - Jose Soler
All Peoples Congress - Larry Holmes
National Alliance of Third World Journalists

INDIVIDUALS

Rev. Ben Chavis
Assemblyman Roger Green
Senator David Patterson
Assemblyman Jerry Nadler
Ruby Dee
Ossie Davis
Pete Seeger
Haywood Burns
David Lampell
Hon. Percy Sutton
Gil Noble
Congressman Major Owens
Congressman Edolphus Towns
Councilman Wendell Foster
Congressman Charles Rangel
Councilwoman Ruth Messinger
Councilman Jose Rivera
Harry Belafonte
Steven van Zandt

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Chairperson

Tebogo Mafole

Members

Solly Simelane

Archie Singham

Max Sisulu

M. William Howard

Wyatt Tee Walker

The African National Congress wishes to express its thanks to the Canaan Baptist Church for the generous contribution of its facilities for this service and especially to the Music Department and its Director, C. Eugene Cooper.

Programme courtesy of the Canaan Resource Center, Judith Price, Director.