

Stinkwater Community Authority

Bophuthatswana is a product of apartheid. The matter (S.A.) has been crushed but the babies (bantustan) are still alive. With the scrapping of the Land Act and Population Registration Act there have been claims by the South African government that the last pillar of apartheid have been removed. These claims ring somewhat hollow for the people living in the bantustans, particularly in the "independent" Bophuthatswana, where nothing has changed since the dramatic reforms of February 1990. The Status of Bophuthatswana Act of 1977, which gave this bantustan its so-called independence is still firmly on the statute books, and for us in the Bophuthatswana areas this particular pillar of apartheid is still very much alive and kicking.

The Bophuthatswana authorities have been the most intransigent of all the bantustans in sticking to old style grand apartheid. The people of Bophuthatswana has never recognised the independence. It's a land ruled by a gun to suppress the aims and aspirations of the people. The state resources are used to promote the interest of Mangope. It is generally accepted that the people of these areas support the concept of a United South Africa. History of apartheid has meant that these are the most neglected parts of our country in terms of infrastructure and development in general. Many of us opposed to the bantustan system, have claimed that the dismantling of the bantustan structure will lead to a substantial saving in expenditure. Reincorporation and dismantling of the bantustan structure will inevitably bring about savings in certain areas which will allow these finances to be put to better use. In examining the 1989/1990 Bop budget it is hard to see the necessity of the Dept. of the Presidency receiving an allocation of R53 million. In the same budget

The Dept. of Internal Affairs had a budget of R139 million, and Foreign Affairs R15 million. While the people of Bop are not happy in their daily living. Workers are underpaid. Privileges are given to particular people. No black man in Bop own a factory. He does not finance his people. Not enough land to accomodate Bop people and their properties. No enough land for agricultural purposes or gracing. People are crowded at small areas.

Bophuthatswana government does not help people to build schools. The community is always raising up funds by themselves to build schools, thereafter control by Bop government. Principals are mayors of Bop who misuse the school building funds. When the matter is reported nothing being done.

Police are serving the interest of Mr. Mangope not the community. No Law and Order is kept only the rule of the jungle is kept. Repression is one arm of Bop government policy. Raids, arrest, persecution of political leaders are to silence those who dared to speak for their people. Money first safety at last. Corruption is ruling Bop as a whole.

Giant Businesses are given to ministers and Whites only, because they serve the interest of him.

Vast sums have been wasted and are still being wasted on the concept of independence and international recognition. We the people of Bop, we say, reincorporation without conditions. We have been deprived our human rights by the Bop regime. There's no free political activities. Torture and intimidation is talking its own language. They are having

The Bill of Rights in Bop but not working. Mangope is unpopular in Bop. He's not representing the people of Bop. He represent himself. He does not tell them about the proceedings or the outcome of Codesa. We are seeking the Status to represent the people of Bop or have a say in Codesa.

What Mr. Mangope is saying about the people of Bop is a lie. They are not happy at all.

Sent reply to : The Tribal Officer
P.O. Box 480
Hammankraal
0400

Hoping and trusting that Codesa will hear our plea.

Your faithfully
Stinkwater Community