

TRANSAFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA FREEDOM MANIFESTO

Black Church Support Committee
of
TRANSAFRICA

We in the West have been spoon-fed by the media as to the real conditions of apartheid in the Republic of South Africa. Our continuing struggle with systemic racism has claimed most of our attention and energy. However, the world is one and shrinking; most importantly, we are one in Christ the Liberator. Our brothers and sisters in the sub-continent of Africa desperately need the moral and substantive power we can give. In many instances, the oppressor is our common enemy, the machinery of the multinational corporations based in the United States.

We speak because we are inextricably tied to Africa. The issues at stake in South Africa threaten the world with nuclear conflict. All of the issues are grounded in the evil system of apartheid. The Black Church, as the primary institution of influence in the affairs of black people, cannot remain silent or passive so long as demonic racism and apartheid live.

Four years ago in Soweto, the black township outside Johannesburg, the children's revolution erupted. Their leadership and valiant struggle for freedom captured our hearts. Scores of children died as martyrs, hundreds were maimed and injured and thousands were forced to flee into Angola, Tanzania and Mozambique. This national and international assault on black life thrives in South Africa as well as in the United States.

In commemoration of the heroism of the children of Soweto and in celebration of our commitment to the young who yet live, we are declaring Sunday June 14, 1981 South Africa Freedom Day. This initial and continuing celebration will:

1. Dramatize the plight of the victims of apartheid, especially the children who are refugees.
2. Raise the consciousness of black Americans and their allies to the terrible conditions that exist in South Africa with the participation of the United States government, banks and businesses.
3. Launch an action program aimed at the disengagement of the United States based multinational companies.
4. Provide moral and financial support through TransAfrica to pressure the Administration and Congress to establish progressive foreign policy as it relates to Africa.

The Black Church Support Committee of TransAfrica through its denominational network, will launch our action agenda in 100 cities on South Africa Freedom Day, June 14, 1981.

N'KOSI SIKELA AFRICA/GOD BLESS AFRICA