

NELSON MANDELA

Freedom March

GLASGOW to LONDON
June 12 to July 17 1988

“There is no easy walk to freedom anywhere and many of us will have to pass through the valley of death again and again before we reach the mountain tops of our desires.”

Nelson Mandela, quoting Jawarhal Nehru, in his address to the 1953 conference of the Transvaal ANC. Because Mandela was banned from attending or addressing gatherings, his speech was read out in his absence.

On 12 June 1964, Nelson Mandela was sentenced to life imprisonment by the Pretoria Supreme Court.



Organised by the **Anti-Apartheid Movement**
13 Mandela St London NW1 01-387 7966

NELSON

NELSON MANDELA

Freedom at 70

The aim of this exciting campaign is simple. It seeks to galvanise into action all those who support the call 'Free Nelson Mandela', developing such a powerful movement that the Pretoria regime will be compelled to release Mandela and all prisoners of apartheid. Centrepiece of the campaign is the 590-mile Nelson Mandela Freedom March.

On 12 June 1988, the 24th anniversary of the sentencing of Nelson Mandela to life imprisonment — and the second anniversary of the imposition of the State of Emergency in South Africa — the Nelson Mandela Freedom March will start from Glasgow, the first community to honour Nelson Mandela by giving him the Freedom of the City. Oliver Tambo, President of the African National Congress and Archbishop Trevor Huddleston, President of the Anti-Apartheid Movement will send off the 25 marchers — each marcher symbolising one year of the 25 years spent in prison by Mandela's co-accused at the Rivonia Trial of 1964. Amongst the marchers will be former South African and Namibian political prisoners, including Indres Naidoo, who spent ten years imprisoned on Robben Island with Nelson Mandela, and Alan Brooks, Deputy Executive Secretary of the Anti-Apartheid Movement. The march will proceed down the country, arriving in London on 17 July — the eve of Nelson Mandela's 70th birthday.

The final stage of this historic march, leaving Finsbury Park at midday and arriving at Hyde Park at 3.30pm, will be a massive demonstration of support for Nelson Mandela and a rallying point for all those who call for his release and the release of all other prisoners of apartheid.

ON MANDELA FREED



- First City to honour Mandela with Freedom of the City
June 12 GLASGOW
- June 12 AIRDRIE**
- June 13 BATHGATE**
- Lothian Regional Council has honoured Mandela with Freedom of the region.
June 14 EDINBURGH
- Rooms in City Chambers named after Mandela.
June 15 DALKEITH
- June 16 GALASHIELS**
- Soweto Day.
June 17 KELSO
- June 18 WOOLER**
- June 19 ALNWICK**
- June 20 ASHINGTON**
- June 21 NEWCASTLE**
- Nelson Mandela has been honoured with Freedom of the City.
June 22 DURHAM
- Archbishop Desmond Tutu has been honoured with the Freedom of the City.
June 23 DARLINGTON
- June 24 THIRSK**
- June 25 YORK**
- June 26 LEEDS**
- South Africa Freedom Day.
• Leeds Civic Gardens have been re-named in Mandela's honour.
June 27 BRADFORD
- June 29 HALIFAX**
- June 30 ROCHDALE**
- July 1 MANCHESTER**
- July 2 MACCLESFIELD**
- July 3 STOKE ON TRENT**
- Street renamed in Mandela's honour.
• Walter Sisulu, Mandela's co-accused has been honoured with Freedom of the City.
July 4 STAFFORD
- July 5 LICHFIELD**
- July 6 WALLSALL**
- July 7 BIRMINGHAM**
- Student's Union: room named in Mandela's honour.
July 9 COVENTRY
- Building named after Nelson Mandela.
July 10 • Coventry Cathedral Service.
July 11 LEAMINGTON SPA
- July 12 NORTHAMPTON**
- July 13 BEDFORD**
- July 14 LUTON**
- July 15 ST. ALBANS**
- July 16 HARINGEY**
- Re-named street: Nelson Mandela Close.
July 17 FINSBURY PARK TO HYDE PARK
- National Demonstration
July 18

NELSON MANDELA'S 70th BIRTHDAY

Freedom March

OM MARCH



THE STRUGGLE IS MY LIFE

Nelson Mandela, born on 18 July at Umtata in the Transkei region of Eastern Cape, has spent the last **26 years** of his life in prison in South Africa. In 1943, he became a founding member of the African National Congress Youth League, and in the following years, together with Walter Sisulu, Oliver Tambo, and others, became a driving force in turning the ANC into a mass people's movement taking militant action against apartheid.

In 1952 he was the 'Volunteer in Chief' for the Defiance Campaign, a civil disobedience campaign which was the first stage of a mass counter-offensive against apartheid during the 1950s. It was followed by mass campaigns against Bantu Education and the Pass Laws. In 1955 the Freedom Charter — the blueprint for a democratic non-racial South Africa, was adopted at the Congress of the People in Kliptown. Though unable to be present at Kliptown, due to a banning order, Mandela was at the forefront of this activity, and in 1956 was one of the 156 people accused of Treason arising out of the adoption of the Freedom Charter.

On 21 March 1960, 69 people were shot dead at Sharpeville during a peaceful protest in the campaign against the Pass Laws. This action by the regime was quickly followed by the State of Emergency and the banning of the ANC and the breakaway PAC. These actions led Mandela and others within the leadership of the ANC to reconsider the policy of non-violence that the ANC had followed since its inception in 1912. After years of **'knocking in vain and modestly at a closed and barred door'** — in the words of Chief Luthuli, President of the ANC during the 1960s — the decision was taken to form an armed wing — Umkhonto we Sizwe, Spear of the Nation.

Mandela, now operating underground, surfaced in 1962 to visit heads of state in Africa and came to Europe to gain support for the liberation cause. Later that year he was arrested and sentenced to five years imprisonment for leaving the country without a passport and organising illegal strikes. Whilst in prison he was brought to trial as Accused No. 1 in the Rivonia Trial with other ANC leaders, and found guilty of planning acts of sabotage and making preparations for guerilla warfare against the apartheid state. He was sentenced to life imprisonment on 12 June 1964.

THE RIVONIA TRIALISTS

Initially ten were charged. One was discharged for lack of evidence, and one was acquitted. All the rest were sentenced to life imprisonment, which in South Africa is intended to be for the duration of natural life. Of those eight, two (Govan Mbeki and Denis Goldberg) have been released. The remainder are still in prison. Besides Mandela, they are:

Walter Sisulu, Raymond Mhlaba, Ahmed Kathrada, Elias Motsoledi, and Andrew Mlangeni.

NELSON MANDELA

Freedom March

FREE NELSON MANDELA

The Nelson Mandela Freedom Marchers will carry the message of the fight against apartheid – a message summed up in four clear themes:

**Free Nelson Mandela!
Free Namibia!
Free South Africa!
Sanctions Now!**

Despite 26 years in prison, Nelson Mandela's stature as a symbol of resistance and as a leader of the people of South Africa has continued to grow. *It is now internationally recognised that there can be no meaningful solution in South Africa without the unconditional release of Nelson Mandela and all political prisoners.*

'Mr Mandela, according to all the evidence, is a unifying, commanding and popular leader. Recent opinion polls, as well as our personal observations, revealed that blacks, Indians and coloureds look overwhelmingly to Nelson Mandela as the leader of a non-racial South Africa. To disregard Nelson Mandela, by continuing his imprisonment, would be to discard an essential and heroic figure in any political settlement in South Africa. His freedom is a key component in any hope of a peaceful resolution of a conflict which otherwise will prove all-consuming.'

From the Report of the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group, 'Mission to South Africa', June 1986.

FREE NAMIBIA

It is 21 years since the United Nations called upon the South African regime to withdraw from Namibia and 10 years since the UN adopted resolution 435, which calls for a ceasefire and UN-supervised elections. Despite years of negotiations the South African regime has refused to act to implement this resolution, and has extended its military occupation with some 100,000 of its troops in Namibia.

In 1960 the Namibian liberation movement, SWAPO of Namibia, was formed to lead the struggle for independence from the apartheid regime. In 1966, SWAPO, recognising that political and diplomatic pressures had proved insufficient to secure the country's independence, resolved to launch an armed guerilla struggle. South Africa's response to growing resistance to apartheid rule has been to intensify repression in Namibia, imposing a harsh array of security measures.

In 1988 the apartheid regime continues to illegally occupy Namibia, using the country as a military launch pad for the invasion of Angola, as part of its strategy of aggression against the Front Line States, destabilising the whole region. In November the Anti-Apartheid Movement will join with other organisations in mounting a national Lobby of Parliament to secure British action towards Namibia's independence.

SANCTIONS NOW!

The case for an effective international policy of sanctions derives from the nature of the apartheid regime itself. The oppressed people of South Africa were the first to recognise that the isolation of the apartheid regime would make a fundamental contribution to their struggle for freedom.

In 1959 Chief Albert Luthuli, Africa's first Nobel Peace Prize winner and President of the ANC during the 1950s, launched the appeal for an international boycott of South African goods. Since then many states have imposed effective sanctions. But the few states which have not are, tragically, precisely those which, if they were to adopt sanctions, would have the most impact. Unfortunately, Britain is at the forefront of this small group of nations that has effectively blocked the unified imposition of sanctions, within the Commonwealth, the UN Security Council, and the EEC. The reversal of this policy, which gives tacit approval to the apartheid regime, and the imposition of sanctions, would be a major blow to apartheid, and demonstrate support for the struggle for freedom in South Africa.

'Every effort to isolate South Africa adds strength to our struggle.'
Nelson Mandela, message from prison, c. 1980

HOW CAN YOU HELP FREE NELSON MANDELA?

- Join the Nelson Mandela Freedom March as it passes through your area and come to the Nelson Mandela Freedom Rally in Hyde Park at 3.30pm on Sunday 17 July.
 - Wear the Free Nelson Mandela badge with pride on 18 July – Mandela's 70th birthday.
 - Contact your local Anti-Apartheid Group, and see what you can do to campaign for Nelson Mandela's unconditional release.
 - Raise sponsorship for the Marchers. Half the money raised by this march will go to children's projects in Southern Africa, and half to the Anti-Apartheid Movement.
 - Order and display the new exhibition about Mandela, price £10 from the International Defence & Aid Fund for Southern Africa, 64, Essex Road, London N1 8LR.
 - Urge your Local Authority / Trade Union / Educational Institute / church / community organisation to honour Mandela.
 - Make a donation to the costs of this campaign.
- I/We would like to contact our local group.
- I/We would like to order sponsorship forms.
- I/We would like to order Free Nelson Mandela Badges.
- I/We would like to order publicity material.
- I/We would like to make a donation to the campaign.
- I/We would like to join the Anti-Apartheid Movement, Individuals – £10, Unwaged – £4.50, Students – £6, Regional organisations affiliation – £30, Local organisation affiliation rates – £20.
- I/We enclose a cheque for £____ (Membership) and £____ (Donation)

Name _____

Address _____