

Democratic South Africa (CODESA) was being anticipated by the Lesotho Government and the thinking was to apply to participate at it with the object of putting Lesotho's case across. When the faction which had developed interest in the matter was deposed, the subject was apparently laid to rest.

The question of what appropriate authority there had to be in South Africa to engage over the lost territory was not perceived as an important one in BCP ranks. In general the party's attitude was that 'the land question' should be resolved with whoever was in power in South Africa. Citing the example of the recent unification of Germany, Mr. Steven Motlamelle, at the time a member of the party's Executive Committee argued that:

The (second) point is that it is common practice that when a territory has been seized in war, it is restored to its rightful owners when the war is over. It is the Free State alone which was not restored to Lesotho because the British were implicated in its conquest and were biased against Basotho recovering their territory.³

The BCP linked the prospect of successfully campaigning for the recovery of the Free State with its own attainment of state power in Lesotho. However in what seemed to indicate either a new thinking in the party or differences of opinion in its leadership, its Deputy President Mr. Qhobela Molapo, and Foreign Minister since the 1993 Elections has cast doubt on the usefulness of such a campaign.⁴ But the BCP Government has continued to explore the possibilities of asserting the claim as indicated by, among other, recent consultations with international law experts and historians at the National University of Lesotho on the issue.

Integration

Integration as another vision of Lesotho's future historically can be traced to Pan African unity sentiments also associated with the BCP. Although accorded a lower profile this theme co-existed uneasily with the claim of the Free State in the party's in the 1960s. In an interview with the BBC the party leader Mr. N. Mokhehle indicated in 1990 that he would favour

3 See Leselinyana La Lesotho No. 21, 18 October, 1991 (Translation is mine).

4 Moeletsi oa Basotho 16 January, 1994