

Groutville Mission,
P.O. Groutville.
Natal.
5th November, 1959.

Prof. Z.K. Mathews,
Fort Hare University College,
P.O. Fort Hare.
Alice.
Cape Province.

Dear Son of Africa,

I learnt with the deepest concern but with profound admiration your decision to refuse appointment at what you rightly described as "a New Fort Hare", an apartheid Fort Hare of the National Party Government.

This "New Fort Hare" will stand for values you have stood against all your life. None the less it was a most difficult choice to make; all your true friends applaud you for the decision you made. It was a right choice most becoming a true and loyal Son of Africa.

We have always respected you as a leader of the people possessed of a high sense of values. Your choice has more than confirmed this high respect and admiration of you. You have set a good but extremely high example for the African people generally and the Congress leadership in particular.

The magnitude and severity of the implications of the sacrifice to you and your family are a measure of your stature and your earnest for the Liberation of Mother Africa. Take comfort and joy in the fact that your right thinking contemporaries applaud your decision and posterity will confirm with even greater admiration and respect this verdict.

I assure you of the moral support of myself and the Congress leadership in general and the admiration of the rank and file and the general public.

Please convey these sentiments to your wife and family. I know from experience that without her concurrence and support you would have found it even more difficult to make this correct decision.

Yours for Africa,

A. N. C.

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President - General A.N.C.

Answered 17/11/59