



PRESS RELEASE

NO EMBARGO

28 JUNE 2021

AL JAMA-AH is pleased that the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) and Hawks are bolstering efforts to bring to justice perpetrators of apartheid-era crimes

The Al Jama-ah party welcomes the announcement by the NPA that in cooperation with the Hawks, the two bodies will be bolstering all resources to deal with perpetrators of apartheid-era crimes committed during the 1960s.

In a joint statement over the weekend, the NPA and Hawks stated that an investigation unit is being set up to prosecute those responsible for these crimes. In September last year, the party's leader and Member of Parliament, Hon. Ganief Hendricks submitted a written question to the Justice and Correctional Services Minister to give reasons why perpetrators of apartheid-era killings of Imam Abdullah Haron, Mr Steve Biko, Mr Suliman Babla Saloojee and others, have not been prosecuted. Hendricks further asked the Minister to answer if the prosecutions were due to a lack of human resources, funding or a failed approach.

Al Jama-ah further slammed the governing party for delaying the re-opening of inquest into the killing of Imam Haron as well as the "murder" of Chief Albert Luthuli. The Luthuli file was opened at AL JAMA-AH's Parliamentary Constituency office in Stanger but no progress had been made since then. The Luthuli family have submitted affidavits stating that the Chief could not have brought his death unto himself.

It is a shame that families of the victims killed during apartheid, have died without finding closure of the whereabouts of their loved ones and for denying them justice by delaying the prosecution of the murderers. Political parties must do more to bring justice to the victims' families within their Constituencies. Each high court must provide space on their rolls to hear matters.

We trust the efforts by the NPA and Hawks will bring about prosecutions so the remaining families of the victims can find closure and peace.

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