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ANNOTATED PHOTOCOPIES OF PRIMARY SOURCES

Bhengu, NBH

Assemblies of God – Back to God Mothers’ Convention. (1983/1984) Reports/Accounts

The report starts with a message by the then First Lady of the Republic of Bophuthatswana Mrs. LM Mangope, Patron in Chief. It is followed by a profile of the organization – history, mothers’ activities and lists members of Regional Committees.

Assemblies of God – Women’s Organisation (1978.11.01)

He sets out the duties of organizers and how they ought to conduct themselves and banking of money.

A storm in a Tea Cup – Are whites planning for an Exodus in the Assemblies of God to start a New Movement (s.a.)

He outlines how he met WF Mullan, James E Mullan and HC Phillips in Nelspruit. He is worried that whites were planning to pull out of the Assemblies of God.

Back to God Crusade (1967.11.01)

This circular deals with the organization of Back to God Crusade campaigns. Eight regions are set out with their crusade leaders including the modus operandi.

Bhengu’s response to Tutu attack in the *Daily Dispatch* (1980.05.07)

Bhengu was asked by John Bond who was at the time the General Chairman of the Assemblies of God to respond to Tutu’s attacks. In this document he outlines his philosophy of ministry toward all people including Homelands leaders, and leaders of Liberation Movements.

Centralization of Assemblies Tithes (s.a.)

He praises those Assemblies who did well. Because centralization had become a burden on the offices he recommends that Assemblies keep tithes until further notice.

Constitution of the Back to God Crusade (s.a.)

Sets out objects prerogatives and general functioning of the organization.

Farewell Message to the Church (s.a.)

He warns against those who seek fame and do not live as he did. He also urges his followers to work for the unity of the Church and help build the Nation.

Letter to Dan Lephoko (1974.12.11)

He responds to a letter I had written to him in September 1974 regarding his request that I edit the Back to God magazine.

Letter to Scheepers (1982.05.11)

Scheepers was responsible for raising funds for the Back to God Crusade in the Eastern Cape. The undated circular about A Storm in a Tea Cup refers to whites that were planning to leave the Assemblies. Scheepers was one such person. Bhengu is appreciative of the work done by Scheepers and reassures him of his support.

Nairobi (1976.12.9-19)

In the sermon Bhengu portrays Jesus as the only Saviour.

Bhengu's Last Message before he died. He preached in 1985 at Thaba Nchu.

Sermon Bhengu preached at PACLA (Pan African Christian Leadership Assembly)

The National Church Thesis at Assemblies of God Conference, Witbank (1955.10.10)

He sets out his vision based on Mat 28.19. He sketches the historical background of Christianity in Africa and the role whites should play in helping Africans reach Africans. He emphasises the fact that in Africa only Africans can lead Africans.

To all Assemblies' Pastors and District Councils (s.a.)

Here, he is dealing with the role of the Pastor, and how to solve conflict in the Assemblies.

Bond, J

Inscription to Dan Lephoko [2003.09] in a complimentary copy of his book *For the Record – Reflections on the Assemblies of God*.

Bosch, DJ

Salvation: A Missiological Perspective (s.a.)

He traces the missionary movement and the different interpretations on the matter including: The Greek Patristic mission, Salvation in the Western Church, Salvation in the Modern Era. He concludes by saying “The integral character of salvation demands that – the scope of the church’s ministry be more comprehensive than has traditionally been the case”.

Daily Dispatch, East London

Daily newspaper Reports on different activities at different times between 1964, 1976-1985. It reported mainly about the work in East London: his dealings with political leaders and vision for Africa,

Revival in Africa

It looks at revivals in Zaire, Rwanda, Uganda and “... Africa must get back to God out of which was born” Back to God Crusade. It also refers on how Bhengu had “declared war on sin, and crime”. and ancestry worship

<http://hometown.aol.com/thewaycm/revival/africa.html>

Scheepers, N- 20 May 1982

A circular letter to Eastern Cape Assemblies of God.

Scheepers sets out his involvement with the Back to God Crusade for which he raised funds. He also addresses the breakaway by the Assemblies of God Fellowship and Bhengu’s efforts to try and heal the rift between the Assemblies of God and Assemblies of God fellowship

UPTON, GR

The Austin Chauwner Story (*Action Magazine* October 1972)

Upton traces Chauwner's background and his missionary work in Zululand and

Mozambique. Chauwner was one of the early founders of the Assemblies of God. I also worked with him and travelled with him and Alfred Gumede to Zimbabwe then Rhodesia and Mozambique on a Bible teaching tour to the churches in 1960.

PERSONAL INTERVIEWS RECORDED ON CASSETTE TAPES

The researcher conducted interviews with the following people and recorded their responses on audio cassette tapes. In addition to personal interviews conducted by the researcher, there were also tapes that were made available to me by other people.

Bhengu, D and Vilakazi W (2005.01.03)

Bhengu and Vilakazi are Bhengu's daughter with Mylet, they provided family photographs and information about life in the home.

Bhengu, S (2005.01.04)

Professor Bhengu is Jaconia Bhengu's elder brother's son. He was the first Minister of Education in Mandela's Cabinet. Bhengu spent many years in exile in Switzerland before returning home after the unbanning of the ANC. He served as South Africa's Ambassador to Germany.

Bond, J (2006.08.04)

Bond worked closely with Bhengu for more than thirty years as General Chairman of the Assemblies of God. He also provided me with files containing valuable documents between him, Bhengu and others

Creamer, J (2003.10.19)

Creamer met Bhengu in 1943 whilst he was preaching for the Church of the Nazarene in Swaziland. She and her two brothers and their wives were converted during an informal gospel presentation in their home by Bhengu.

Crumpton, D (2006.12.14)

Crumpton knew Bhengu very well. Crumpton is a world renowned Christian leader and lives in East London. He is the man I helped organise both the 1977 and 1980 Renewal conferences in South Africa

Donda J (2003.10.10)

Donda is a long serving former member of the General Executive of the Assemblies of God.

He was former Chairman of Back to God Crusade as well as of the Teaching Team. He recorded on disc tapes Bhengu's Training of the Teaching Team in East London in 1977.

Gamedze, A (2003.10.18)

Gamedze had been associated with Bhengu from the late 1940s in Swaziland. He gives an ecumenical and perspective on Bhengu's work among the Churches in Swaziland and his special relationship with the late King Sobhuza II.

Gcwabe, TA (2005.09.18)

Gcwabe is senior pastor and former member of the General Executive of the Assemblies of God. He is also a member of the Teaching Team.

Golimpi, Mfene and Xengwana (2006.12.17)

They are some of Bhengu's first converts in East London in 1950

Gumede, DD (2007.03.02, 2009.01.07)

Dorothy Gumede turns 100 years old, is the widow of Alfred Gumede one of Bhengu's early champions. He formed the Emmanuel Missions and the Assemblies of God with Bhengu and Buthelezi.

Hynd, S (2003.10.18)

Dr Hynd is a retired Medical Practitioner in Swaziland. He is a member of the Church of the Nazarene and met Bhengu in the early 1940s whilst Bhengu was preaching for the Church of the Nazarene in Swaziland. His father founded the church of Nazarene in Swaziland and also built a Hospital for the Manzini Swaziland

La Foy, C (2003.09.22, 2009.01.08)

La Foy is former General Secretary of the Assemblies of God. For more than 30 years he served with Bhengu on the General Executive of the Assemblies of God. He tells how Bhengu encouraged Coloureds and Indians to form themselves into a Group. In the meeting of the General Executive, Bhengu announced "Coloureds and Indians are now Assemblies of God Association" and so it was. He also relates how Bhengu was keen for the Assemblies of God to join SACC.

Mdlalose, F (2003.10.12)

Mdlalose is one of the very first girls organisers trained by Bhengu. Mdlalose gave valuable insight to girls work.

Mkhize (2005.01.03)

Buthelezi's first convet in Hillcrest, Kwa-Zulu Natal and was first to be trained by Mylet on how to manage household.

Mofokeng, B (2005.01.16)

Mofokeng is a senior pastor in Bhengu's work. He is also a member of the original Teaching Team twenty four members appointed and trained by Bhengu in 1977.

Mofokeng, D (2005.01.16)

D Mofokeng is wife of B Mofokeng. She is one of the second crop of Supervisors appointed by Bhengu. She also worked with Mylet. Bhengu's first wife and his second wife Nokwethemba

Nkomonde, VM (2003.09.24 and 2005.01.03)

Nkomonde has been a member of the General Executive of the Assemblies of God for more than 25 years and also serves on the Teaching Team and Back to God Crusade Executive.

Ntshangase, M (2003.09.24 and 2005.01.04)

Ntshangase lived in Pietermaritzburg and had many dealings with Bhengu. He is also a minister of the Assemblies of God. He says "Bhengu exercises a situational leadership style". Ntshangase passed on 20.12.2005.

Phinda and Ramoroa (2009.02.16)

Both Ramoroa and Phinda former members of the Assemblies. Phinda left to form the Bophotatswana Assemblies of God.

Sambo, E (2010.04.200)

Sambo is a youth organiser in Gauteng. He also provides expert legal advise to other province as well.

Shabalala, FV (2003.10.12)

Shabalala is a senior pastor and former member of the General Executive. He served as Vice - Chairman of Back to God Crusade during Bhengu's time. Became the first Chairman of Back to God Crusade after the death of Bhengu until July 2003. Some people thought he was Bhengu's right-hand man.

Tembani (2004.12.28)

Converted in Bhengu's first crusade in Port Elizabeth in 1945

Tembe, M (2005.04.09)

Tembe is one of the second crop of Supervisors of the Mothers Ministry appointed by Bhengu. She also worked with Mylet. Bhengu's first wife and Nokwethemba

Vena, F (2003.09.24 and 2005.04.09)

Vena is one the surviving first converts of the Port Elizabeth campaign in 1945. Her story is about how Bhengu arrived and started the work in Port Elizabeth and Korsten. She is also an organizer in the Mothers Ministry.

Vilakazi, W and Bhengu, D (2003.07.02 and 2005.01.03)

Waxy Vilakazi and Dawn Bhengu are Bhengu's daughters by Mylet. They gave information regarding relationships between themselves and their parents, they also provided family photos including their parents wedding photo to the parents.

Wetmore, H (2009.01.09)

Wetmore is a retired missionary and lecture at Union Bible Institute in Petermaritzburg.

Zulu, S (2009.01.07)

Zulu is a retired Lutheran Pastor and lives in Entumeni Lutheran Mission Station. He took me and Shongwe, my companion on the tour of the mission station and to Bhengu's parent's original homestead. His elder sister was married to Shadrack Bhengu's younger brother.

TELEPHONIC INTERVIEWS

Bhengu, S (2004.01.06)

Professor Bhengu is Jaconiah's son, Bhengu's elder brother

Bhengu, N (2003.10.27)

Nokwethemba was Bhengu's second wife. She accompanied Bhengu to Selly Oak Colleges and provided information on his work as a visiting professor t and how Bhengu managed money at home and in the church.

Fihlela, N (2004.01.07)

He is Regina's son, Bhengu's sister.

Phinda, D (2003.10.31)

He is former pastor of the Assemblies of God, who now lives in Rustenburg and relates the story of Bhengu burying his first daughter on a farm near Rustenburg.

WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS

Bhengu, G (2003.10.02)

G Bhengu is Jaconiah's son and younger brother to Prof. S Bhengu. He provided the information on the family tree.

Vilakazi, W (2004.01.09 and 2006.01.11)

She gave the written submission on the information about their parents.

Wetmore, H (2003.10.28)

Wetmore was on the Union Bible Institution teaching when Bhengu often sent his workers to be trained at the institution.

Watt, C P

Watt is General Chairman of the Assemblies of God, provided information on Bhengu's spiritual ministry and legacy as he sees it.

BHENGU'S TAPES SERMONS

The messages by Bhengu were not dated

1. His farewell message to the church
2. Baptism with the Holy Spirit
3. Apostleship
4. Christian socialism
5. What is a Church and how to behave in the Church
6. What you must do when I die
7. Division in a Church

GLOSSARY

Assemblies of God Association

Predominantly Coloured and Indian Assemblies of God work

Assemblies of God Group

Predominantly White Assemblies of God work

Back to God/Assemblies of God Movement

Predominantly African Assemblies of God work

Back to God Teaching Team

A group of handpicked pastors trained and appointed by Bhengu to teach in the Back to God/Assemblies of the Movement Churches. Their responsibilities include: appointment of elders, deacons, ordination pastors at conferences, oversight of District Council offices, Back to God Crusade trucks and others. They are the custodians of Bhengu's teaching and protectors of his work.

District Council Committee

Means a committee of elected pastors, responsible for overseeing the affairs of the Back to God/Assemblies of God Movement in a particular district.

Education Board

Education Board is a structure that collects and disburse bursary funds to deserving youth for tertiary education.

Fathers

Means married men with or without children.

General Conference

General Conference is the highest decision making body of the Assemblies of God. Its membership consists of: accredited ministered, probational ministers, elders, delegates

from local Assemblies, organisers and pastors wives.

General District Council

Means a district conference, which is attended by accredited ministers, probational ministers, organisers, elders and delegates from local Back to God/Assemblies of God Movement.

General Executive

Members of the General Executive are responsible for the whole of Assemblies of God. It consists of pastors elected at a biannual General Conference, as stipulated in the Constitution of the Assemblies of God section (a) of the Rules of Procedure.

Mothers Movement (Ministry)

Means ladies movement of married women, with or without children.

Organisers

Means all those appointed to work among: mothers, fathers, youth, girls and Sunday School to help promote the work within their designated groups, motivating them both for spiritual enrichment and fundraising.

Supervisors

Women appointed to supervise both mothers' ministry and in some instances girls' work as well.

Youth

Means all the youth in the movement including young men and young women.

APPENDIXES

1. Bhengu Funeral Instructions
2. Constitution of the Assemblies of God – Groups of Associations and Things Commonly believed among Us
3. Letter from Bhengu to Dan Lephoko
4. Structure of Youth Committees
5. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit: The Initial Experience and Continuing Evidences of the Spirit-Filled Life
6. The History of the Emmanuel Assemblies
7. The National Church
8. Mothers' Organisation and Organization of the Women's Meeting
9. Mothers Regions
10. Evaluation of current status of Bhengu's lasting legacy
11. Farewell Message to the Church