

2,000 KIDS FAST for DEAD DETAINEE

Theo Mthembu — Johannesburg
PUPILS at the Lenasia and Roodepoort Indian High schools went on a full day's fast and held peaceful demonstrations outside a private home in Fordsburg and in front of the Fordsburg Police Station, on Friday.

The fasting and demonstrations were in sympathy with the family of 34-year-old Mr. Suliman "Babla" Saloojee, the 90-day detainee who fell to his death from the seventh floor of The Grays Building, headquarters of the Security Police, on Wednesday afternoon.

Two hundred children, many of them dressed in school uniform, gathered outside the Saloojee home at 84 Crown Road, Fordsburg, at 2 p.m. on Friday. They carried five different types of placards, one of which read: "Release 90-day detainees."

They stood silently in front of the house for 30 minutes. Some of the children wept openly.

Mrs. Rokaya Julie Saloojee, the dead man's widow, a 25-year-old factory worker, appeared on the stoep of her house and addressed the children. She said: "Do not cry for Babla. Pray for him that he rests in peace."

From the Saloojee home the children marched quietly to the Fordsburg



● Suliman Saloojee

Police Station. There they called out for the release of Mr. Billy Nanin, a Lenasia High School mathematics teacher, who was arrested three weeks ago and detained under the 90-day Act.

Uniformed and plain-clothes policemen mingled with the people who watched the demonstrations at both places. A few of the security police took notes.

After demonstrating for another 30 minutes outside the Fordsburg police station, the children dispersed quietly. There were no incidents.

Mr. Saloojee was buried

on Thursday night after Colonel Klindt, Security Chief for the Witwatersrand, at The Grays, had allowed the family to take the body.

About 3,000 people of all races from many parts of the Transvaal attended the funeral at Croesus Cemetery.

A service was also held at the Mosque in Vrede-dorp — after his body had lain in state at Babla's home.

Paying tribute, Mr. A. H. "Garry" Gada, said: "All the sportsmen of Johannesburg much regret his passing. His services as an administrator of the Wits Cricket Union and the Wits Football Association were of the highest order."

"Loved life"

Babla's death has shocked the country. Friends said: "We can't understand his taking his life. He loved life."

An attorney's clerk, he was a former executive member of the Transvaal Indian Congress and the Transvaal Indian Youth Congress.

He had been under 90-day detention for 65 days.

The last time his wife saw him was 10 days ago. He asked her to pray for him.

He told her he was feeling depressed and suffering from nerves — although he was physically fit. He was being treated by a doctor at the Rosebank police cells where he was being detained.

It was officially reported in Pretoria that he was due to be charged at the time of his death.

It is known that Saloojee was being interrogated when he leaped from the window.

Third man

Saloojee was the third detainee to die while under detention.

The first was Looksmart Solwandle who was found dead in a cell in the Pretoria prison in August last year. It is believed he hanged himself in his cell.

The second, Siphon Tyitya, of Red Location, Port Elizabeth, was found dead in his cell in the North End Jail in December, 1963. Police reported that he had hanged himself



● Mourners crowd around Mr. Saloojee's coffin as it is carried to the grave.

72-year-old among the jailed 74

POST Reporter — Port Elizabeth

A 72-YEAR-OLD MAN, James Mgedesi, is among the 74 African men and women from Port Elizabeth who were sentenced to a total of 242 years' imprisonment at the mass Communism trial in Graaff-Reinet this week.

Four policemen, armed with sten-guns stood in the court-room as sentence was passed.

All 74 — six of them are women — were found guilty of belonging to the ANC. Nineteen of these were also found guilty of taking part in the activities of the organisation.

Sixty of the 74 convicted people have a total of 201 children among them.

Fifty-year-old Mr. Josiah Mayoli who was sentenced to 4 years, is the father of five children under the age of 14. His wife, Josie, was arrested last month and is awaiting trial in the North End jail.

Among the convicted women are Nellie Mankahla and her 29-year-old daughter, Nondwe. Both are widows and the eight children they have between them are being looked after by a 17-year-old cousin who has a child of her own.

At least 41 former members of the ANC gave evidence against the accused during the trial which was held in camera. All 41 received exemption.

A further 360 men and women are awaiting trial in the North End jail under the Suppression of Communism Act. On Wednesday 161 of them will appear in court.

'Hypocrite,' says State

POST Reporter — Pretoria

PETER MOGANO who said that he helped manufacture explosives and took part in the bombing of a telephone exchange in Pretoria, although he was against violence, was described by the prosecution last week as a "mealie-mouthed hypocrite".

Mogano and eight others are appearing in the Supreme Court here on four counts of sabotage. It is also alleged that they planned 14 other acts of sabotage which were not carried out.

Four of the accused men have said that they were members of Umkhonto we Sizwe. The trial may

We tricked Border cops, trial told

POST Reporter

A DRAMATIC ruse to escape police detention at the Basutoland border post last year, was described this week by a witness when a former personal secretary to the ex-Chief Albert Lutuli, Selbourne Maponya, pleaded not guilty to three charges under the Suppression of Communism Act in the Maritzburg Regional Court.

Maponya was charged with: Becoming or continuing to be a member of the banned ANC; participating in ANC activities, or otherwise promoting its interests; leaving the Republic for Basutoland without a permit or passport.

Three witnesses — whose names could not be published — gave evidence.

Witness "A" said that to avoid detection at the Basutoland border post, Maponya and he had slept under a mattress, putting pillows on top to show an empty bed.

Border post police, opening the door of the van they were travelling in, saw the empty mattress and did nothing more.

Witness "A" said Ma-

office bearer of the ANC at its offices in Durban, and had risen to a position of committee importance very shortly after joining. Maponya was anti-Communist and objected to certain members of the ANC who had strong Left-Wing inclinations.

Witness "C" alleged that a number of ANC meetings were held in the office of an Indian attorney where Maponya was present.

He also said he was charged with the duty of organising the rural areas for the ANC, and that he had travelled to Maritzburg to try and establish a regional committee there in 1962. Maponya had accompanied him in an organising capacity, he added.

The case continues tomorrow.

Could not go

JOHANNESBURG — Mrs. Lillian Ngoyi had to stand at the gate of her Mzimhlophe home last Sunday and watch her brother-in-law's funeral procession leave a nearby church because she is a banned person and cannot attend gatherings. Her brother-in-law, Mr. Am-
 brose Ngoyi, died at the

