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The prayer meeting in Lenasia yesterday.

400 at meeting on detainee deaths

STAFF REPORTER

THE WORLD was no longer being governed by men but by ideologies, Dr. W. Bruckner de Villiers, the Transvaal Regional Director of the Progressive Party, told a crowd of about 400 people at a prayer meeting in Lenasia yesterday.

The meeting was held to commemorate the recent deaths of detainees.

Among those who spoke were Mrs. Helen Joseph, and Mr. Abu Bakkar Sarang, one of the organisers of the meeting.

Dr. De Villiers said: "Men are being ruled by the sickly ideologies they have created. The world is no longer being governed by men but by ideologies."

"We have entered the age when the faceless one comes to visit in the night and we have no protection against him. I have come here to ask for us to work for an end to this injustice. We are one people committed to the same destiny otherwise we perish."

"I am painting a dark picture but there is hope too."

He added: "I have been invited here as a White man with a Christian conscience. I have not been invited here just because I am White but because I am your brother."

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"I appeal to you to stand up and be counted as human beings, and not as animals who have been created by the machine of ideology."

Mr. Don Matterna, national public relations officer of the Coloured Labour Party, said: "It is a day of mourning all over the land because freedom has died and justice is gone. I have come here to mourn not the dead but to comfort the living."

"I am not here to mock or condemn the White man — he already stands condemned through his own mockery. Everyday someone is attacking the rulers, their servants, and our own people."

"But I have decided to throw away my sword and to throw my gun into the sea. I have a new weapon now — love. Hate must stop now and forever."