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Timol hearing now in January

Pretoria Bureau

THE DISPUTE over the availability of documents, statements and information to the legal representatives of the Timol family was postponed in the Supreme Court, Pretoria, today.

The matter will be heard on January 24 "if arrangements can be made for a court to sit on that day," Mr Justice Cillie, the judge president, said.

The hearing will be an appeal against the decision of the Regional Court magistrate, Mr J. J. L. de Villiers, who refused the Timol family access to the documents and information when the inquest into the death of Mr Ahmed Essop Timol (30) opened in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court on December 1.

Mr Timol, a Roodepoort schoolteacher, fell to his death from the tenth floor of John Vorster Square, Johannesburg, on October 26.

Today Mr G. Bizos (for the Timol family) told the court that despite efforts made by both parties, the papers to be placed before the court were not complete. "By agreement (between the parties) I move for the postponement of the application until January 24," he said.

PLEA TO COURT

In papers already before the court, Mr Timol's parents, Mr Yusuf and Mrs Hawa Timol, asked that the magistrate's ruling be set aside.

"The magistrate, Johannesburg," and the Attorney General of the Transvaal were cited as first and second respondents respectively.

Mr and Mrs Timol also asked that the respondents be ordered to make available for their inspection all the documents and information placed before the magistrate and now in the possession of the Attorney General.

Alternatively, they asked that the magistrate be ordered to state what documents and information had been placed before him at the inquest.

The Timols also alleged that, in so far as the magistrate may have had a discretion in making available the documents and information, he did not exercise this discretion

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