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## Timol case documents handed over

THE magistrate presiding over the inquest of the former detainee, Mr Ahmed Essop Timol, has handed documents pertaining to the inquest to the legal representatives of the Timol family.

The move followed a Supreme Court decision on January 28 to set aside the magistrate's ruling refusing the Timol family access to information, papers and documents prior to the inquest. Mr Timol, a Roodepoort schoolteacher, fell to his death from the 10th floor of John Vorster Square, a few days after his detention in October last year.

The inquest before Mr J. J. L. de Villiers, a regional court magistrate, was postponed on its opening day on December 1 after a deadlock on whether the documents before the magistrate should be made available to the Timol family before the hearing.

### RESUMES

The resumption of the inquest has now been set down for April 24.

Asked whether any of the documents had been shown to the legal representatives of the Timols, Mr de Villiers said today various documents had been handed over to them "a few days ago."

He could not say how many of the papers had been handed over.

Under the judgment granted by Mr Justice Chilje and Mr Justice Marais in January, Mr de Villiers still had a discretion to withhold certain information.

The Timols' legal representatives were not available for comment.

## LIVELY INQUIRY TIMOL DEATH BEGINS AFTER LONG DELAY

RAND DAILY MAIL, MONDAY, APRIL 24, 1972

### STAFF REPORTER

THE INQUEST into the death of Mr. Ahmed Essop Timol begins today—after a delay of almost five months.

The 30-year-old Roodepoort teacher fell to his death from the 10th floor of John Vorster Square, Johannesburg, last October while in Security Police custody.

The inquest was initially set down for December 1 last year, but at the start of proceedings, Mr. I. A. Maiseis, QC, for the Timol family, applied for access to documents in the case.

The magistrate, Mr. J. J. L. de Villiers, refused the application.

### RULING

The inquest was adjourned to obtain a Supreme Court decision on whether the Timol family should have access to the documents concerning their son's death.

On January 28 the Supreme Court set aside the magistrate's decision to refuse access, but ruled the magistrate was entitled to use his discretion "in the light of his judgment" as to the extent of access.

The Assistant Senior Prosecutor, Mr. P. A. J. Kotze, will lead evidence for the State. The hearing is expected to last a week.