
AFFIDAVIT OF DR KALAPPEN VEDACHALLAM MOODLEY

I, the undersigned

KALAPPEN VEDACHALLAM MOODLEY

Do hereby make oath and state that:

- 1 I am an adult male with identity number 4705225102086, I am a retired medical Doctor and residing in Cape Town.
- 2 Unless the context indicates otherwise, the facts contained in this affidavit are within my personal knowledge and are, to the best of my belief, both true and correct.

PURPOSE OF THIS AFFIDAVIT

- 3 The purpose of this affidavit is to set out important facts and events that I believe were deliberately withheld from the first inquest into the death of Hoosen Mia Haffejee, (hereinafter referred to as "Haffejee"). It is my belief that this conduct by the erstwhile South African Police (hereinafter referred to as the "SAP") was aimed at concealing various serious crimes and human rights violations committed against Haffejee during the period of August 1977.
- 4 I wish for these facts to be presented at the re-opening of the inquest for the purpose of establishing the truth as to what happened to the late Haffejee.



MY BACKGROUND.

5. I was born in Pietermaritzburg and started my schooling at St. Pauls School, then Islamia School, and proceeded to Woodlands High School, where I completed my Matric in 1964

MY BRIEF BACKGROUND HOW I MET HAFJEJEE.

6. I met Haffejee for the first time at Pietermaritzburg in 1961 at primary school level. Later on he attended political study group classes. Haffejee was about 4 years younger than me. Study group classes took place at one of the community halls by arrangement with one of the caretakers. When I finished my Matric I was still friends with Haffejee but at that time he was still at High school probably three years behind me.

7. My political interest started from the study groups, coming from a low socio-economic background, the discrimination against black people and all the facets of Apartheid policies. My father, like all Black workers, was not earning the same salary as his white colleagues. All of the above points cemented my interest in the liberation struggle.

HAFJEJEE'S POLITICAL INVOLVEMENT.

8. Haffejee had been attending meetings of the Youth Group, led by Hanef Bhamjee (Bhamjee). I met Bhamjee in Primary School when we were both in Standard Four. We became close friends as we were the top students in class, and when we got to know each other better, we started to develop the same political interest and ideas. These meetings would be held at the HYMA (HINDU YOUNG MENS ASSOCIATION) library in Pietermaritzburg. Haffejee was probably one of the youngest amongst those attending. Although the group operated as NIYC (NATAL INDIAN YOUTH CONGRESS), it was understood that we were ANC/SACP (AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS AND SOUTH AFRICAN COMMUNIST PARTY) cadres.



MUMBAI.

9. In June 1965 I travelled third class on a ship, the S S Karanja, to INDIA, in order to study medicine In Mumbai(previously known as Bombay). Within a month of my arrival, I started a student activist Study group. This was against the advice of the ANC. It was the view of the ANC that we should study and return to South Africa as soon as possible. Haffejee arrived in Mumbai about three years later. He was recruited by me into the group, and participated in all the activities, including political study groups. This involved the study of political systems; theory of guerilla warfare, sabotage and practical application of underground work. We were, in all, about fifty students involved in political groups in different parts of India and the main focus was political education.

10. About three years later, Haffejee was allocated a place to study Dentistry in Nagpur after having completed two years of pre university study . There he participated in local student politics and in line with our position, made contacts with local political organizations including radical left wing groupings. In line with our training, we had agreed that we would not return to South Africa with any of the training material and that we would slowly get involved in the local political structures.

11. It was also agreed that if we were detained by the Security Branch we would hold out for at least 24 hours, Thereby allowing others members of the group to go underground and or leave the country. After 24 hours it would not be held against the detainee if he/she confessed to their involvement etc. This was stressed all the time in our training. Further it was agreed that suicide was not an option when one was arrested or detained. The likelihood of imprisonment was discussed. It didn't scare us and we were prepared for it.

MY VISIT TO HAFJEJEE'S FLAT ON 15 JULY 1977

12. I came back from India in June 1975 and Haffejee came back in 1976. I started working at King Edward VIII Hospital in Durban .I went to Haffejee's flat on the 15h July 1977, as I was due to leave for Mumbai. My spouse, who was in Mumbai, was due to write her final exams and I wanted to spend some time with her.



Whilst I was at his flat, Haffejee's phone rang. I heard his side of the conversation with the person who had called. He was argumentative, dismissive and most of the time, rude. When he finally slammed the receiver down, he explained that the caller was one Madhi Paliyandi (Paliyandi) whom I didn't know and have never met.

13. It appeared that she was very upset, especially since she had found out that he was courting another lady by the name of Shaida, whom I met her once but am not sure about the surname. She was a student at University of Durban Westville (UDW). My response to him was that I was not happy about his treatment of Paliyandi, and given our activist background, we needed to respect the rights of women. I advised him to try and make the break as amicable as possible. I also reminded him that we had decided that it was about time that we got involved in the local structures and that complications from a scorned ex-girlfriend were unnecessary. He undertook to work on that and we agreed that he would meet me on my return from Mumbai and update me on the situation.

MY MEETING WITH HAFJEJEE ON 31 JULY 1977

14. I returned from Mumbai, early on Sunday morning the 31 July 1977. Haffejee visited me at my parent's home in Pietermaritzburg at around 16H00. His report was brief, shocking and lasted less than half an hour. He reported that he had met with a Coloured nurse who worked at the hospital with him, (I cannot remember her name) who had informed him that she had overheard Paliyandi reporting him (Haffejee) to the Security Branch stating that he was involved in politics. Haffejee was not worried, nor was he scared and certainly not suicidal, but only looking for advice from me.

15. I was shocked that this whole issue had gone so badly, in such a short period of time. My response to him was that he had obviously been compromised and was mostly likely under surveillance by the Security Branch. My advice to him was that he should immediately leave the country. He had previously been to Zambia and Swaziland, to visit relatives, so it would have been possible to drive out of the country if he acted immediately.



16. It was agreed that he would leave and that he would inform me as soon as he was on his way out of the country. Since I had just returned from leave, I was placed on emergency call and intake between the 1st and second of August 1977. I could not leave the hospital but I telephoned Haffejee's flat a number of times on both days with no response. I, therefore, assumed that he had taken my advice and was on his way out of the country.

17. On 3 August 1977, I was in the operating theatre when I received a call from Dr Bookhan informing me that Haffejee had been found hanging in a cell at the Brighton Beach Police Station. I was shocked and devastated to hear the news, and I expected to be arrested as well. I spent the rest of the day in my room in the Doctors Quarters, contemplating whether I should go into hiding or leave the country. At approximately 1700H I concluded that it was unlikely that Haffejee had given up any information before he died. Had he done so, the Security Branch would certainly have arrested me. I decided to go to Pietermaritzburg to see the family and attend his funeral. I managed to see the body of Haffejee and noticed all the wounds (over 50) on his body, some looked like electrical burns and others where his skin appeared to have been removed by unknown instrument. His face and skull was also swollen and bruised.

DO YOU KNOW KEN OR HENRY SONI? DR BOOKUN? DR GANGAT?

18. I know Dr Bookhan from school in Pietermaritzburg and his family is well known. I met him again in India. He was there already one year before our arrival in India and he assisted us to settle in. Dr Bookhan was not involved in politics and he was not even interested. I did not knew Ken or Henry Soni. Also knew Dr Gangat for the first time in India and he was also not involved in politics.



THE EFFECT OF HAFFEJEE'S DEATH ON ME

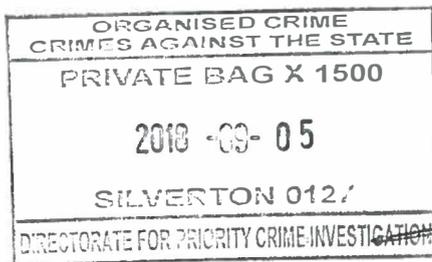
19. Affected me seriously because my family thought I was going to be arrested next and they became paranoid about it. It also caused other activists to stay away from the liberation struggle, directly as a result of his death.

That is all that I wish to state.

I know and understand the contents of this declaration.

I have no objection to taking the prescribed oath.

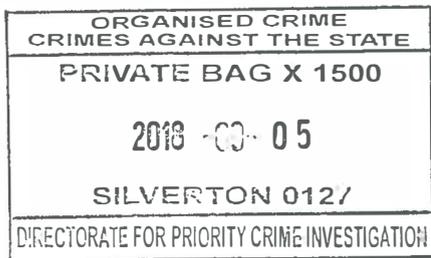
I consider the prescribed oath as binding on my conscience.



[Handwritten Signature]
 DEPONENT 5/09/2018

Thus signed and sworn to at Cape town on 2018 September 5th, The Deponent having knowledge that he knows and understands the contents of this affidavits, that it is both true and correct to the best of his knowledge and belief, that he has no objection to taking the prescribed oath and that the prescribed oath would be binding on his conscience.

[Handwritten Signature]
 COMMISSIONER OF OATHS



GODISAMANG FRANK KGAMANYANE
 WARRANT OFFICER
 (INVESTIGATOR)
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