DR. ABDURRAHMAN ON DEMOCRACY

Dr. A. Abdullah, M.P.C., who was a member of the Coloured Party, was recorded a member of the Coloured Party, was on the public welcome-seat and rested in the Public welcome-seat at the meeting at the Masonic Institute, Queen Street, under the auspices of the Young Muslim Debating Society. In introducing the speakers, the chairman, Mr. T. H. H. Halkin, said that the doctor needed an introduction, and described him as the father of non-Europeans. The first of the speakers was the chairman, who said that the doctor was a member of the Provincial Council and had occupied an important position in the Cape Coloured City Council. He acted as leader to the South African Indian delegation which went to India in 1934 as a leader of the non-Europeans in South Africa. He was second to none.

Dr. Abdullah, who chose as his subject "Democratic Institutions in South Africa", said that it was a most interesting as well as a most difficult subject. "Democracy," he said, speaking in his own right, "is an ideal which arises from the minds of the people. As to what is meant by democracy two people would give the same answer. Democracy can be described as something in one's mind. The highest aim of any human being was to be happy. Happiness was the aim of any human being. People cannot be happy if one man is not happy. For instance, the doctor regarded it as his aim to be happy. If he drank, the religious man went his time in prayer so that his soul and body be saved and he found happiness. Then there was the individual that found happiness in his own way to his own satisfaction.

The Aim of Democracy

The aim of democracy that every man be equal in this world should have equal right to pursue happiness, and provision should be made to seek happiness in such a manner as to disturb or impair others' or one's obstacles should be placed in his way. If a lover of music enjoyed himself by playing music in his own home there should be nothing to prevent him doing so, but if he went out in the street disturbing others with his music he should be prevented. The greatest gift that God had given to man was skill. It required skill to follow a trade or profession and it was the greatest sin to the world to prevent a man from exercising his skill by forbidding his trade or vocation.

The Last Word The Franchise

"Democracy being based upon the right to the vote the franchise," said the doctor, "this is something that you can use to put your ideas into practice. The vote gives us the right to demand to put your ideas into operation. A man, however, cannot follow all the ideas that pass through his mind. If he did, he would find himself in a hostile system. Democracy about that we were equal and this brings us to certain religions. Islam, which also teaches us that we are all equal. God has given us the power to reason which must be developed to its fullest extent. The Prophet of Islam had said that reason's lighted the path to heaven. If God made no distinction between man and man we had no right to do so and we are regarded as equal in this country. There is no such thing as a democratic institution. If we study the history of the world we find that there were no democratic institutions until a few hundred years ago, in a democratic institution a man is free, equal before God and man, and no restrictions are placed upon him. It was about the American declaration of rights that every man was free. If you admit this doctrine of everyone being equal you cannot treat a class of people differently. Though God had made all men equal it was also true that he had made man unequal. There were different races and different colours but this did not imply that we were not equal. There must be a purpose of God in creating the difference.

Custom and Tradition

While it is true that man is born here in this world it is obvious that there was such a thing as custom and tradition. From the birth of a child character is moulded by its parents, and custom and tradition mould his ideas for him. The tradition we have in South Africa is that the white man interwines certain rights immediately he comes into the world. Not because he has any more intelligence than any one of us, but because of his birth. Immediately he begins to treat a man in a privileged manner irrespective of his intelligence or character you are departing from the real democracy and the real democracy we have in South Africa. Man here is helped. The rewards of the 'father of the household' are not responsible. Because he belongs to a different race, and is in a different colour, he is not entitled to it. The Two Groups

We can divide the population of South Africa into two groups. The privileged class of the Europeans who are in a majority and the size of the majority of unprivileged classes known as the non-

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The MOSELMEN OF TO-DAY

[Image -0x445 to 586x1220]

looking round me I can't help being struck by the appalling
manner of playing the game. I cannot but feel a sense of
shame and regret at the sight. The scene is too
sordid and squalid to be described. The men are
wretchedly dressed, and their manners are worse
than criminal. The only consolation I can find is
that the game is not played with any great
success. The men are mostly poor and
dependent on charity. They are generally
employed in the docks and on the
quays, and their wages are
negligible. They are
mostly young men, and
their lives are
wretched.

by M. D. RAMAHINA, M.A.

The few who were to be directed one
would be surprised to know that all the time
their hands were on the ground they were
busy planning selfish devices.

nothing but long coats in their hands,
accompanying the hands with ever
increasing speed and making steps. With
the name of God, are found every where
secretly uniting among them,精品, 香水, 富有的, of the dissolute and an
ignorant girl, if they
come to these assemblies dressed in
their most attractive attire, with the
grace of Miss West in Louis XIV.
levels. They desire the attention of all
the assembled people, and to do so
they employ all the means at their
 disposal. They are met with
applause, and kingly and
knavish speeches, and the
result is a great deal of
good and a great deal of
harm to society.

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