

## Letter from the Boerevolk to UNPO



The following letter was sent by the BVR ([Boerevolk Verteenwoordigende Raad - Boerevolk Representative Council. Ed.] BRC) to UNPO [Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization. Ed.] on the 23 April 2011

Gentlemen

### **Afrikaners and other Peoples in South Africa**

The current information on your web site of the white people of South Africa is not correct. According to your web site we find the following:

#### **Population:**

“Afrikaners constitute nearly three million out of approximately 49 million inhabitants of the Republic of South Africa, plus as many as half a million in diaspora.”

This information is incorrect. White people in South Africa constitute nearly 3 million of the approximate 49 million people in South Africa.

Of this nearly 3 million white people in South Africa, more or less 60%-65% are Afrikaners and other white communities such as the Dutch, British, German, Portuguese, Jewish and Greek. The other 35%-40% of the white people in South Africa are people of the Boerevolk/nation, with their own identity, history and culture.

#### **Language:**

The Boervolk/nation speak Afrikaans. Afrikaans is a West Germanic language, spoken natively in South Africa and Namibia. It is a daughter language of Dutch, originating in its 17th century dialects, collectively referred to as Cape Dutch or Afrikaners. Although Afrikaans borrowed from languages such as Malay, Portuguese, French, German, the Bantu languages or the Khoisan languages, an estimated 90 to 95 percent of Afrikaans vocabulary is ultimately of Dutch origin. Therefore, differences with Dutch often lie in a more regular morphology, grammar, and spelling of Afrikaans. There is a large degree of mutual intelligibility between the two languages—especially in written form—although it is easier for Dutch-speakers to understand Afrikaans than the other way around.

Until round and about the 1930's, Netherlands were the spoken language of the Boervolk/nation, but was prohibited by law under the Afrikaner government of the Union of South Africa in the 1930's.

### **Religion:**

The Boervolk/nation is mainly descended from Dutch, German and French Huguenots, who migrated to South Africa during the 17th, 18th and early 19th centuries. The Boervolk/nation has revealed a distinct Calvinist culture and the majority of Boers today are still members of a Reformed Church. The "Nederduits Hervormde Kerk" was the national Church of the South African Republic ( ZAR 1852–1902). Also note the "Orange" in Orange Free State (1854–1902) was named after the Protestant House of Orange in the Netherlands.

The Calvinist influence remains in that some fundamental Calvinist doctrines such as unconditional predestination and divine providence remains present in much of Boer culture, who sees their role in society as abiding by the national laws and accepting calamity and hardship as part of their Christian duty.

Religion has played an important role for the Boervolk/nation throughout history. Although today, a large portion of the population of the Boervolk/nation do not attends church on a regular basis because of the liberal influence in the traditional Afrikaans churches.

### **Nationalism**

The Boervolk/nation is well-known for their strong nationalistic characteristics. Their nationalism was born of hundreds of years of fighting against imperialism and liberalism, a continuing struggle for independence, battling mainly British expansion into central South Africa, as well as the harsh African climate, a strong sense of nationhood. As with any other ethnic group that has come from troubled land to troubled land, many of them see it as their duty to educate future generations on their people's past. The Boervolk/nation do not believe in a liberal democratic political system.

### **OVERVIEW**

The "Trekboere", "Voortrekkers", "Uitgeweken or Emigranten Boeren" as they were originally known, were mainly of Dutch origin and included Calvinists, Flemish and Frisian Calvinists, as well as French Huguenot and German and British protestants who first arrived in the Cape of Good Hope during the period of its administration (1652 – 1795) by the Dutch East India

Company (Verenigde Oostindische Compagnie or VOC). Lesser migrations of Scandinavians, Portuguese, Greeks, Italians, Spanish, Polish, Scots, English and Irish immigrants also contributed to this coherent religion based ethnic mix, which today constitutes and reflect the ultra modern Boerevolk/nation of SA.

Those "Trekboere" who trekked into and occupied the Eastern Cape were semi-nomadic. A significant number in the Eastern Cape frontier later became "Grensboere" ("border farmers") who were the direct ancestors of the "Voortrekkers". The "Voortrekkers" were those Boers (mainly from the Eastern Cape) who left the Cape en masse in a series of large scale migrations later called the Great Trek beginning in 1835 as a result of British colonialism and constant border wars against Blacks. When used in a historical context, the term Boer may refer to a Burgher of the Boer Republics as well as those who were cultural Boers, though not necessary inhabitants of the Boer republics.

On 17 January 1852 Great Britain formally recognised the independence of the Boers living beyond the Vaal River by the signing of the Sand River Convention. The convention was signed by Andries Pretorius (for the Boers) and William Hogge and Mostyn Owen (for Great Britain) in a marquee on the banks of the Sand River.

The Orange River Convention (sometimes also called the Bloemfontein Convention) was a convention, whereby Great Britain formally recognised the independence of the Boers in the area between the Orange and Vaal rivers, which had previously been known as the Orange River Sovereignty. This resulted in the formation of the independent Boer Republic of the Orange Free State (OFS). The convention was signed on 23 February 1854 at the Green Lodge in Bloemfontein.

This resulted to the international recognition of the two Boer Republics in South Africa. Though the Boers accepted British rule without resistance in 1877, they fought two wars in the late 19th century [1881 and 1899-1902] to defend their internationally recognized independent countries, the republics of the Transvaal (the Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek, or ZAR) and the Orange Free State (OFS), against the threat of annexation by the British Crown, with the support of the Cape Dutch [Afrikaners]. This led the key figure in organizing the resistance, Paul Kruger, into conflict with the British.

During the Anglo-Boer war the British towards the end of 1900 started concentration camps in which Britain killed almost 27000 Boer women and children towards the end of the war in May 1902. The results of the concentration camps today still have far-reaching effects on the existence of the Boerevolk.

This holocaust once more enjoyed close scrutiny during the visit of the queen of England to South Africa [1947], when ten organisations promoting the independence of the Boer Republics, presented her with a message, demanding that England redress the wrongs committed against the Boerevolk.

After the second Anglo-Boer War, a Boer diaspora occurred. Starting in 1903, the largest group emigrate to the Patagonia region of Argentina. Another group emigrated to British-ruled Kenya, from where most returned to South Africa during the 1930s, while a third group under the leadership of General Ben Viljoen emigrated to Mexico and to New Mexico and Texas in

south-western USA.

The Boer people became a minority in their own land since 1902, and remain a minority in the Union of South Africa in 1910. The Maritz Rebellion or the Boer Revolt or the Third Boer War, occurred in South Africa in 1914 at the start of World War I, in which men who supported the recreation of the old Boer republics rose up against the government of the Union of South Africa, because they did not want to side with the British against Germany so soon after they had had a long bloody war with the British. Many Boers had German ancestry and many members of the government were themselves former Boer military leaders who had fought with the Maritz rebels against the British in the Second Boer War, which had ended only twelve years earlier. The rebellion suppressed by Louis Botha and Jan Smuts, and the ringleaders of the Rebellion received heavy fines as sentences in terms of imprisonment.

A renowned Boer, Jopie Fourie, was executed for treason as he was in 1914 an officer in the Union Defence Force and was convicted as rebel for his refusal to take up arms with the British.

### **POLITICAL SITUATION**

In 1910, the British combined the Cape colony, the two newly acquired Boer republics, and the colony of Natal into the Union of South Africa. Since 1910 the Boervolk/nation were a minority in South Africa and the Afrikaner dominated the South African political scene.

In 1992 the majority of Afrikaners voted "YES" in a white referendum, while the majority of the Boer Nation voted "NO". Since 1992 the majority of the Boervolk/nation do not participate in the South African Liberal Democracy.

Since 1994 the Boervolk/nation are in a process to separate themselves from the Afrikaner and their liberal democratic political system. The main objective of the Boervolk/nation are to work to a situation of total independence, as it was before they lost the last war against the British.

### **CURRENT ISSUES**

White people in South Africa are experiencing an increasing violation of their cultural, economic and political rights. The terrorist war from the 70's and 80's has intensified over the last 15 years and men and women of the Boervolk/nation are almost attacked, raped and murdered on a daily basis by blacks. Amongst the victims are farmers and elderly people. This situation is classified as genocide and is reaching a breakpoint.

The liberal democratic political system is busy to fail, due to corruption, fraud and total incompetency of government workers. Black empowerment has become reversed discrimination of black on white.

For the above mentioned facts UNPO must realise that your member, The [Freedom Front Plus](#), represent some of the Afrikaner in South Africa, who participate in the liberal democratic political system, but definitively not the Boervolk/nation of South Africa.

We are of the opinion that UNPO, as an international organisation, should and urge UNPO to:

- Reconsider their inciting viewpoint on the white people in South Africa as minorities.
- Rectify the information on their website.

- Acknowledge the two Boervolk/nation-Republics [the ZAR and Orange Free State] were internationally recognise countries before the Anglo-Boer war [1899-1902]
- Acknowledge that the Afrikaner and the Boervolk/nation, are two separate nations, both currently being minorities in South Africa under the liberal democratic political system in the New South Africa.

Yours faithfully

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*President of the BVR*