

# U F A H A M U

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AFRICAN STUDIES CENTER  
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## EDITORIAL NOTES

Our present issue is focused on Southern Africa. The texts which we present in this issue come from two sources. The first set of texts are transcriptions of addresses made by various participants to the Third Annual Conference of the African Activist Association on the theme "From Apartheid and Imperialism To The Total Liberation of Southern Africa." For three days (May 13-15, 1981) the participants dealt with questions ranging from the conditions of popular armed struggles in Namibia and South Africa to the roles of women in the struggle.

The participants also dealt with the current state of liberation struggles throughout the Third World, with particular emphasis on the struggles in Central America and the Middle East. This approach was crucial because it allowed the participants to apprehend the struggle for liberation in its international context.

Along with the Conference papers, we present articles on the struggle that is taking place in Southern Africa from our regular contributors.

As usual, *Ufahamu* presents poems and art works. We are particularly fortunate to display a few works by the South African artist DAN RAKGOATHE. Our readers will note--this is an essential quality of DAN's works--the constant presence of the sun/moon, female/male dualities as active principles of life. The works by this talented African artist are remarkable and need no further comment.

We must thank again all the participants to the Conference who took time to share with us some of their experiences and observations of liberation struggles.

As an outgoing editor-in-chief, I would like to thank the entire *Ufahamu* team for the effort that each person put into strengthening our journal and particularly for bringing out this issue on Southern Africa.

In this regard, I would like to mention the fact that Gloria Waite, in addition to doing our typing and subscriptions, has been a major force not only in the production of our previous issues but also in the production of this Southern Africa issue. She has always offered her effort and her editorial and organizational skills to our journal. *Ufahamu* has greatly benefited from her experience. In the names of all the members of our editorial board, I would like to thank Gloria Waite for her outstanding contribution.

We would like to thank the African Studies Center for its continued support of *Ufahamu*, and we thank the UCLA Graduate Students Association (GSA) for its contribution to this Southern Africa issue.

A Luta Continua!

\* \* \*

*Notes on Censorship*

The heavily pro-government, pro-Western magazine, the Kenya-based *Weekly Review* attacked *Ufahamu* and connected it with sedition in Kenya. The learned editor of *The Weekly Review* mistook our journal for a UCLA Kenyan students publication. (See *The Weekly Review*, 3 July 1981.) He refused to publish *Ufahamu's* rebuttal.

\* \* \*

In an interview with the Voice of America radio station, Mongo Béti apparently voiced criticism against U.S. Immigration Department and the unpleasant ways in which the Department treated him during his visit to the U.S.A. in 1981. VOA (Voice of America), which is the U.S. government's propaganda radio station, simply ignored his criticism and only broadcasted Mongo Béti's statements which were "not unfavourable to the U.S.A." (See *West Africa* magazine, 10 May 1982.)

Mongo Béti was a guest of the ALA (African Literature Association). At this year's conference, held at Howard University, Washington, D.C., the ALA passed the following resolution:

*The African Literature Association as an organisation ceases all co-operation with the VOA and discourages its members from granting the VOA interviews.*

*Ufahamu* stands in support of the ALA for taking such a decision and we hope that this resolution will be applied in practice.