

MESSAGE OF AAPSO TO AMILCAR CABRAL
Symposium. PRAIA 17-20th January

Comrade Prime Minister,
Your Excellencies,
Distinguished Participants,

The ~~high~~ Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organisation is greatly honoured to participate in this great effort, which is a fitting tribute to one of Africa's ~~great~~ most outstanding statesmen and revolutionaries. We therefore wish ~~to~~ to express our deepest gratitude to the ~~the~~ People of Cape Verde who have made this possible. We also avail ourselves the opportunity to conveying to them the militant greetings of the peoples of Africa and Asia represented in this Conference.

Distinguished Participants, we in AAPSO greatly welcomed this ^{Symposium} ~~dedicated~~ dedicated to the memory of Cabral. For us its significance lies not only in the fact that it coincides with the 10th Anniversary of his ~~assassination~~ ^{or} but that helps to place on record the theory and revolutionary practice of Amílcar Cabral. It is our considered view that an in-depth appraisal of Cabral will enable us ~~to~~ ^{to use his legacy to} resolve some of the complex contemporary problems ^{to} which he so ~~greatly~~ diligently addressed himself. This is particularly important today when those forces ~~which~~ against

which he devoted his life-work are ~~deep~~ in the process of re-grouping seeking to entrench themselves and perpetuate relations of inequality and exploitation among the people and among nations. Indeed the struggle against colonialism, ^{and oppression} which he helped to pioneer is ~~still~~ being fought with earnest in remaining pockets of colonialism notably in Southern Africa, Middle East

Amílcar Cabral, as we have heard from the very many contributions by eminent personalities for this symposium ~~is~~ appears to the world in manifold dimensions — poet, scientist, revolutionary. However ~~to~~ the people of Africa and ~~the~~ fighting against oppression and exploitation, and to AAPSO Cabral shall always be best remembered as a true patriot ^{and fighter} of Cape Verde, ~~the~~ ~~at~~ a leading African Revolutionary. Yet his undoubted love for his own people did not submerge his dedication to the cause of humanity elsewhere. Cabral was indeed a true champion of African Freedom and unity and the custodian of the lofty principles of non-alignment as expressed in the historic Bandung Conference. The AAPSO which is itself the progeny of ~~the~~ the Spirit of Bandung, takes pride at the fact that ~~among~~ ^{among others} its birth and growth is attributable to the tireless efforts of PAIGC and in particular the invaluable contribution of Cabral.

A distinguished delegates many scholars have different ~~stages~~ attempted to put Cabral in some ideological pigeon-hole

In spite of the heavy demands of the revolution in his own country, was an active participant in the peace and Solidarity Movement. Through his incisive analysis rooted in the reality of his own country he was able to characterise the potent force of ^{the} unity ~~of~~ of the struggles against colonial domination all over the world. Using the experiences of struggle in Cape Verde and Guinea he was able to grasp the essence of the struggle elsewhere, ~~to~~ making an invaluable contribution

to the theory and practice of revolution. For Cabral therefore, Solidarity with the ~~justified delegates, many~~ peoples fighting for self-determination was not an act of charity but was a conscious act dictated by the imperatives of our epoch. Cabral was therefore unambiguously anti-colonialist and anti-imperialist. These are sentiments which constitute the very basis of AAPSO and which have seen our movement grow from strength to strength in its 25 years of existence.

In paying tribute to the memory of Cabral, AAPSO cannot but pledge itself to carry on the struggle ~~to~~ for which Cabral lived and died. In this context AAPSO shall forever remain loyal to the spirit of Cabral.

Finally, allow me to wish this symposium very successful deliberations, and we also wish the PAECV and the people of Cape Verde greater successes in their struggle for the creation of a new society.

Thank you.