

## **CURRICULUM VITAE: EBRAHIM EBRAHIM**

Ebrahim Ebrahim was born on 1 July 1937 in Durban, South Africa. He holds a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Commerce degree from the University of South Africa.

Ebrahim joined the liberation movement as a youth activist in 1952 and participated in the Congress of the People campaign, which adopted the Freedom Charter in 1955. He was active in all the campaigns of the 1950s. After the banning of the African National Congress (ANC) in 1960, he joined the armed wing of the ANC, Umkhonto we Sizwe, in 1961, and was arrested and charged under the Sabotage Act with 18 others in the Pietermaritzburg sabotage trial. He was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment on Robben Island.

Ebrahim was released in 1979 after serving his 15-year imprisonment. He was banned and his movements restricted, and in 1980 he went into exile on instruction of the ANC. He operated from the frontline states bordering South Africa and was responsible for the political underground. In December 1986 he was kidnapped from Swaziland by the South African Security Forces, charged for high treason and sentenced to 20 years imprisonment on Robben Island. In 1991 he was released from prison when an appeal court ruled that Ebrahim's abduction from a foreign country was illegal and the South African courts therefore had had no jurisdiction to try him.

In 1991 Ebrahim was elected to the National Executive of the ANC. In 1994 he became a Member of Parliament and chairperson of the Parliamentary Foreign Affairs Committee. In 2002 he resigned from Parliament to become a political advisor.