

Evict non-whites - or we'll sell your properties, landlords told

# 200 families get group areas axe

**Daily News  
Reporter**

ABOUT 26 Indian and coloured families in a block of 34 flats in "white" central Durban have been ordered to leave their homes under a group areas clampdown.

The Department of Constitutional Development and Planning threatened the landlords that the properties would be sold.

Now MPs, lawyers and civic leaders will be asked to take up the issue with the Government.

The Central Durban Residents' Association held a meeting last night and was told that about 200 Indian and coloured families living in the Albert Park area, in St George's, St Andrew's and Russell Streets and Park Road complex now faced eviction as the Government clamped down on "grey areas".

## Supportive

Association president Mr Sayed Iqbal Mohamed said in one block of flats — Arusha Court in St George's Street — about 26 of the 34 tenant families were either Indian or coloured. All of them had been given notice to leave by the end of July.

"Indian and coloured families have rented these flats from individual owners who bought them under sectional title. The white landlords have been very supportive and have even waived the monthly rent so the people would not suffer great financial difficulty," said Mr Mohamed.

He said that at last night's meeting it was revealed that at least 200 Indian and coloured families living in the area, a white residential zone, would eventually be affected.

"We decided then to challenge the Government on the Group Areas Act and we are inviting Parliamentarians, top legal men and civic leaders to be part of this movement, which will take up the plight of people living in so-called 'grey areas'.

**Arusha  
Flats  
first  
target  
of big  
blitz  
against  
owners**



"Our first move will be to call a mass meeting as soon as possible to mobilise the people, and then bring in the politicians, legal men and other leaders," said Mr Mohamed.

Speaking about the tenants of Arusha Court, Mr Mohamed said landlords had received notices from the Department of Constitutional Development and Planning, warning them to get rid of their Indian or coloured tenants, otherwise their flats would be sold.

The notice gave landlords until the end of July to get their tenants out or lose their flats.

In turn the landlords had written to their tenants, expressing great regret and asking them to leave.

The notices from the department to the landlords said the department was satisfied that their properties had been acquired or held in contravention of the Group Areas Act.

If landlords failed to evict the tenants by the deadline given, the properties would be sold and the proceeds of the sale disposed of in terms of the Act.