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Benjamin Burombo

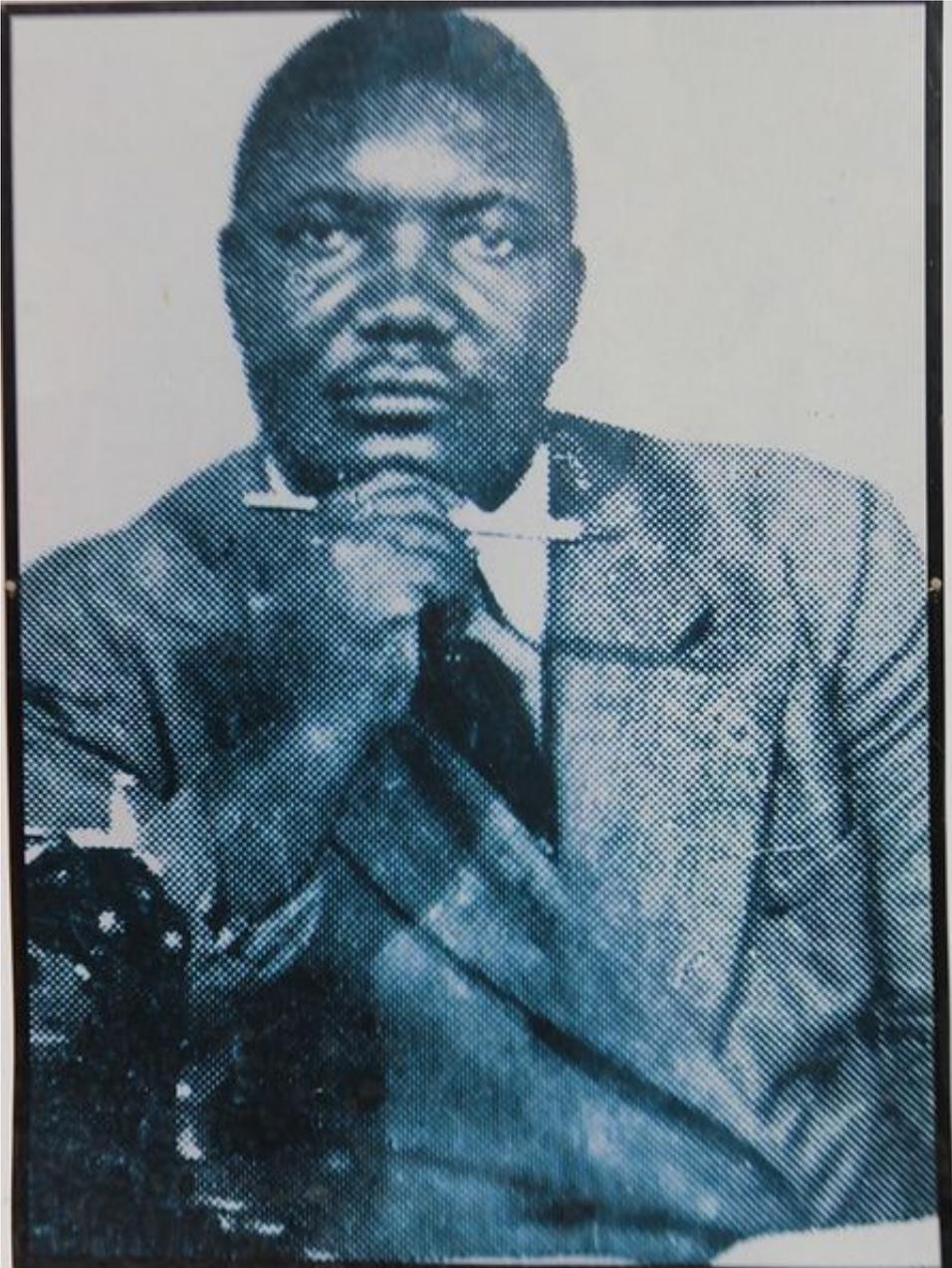
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Benjamin Burombo is one of Zimbabwe's founding nationalists he was also a trade unionist organising workers' strikes in Bulawayo. He was also known for being a good public speaker and for being critical of the colonial regime's racist attitude towards blacks

Benjamin Burombo

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Born 1909
Died 1959

Background

Burombo was born in Buhera and in 1909. He worked briefly in South Africa where he met Clement Kadali who was also a trade unionist.^[1] He never received any formal education but managed to teach himself the basics of Law through personal reading.

Political Career and Activism

He came to [Bulawayo](#) and made a living through selling biscuits. He founded a trade union known as the British African National Voice Association in 1947, the trade union was also politically active. Burombo

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was actively involved in the strike of 1948 which effectively forced the Native Labour Board to review wages that workers were earning. He fiercely criticised colonial legislation such as the Native Land Husbandry Bill, he also challenged successfully many instances where the law had been wrongly implemented.^[1] The exploits of Benjamin Burombo in challenging injustices perpetrated in colonial Zimbabwe provided inspiration for many other nationalists later on.^[2]

He is said to have had a commanding presence such that he was able to sell the idea of a strike to black Africans working in Bulawayo regardless of attempts by the colonial administration to de-campaign the strike. Although Burombo accepted the reality of colonialism, he also spoke heavily against racial inequality within the system.^[3] Burombo eventually passed on in 1959

About Pindula

Pindula is a place to find information about local things on the internet. We do it a lot like Wikipedia, except everything is hyper-local. We started work on Pindula because we needed something like it. There's so little useful information about local things online and we're working to change that

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References

1. ? ^[1] [Benjamin Burombo](#), Retrieved: July 15, 2014
2. ? [Remembering Benjamin Burombo](#), *Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation*, Retrieved: July 15, 2014
3. ? [A Lifetime of Struggle](#), *NewZimbabwe*, Published: December 11, 2009, Retrieved: July 15, 2014