

# *A dvCissie Gool (1897 – 1963)*

ORDER OF LUTHULI IN SILVER (POSTHUMOUS)



**AWARDED TO  
CISSIE ZAINUNNISSA GOOL  
FOR OUTSTANDING  
CONTRIBUTION TO THE  
STRUGGLE FOR  
LIBERATION AND FOR THE  
IDEALS OF A JUST,  
NON-RACIST AND  
DEMOCRATIC  
SOUTH AFRICA**

Cissie Gool was born in Cape Town in 1897, the daughter of the prominent political figure, Dr Abdullah Abdurahman.

As a young person, she joined the Socialist Party, but in 1936 she founded the National Liberation League and became its first president. From 1938 to 1951, Gool represented District Six on the Cape Town City Council. For several years she was the only woman serving on the City Council and in 1949, she was elected chairperson of the City Council's health committee. During the 1940s, Gool became the president of the Non-European Front and took part in a passive resistance campaign. She was also active in the Franchise Action Council, the predecessor of the South African Coloured People's Organisation.

Gool was arrested and charged on many occasions for her convictions, but this did not deter her from her political activities.

In 1962, Gool received an LLB degree from the University of Cape Town and was admitted as an advocate to the Supreme Court.

To this day, the name Cissie Gool remains synonymous with the history of the struggle of the mother city.