

PRESIDENT KAUNDA OF ZAMBIA

Dr. Kenneth David Kaunda was born in 1924. His father was a missionary with the Church of Scotland and his mother was one of the first African teachers in the region. His career as a school teacher soon gave way to his political interests and commitment to the fight for independence during the 1950's.

In 1960, he formed and was elected head of the United National Independence Party. In 1964 he pulled Northern Rhodesia out of the Federation of Nyasaland and Rhodesia and became President, in October 1964, of newly independent Zambia.

President Kaunda is one of Africa's pre-eminent statesmen. He was President of the Non-Aligned Movement in 1969, has twice served as Chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and has led the Front-Line States since the grouping's formation. For more than two decades he has been at the forefront of international efforts to end apartheid in South Africa and to achieve peace elsewhere in the southern African region, notably, Rhodesia in the 1970's and Mozambique and Angola in the 1980's.

He has written or co-authored seven books and received honorary degrees from at least six universities, including, in 1966, the University of Windsor in Ontario. President Kaunda has visited Canada on several other occasions, most recently in 1987 to attend the Vancouver Commonwealth heads of government meeting.

The President is a champion of national unity in his country. His own devotion to "humanism" has inspired and contributed to what the Zambians consider to be their official philosophy of government.

Dr. Kaunda is married to the former Betty Banda. They have nine children.

