

## **DEEDAT APPEAL IS DISMISSED**

THE MERCURY DECEMBER 07, 1999

BLOEMFONTEIN - An application by Mr. Yousuf Ahmed Deedat, secretary-general of the Islamic Propagation Centre International Trust in Durban, for leave to appeal against a judgment that found he had defamed the chairman of the Organisation of Civic Rights, has been dismissed with costs by the supreme court of appeal in Bloemfontein.

In the Durban and Coast local high court on March 1, 1999, Judge N S Page ordered Mr. Deedat to pay Mr. Sayed-Iqbal Mohamed damages of R5 000 and costs.

The case arose from statements made by Mr. Deedat to The Mercury, which resulted in an article in the newspaper in December 1995.

This implied that Mr. Mohamed had misappropriated or misused public funds collected by the Organisation of Civic Rights.

It also implied that the funds were being used to further Mr. Mohamed's personal objectives.

The judge found that Mr. Deedat had failed to establish any of the defences pleaded by him and that he was liable to Mr. Mohamed for damages for the publication of the statements.- Sapa