



CATALAN Newsletter

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CORRECTION: We most deeply regret the error contained in our issue No. 6, where in the last paragraph of the article announcing the death of Dr. August Pi-Sunyer, we inadvertently wrote the name of his brother, Carles Pi-Sunyer, now living in Venezuela. Our apologies.

Declaration by the CATALAN NATIONAL COUNCIL

GIBRALTAR AND CATALONIA

Gibraltar -- The "Gibraltar Post" of April 25, 1965, features a four column front page article by its London correspondent reporting on the Catalan National Council's declaration of policy on Gibraltar.

The article, titled "Catalans Say 'Hands Off Gibraltar' " states:

"In a press release issued in London this morning by the Catalan National Council they advise Gibraltarians to resist interference from Spain and state that Catalans disassociate themselves from any claim by Spain on the Rock."

Paraphrasing portions of the Declaration, the article goes on to say:

"The Catalans are justified to express now their opinion because by the Treaty of Utrecht (1713) both Gibraltar passed to Great Britain (Art.10) and Catalonia from independence to domination by Spain (Art.12). The Catalans, however, consider that having exercised their right to self-determination in 1931, the Treaty of Utrecht has been abrogated, as far as they are concerned, and no longer has any legal binding force upon them."

After noting that the population of Gibraltar is not ethnically Spanish, the article continues: " The persecution of the Catalans and Basques by General Franco's Government should be a warning to the people of Gibraltar. The basic human rights are denied to them (...) moreover, Catalans and Basques are subject to a policy of national discrimination and cultural genocide aimed at destroying their language and culture and at imposing upon them the language and the rule of Spain. The Gibraltarians would be well advised to resist any Spanish interference now to avoid any similar treatment later."

THE MANY ASPECTS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST CATALONIA

News from Catalonia-Valencia-Mallorca continue to speak of the Spanish State's relentless efforts to erase the authentic cultural, economic and spiritual heritage of the Catalan People. Three recent examples are:

CULTURAL GENOCIDE

"Omnium Cultural", the Catalan private institution devoted to the furtherance and protection of the Catalan language and culture, and closed by the Spanish authorities on December, 1963, petitioned the Government to be allowed