



WE ARE AT WAR

By Gcina Mhlope (from "LIP from Southern African Women")

Women of my Country
Young and Old

Black and White
We are at War

The Winds are blowing
against us

Laws are ruling
against us

We are at War
But do not despair

We are the winning type
let us fight on

Forward ever
Backward Never

Women of my Country
Mothers and Daughters
Workers and wives

We are at war
customs are set
against us

Religions are set
against us

We are at War
But do not despair

We are bound to win
Let us Fight on

Forward ever Backward Never

Women of my country
Mother Africa's loved daughters

Black and White
we are at war

Forces of Exploitation
degrade mother Africa

as well as us, her daughters
Her motherly smile is ridiculed

She has seen her children sold
Her chains of slavery are centuries old

There is not time for us to cry now

she has cried rivers of tears
What is it that flows down River Nile

if not her tears
What is it that flows down River Congo

if not her tears
What is it that flows down River Zambesi

if not her tears
What is it that flows down River Limpopo

if not her tears
What is it that flows down River Thukela



And what is it then, that flows down River Kei
if not Mother Africa's tears

Women of Egypt and Libya
Drink her tears from River Nile

You will gain courage and Bravery
Women of Congo and Liberia

Drink her tears from River Congo
You will shed Inferiority

Women of Zambia and Zimbabwe
Drink her tears from River Zambezi

You will gain understanding
Women of South and West Africa

Drink her tears from River Limpopo
You shall see Liberation

We are Chained Women of Africa
We are bound to win

Let us fight on

FORWARD EVER
BACKWARD NEVER

