



Picture: PATRICIA HAGEN

Old comrades: Rajmohan Gandhi with former West Indian Test cricketer Conrad Hunte at the Centurion Lake Hotel.

Forget the past if you want reconciliation, says Gandhi

KGATI SATHEKGE, Staff Reporter

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FOR reconciliation to succeed in South Africa, the country's people must resolve not to assess anyone on the basis of their perceived past.

This resolution must be taken in conjunction with the one not to judge people based on their skin colour.

Both these messages came from the grandson of the Mahatma Gandhi, Rajmohan Gandhi, at a reception for him and his wife, Usha, in Verwoerdburg yesterday.

He spoke of his grandfather who had been imprisoned by General Smuts, saying while in prison the Mahatma made a pair of sandals for General Smuts. In turn, while Mr Gandhi was negotiating in London, Gen Smuts had come to his help.

He said a similar relationship between President De Klerk and Nelson Mandela at grassroots level was needed in South Africa if reconciliation was to become a firm reality.