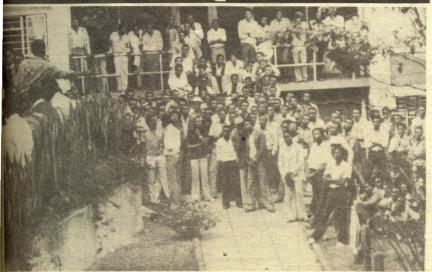
Students in plea to Moi



Student leader Mwandawiro Mghanga (with outstretched arm, left) addressing university students outside the women's

halls of residence yesterday.

The students appealed to President Moi to grant presidential clemency to nine of their colleagues who were jailed following the August I disturbances last year. Mr Mghanga, who is the acting chairman of the Students Organisation of the Nairobi University (SONU), paid tribute to President Moi for releasing several political detainees recently. And he appealed to the President to extend the same spirit of forgiveness to the jailed

students, "because he has the Constitutional power as Head of State and Chancellor of the University."

He said the events of August 1, last year were unprecedented and therefore, "no student would have known how to react because the events were beyond the students' control."

Mr Mghanga, who had convened the "kamukunji" (meeting) to dissolve the students union for fresh elections, pleaded with the Government and the university authorities to create an atmosphere conducive to Academic freedom.