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DISCOVERING FIJI

THE HEALING
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Reigning Miss Fiji 2016 Anne Dunn, centre, with Queen contestants vying for the 2017 Telecom Miss Fiji pageant crown during the official opening at Thurston Garden in Suva yesterday. The first public judging will be held next Wednesday with the crowning scheduled for next Saturday. Picture: JONACANI LALAKOBAU

Respect us

Unionist states reasons for march, State says exhaust all avenues

By MERE NALEBA

MEMBERS of the Fiji Trades Unions Congress took to the streets in their hundreds yesterday in a protest march demanding the restoration of their rights.

Cheers erupted from the large crowd

gathered at Ratu Sukuna Park, in Suva when FTUC national secretary Felix Anthony spoke on the five issues union members and unionists had been tirelessly fighting for.

Mr Anthony said the five main reasons behind the march were collective bargaining/individual contracts of civil

servants, right to secret ballot/right to strike, minimum wages, review of labour laws in the country and public holiday pay for workers under the Wages Council.

Mr Anthony said the individual contracts "imposed" on civil servants and workers in Government owned entities

must be removed and the collective bargaining process returned.

He said the FTUC, Government and the Fiji Commerce and Employers Federation had signed an agreement that workers' rights in this country would be respected.

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