

# NO TO APARTHEID EXECUTIONS!

## Save the lives of Sipho Xulu & Clarence Payi



Since 1979 13 South Africans have been given death sentences by the apartheid courts for their courageous part in the struggle against the racist regime. Most recently the young poet Benjamin Moloise was executed. Two more young men, Clarence Payi and Sipho Xulu are still under sentence of death.

Sipho Xulu, aged 25, was involved in the protests against rent increases in Sobantu village in 1982, and became a victim of security police scrutiny. In 1983 he left South Africa to undergo military training with the African National Congress.

Clarence Lucky Payi, aged 20, was just 15 when he joined the ANC. He left South Africa in 1981 following his involvement in a school boycott in his home town of KwaMashu.

XULU and PAYI were detained in June 1984, following the shooting in May of Benjamin Langa, a youth activist and former leader of SASO (the South African Students' Organisation). On February 26th 1985 they were convicted of murder and 'terrorism'. In statements submitted to the court, Xulu and Payi said that they had been led to believe that Ben Langa was a police informer, although he claimed to be an active member of the ANC. During the trial the two men received vociferous support from a packed public gallery. In passing sentence the judge refused to consider either the youth of the two accused, or their backgrounds. He sentenced them to death.

The ANC issued a statement which said: 'The ANC is convinced that the agents of the Pretoria regime put out false information aimed to discredit the late Ben Langa. When the real truth emerges it will be shown that the real responsibility for the death of Ben Langa lies with the Pretoria regime.'

XULU and PAYI both applied for leave to appeal against their death sentences; Payi was granted leave to appeal but Xulu's application was rejected.

BENJAMIN MOLOISE  
EXECUTED 18 OCTOBER 1985



*All the armies that ever marched  
All the parliaments that ever sat  
have not  
Affected the life of man  
on earth as that one  
solitary life  
I am proud to be what I am  
The storm of oppression  
will be followed  
by the rain of my blood  
I am proud to give my life,  
my one solitary life.*

Benjamin Moloise  
Death Row, Pretoria

**'I am very proud, I never thought that one day I  
would have a warrior in my arms.'**

Mamike Moloise, Mother of Benjamin Moloise,  
executed 18 October 1985

The apartheid regime is in deep crisis. The rapidly mounting liberation struggle and increasing international isolation of South Africa are combining to bring intense pressure against this abhorrent system. The reaction of the Botha regime has been increased repression; over 850 people have been killed since February 1984 and over 6 000 detained during the State of Emergency that has been in force since 20th July 1985.

Apartheid has declared war on the people of southern Africa; the state violence within South Africa, continuing illegal occupation of Namibia, and military destabilisation of neighbouring states are all ways in which the regime is trying to maintain its illegitimate rule.

The people of southern Africa are also waging a war. A war against apartheid in a mass struggle for freedom, justice and peace. Siphso XULU and Clarence PAYI are soldiers in this war.

The Geneva Convention was drawn up in 1949 to provide for the humane protection and treatment for Prisoners of War. In 1977 this Convention was extended in a Protocol to include 'armed conflicts in which people are fighting colonial domination and alien occupation and against racist regimes in exercising their right to self determination'. The ANC has declared its adherence to the Geneva Convention.

PAYI and XULU are victims of the violence of apartheid and have been convicted by a court that has no legitimate right to pass sentence on them. They should be granted POW status.

Support from both organisations and individuals all over the world will be necessary to save the lives of these two young men now facing execution. Please join our campaign to stop these executions.

Write urgently:

- to P W Botha, State President, Union Buildings, Pretoria 0001, South Africa, urging that the death sentences be commuted.
- to Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Downing Street, London SW1A 2AH, urging him to intervene on behalf of the British government to save the lives of the two.
- to your own MP asking that s/he raise the cases with the Foreign Office and parliament.

If you are involved in any appropriate organisation (eg trade union, religious group, human rights organisation, political party), please try to ensure that they take this issue up and support the campaign.

**With your help we can save these two young men's lives.**

SOLOMON MAHLANGU	JERRY MOSOLOLI	SIMON MOGOERANE	MARCUS MOTAUUNG
			
6 APRIL 1979 JUDICIALLY MURDERED BY APARTHEID REGIME 9 JUNE 1983			
<b>DON'T MOURN!</b>			
<b>MOBILIZE!</b>			

## SOUTHERN AFRICA — THE IMPRISONED SOCIETY



The SATIS Committee brings together a range of organisations to initiate and co-ordinate campaigns for the release of political prisoners and detainees in South Africa and Namibia, and against the numerous forms of repression employed by the apartheid regime against those struggling for freedom from apartheid rule. It was launched at a conference in December 1973.

Our work must continue until South Africa and Namibia are no longer 'imprisoned societies'. As the liberation struggles in those countries intensify, so too does repression. To campaign successfully we urgently need your support. Please contact us at the address below for more information.

**NAME:** .....

**ORGANISATION (IF APPROPRIATE):** .....

**ADDRESS:** .....

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### Please send:

- Further information about PAYI & XULU
- Further copies of this leaflet @ £1 per 100
- ..... Further copies of the SATIS pamphlet  
*Political Trials in South Africa*, @ 25p each P&P

I enclose a cheque/PO for £..... (orders)  
and £..... (donation)

Return to: SATIS, 13 Mandela Street, London NW1 0DW

