

“A Quest for True Humanity...”

The Steve Biko Colloquium series have always come as a welcome relief in order for us to reflect on the state of the nation and the position of Black people in particular. We have been hurting as a nation in the recent past as a result of the horrific internecine Afrophobic and xenophobic attacks. Such gratuitous violence destroys the very basic qualities of what little remains of human dignity within our communities.

During moments of apparent despair and when we are buffeted by what is seemingly demoralizing and crass moral degeneration, challenges to revered institutions, intolerance towards opposing views and sheer political thuggery it becomes necessary for us to pause for a moment and reflect on what does Black dignity mean to us.

We have witnessed the deterioration of service delivery in a number of sectors from the public health care through to the power reticulation and water supply as well as the drive to make poor communities pay for basic services such as water. We need to reclaim our collective humanity and be truly our brothers keepers so that we are able to take stock once more and reflect on the teachings and contributions by one of the illustrious sons of the Azanian revolution –Bantubonke Steve Biko. It should not be only at these moments that we reclaim our human dignity but we should do so continually. If there is one thing that we can learn from the teachings of Steve Biko and his contemporaries it is self-reliance. We need to uphold and be the embodiment of Self Pride, Self Reliance and thereby restore our Black dignity.

Living in a constitutional democracy that is underpinned by a neo-liberal economic and political dispensation as we find in South Africa requires of us to be ever more vigilant so that we do not become a backyard vassal of imperialist policies. We need to bring this discourse to centre stage.

BIKO LIVES.

LONG LIVE THE SPIRIT OF STEVE BIKO

5th Steve Biko Colloquium

13 SEPTEMBER 2008

**BOOYSENS HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTRE
BOOYSENS, JOHANNESBURG.**

Programme Director : Zithulele Cindi

PROGRAMME

- 09H30 - 10H00 : ARRIVALS, REFRESHMENTS AND REGISTRATION
10H25 - 10H30 : GUESTS ARE TO BE SEATED
10H30 - 10H35 : Opening & Welcome - Programme Director
10h35 - 10h45 : Welcoming Address - Hon Mosibudi Mangena
AZAPO President and Minister of Science & Technology
10H45 - 10H55 : Tribute to Biko (Musical) -Olufemi Ogunkoya
10H55- 11H30 : Memorial Lecture –Prof Kwesi Kwaa Prah
(Director: The Centre for Advanced Studies of
African Society (CASAS)
11H30 - 11H40 : Musical Item –Agape Gospel Group
11H40 - 12H00 : Respondent - Prof Itumeleng Mosala
12H00 - 12h30 : Interventions from the Floor
12H30 - 12h50 : Musical Items
12H50 - 12H58 : Vote of Thank and Presentations
12H58 - 13H00 : Announcements and Closure
13H00 - 14H30 : LUNCH and Networking

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