



**AZAPO**  
AZANIAN PEOPLE'S ORGANISATION

**TO: ALL MEDIA HOUSES FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**FROM: AZAPO SECRETARY FOR PUBLICITY & INFORMATION**

**DATE: February 01, 2024**

**SUBJECT: 50TH COMMEMORATION OF THE BRUTAL MURDER OF ABRAM ONGOPOTSE TIRO**

**AZAPO** and the world still remember Abram Ongopotse Tiro, 50 years after his brutal murder with a parcel bomb in Botswana.

Tiro was a black consciousness activist and a freedom fighter who died in exile in Botswana on the 01<sup>st</sup> February 1974, murdered by apartheid agents.

Tiro rose into heroism and prominence following his address at a graduation ceremony in Turfloop, (University of Limpopo) where he criticized the education system and the oppressive manner Black people to.

The speech came to be known as the "Turfloop testimony" and that led to his expulsion.

Tiro's expulsion from Turfloop had far-reaching consequences that the university's management could not have anticipated.

Tiro's role as a teacher planted the seed of revolution and resistance among his students, which culminated into the June 16 Soweto uprisings.

Tiro became involved in the activities of the Black Consciousness Movement and in 1973 he took over as SASO's permanent organizer.

**AZAPO** doffs her hat and salute the bravery and immense contribution by Tiro for the liberation of Black people.

**AZAPO** calls upon our youth to emulate the heroism and bravery of Tiro and not be overwhelmed by the challenges of today facing the youth, but to rise above them and usher in an egalitarian government that is unashamedly pro black.

**AZAPO** urges the youth of today to take up the baton and run to the finish line with vigor and determination, for victory is certain.

**-Ends-**

Issued by **AZAPO** Department of Publicity and Information (DPI).

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