



AZAPO

AZANIAN PEOPLE'S ORGANISATION

TO: ALL MEDIA HOUSES FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FROM: AZAPO SECRETARY FOR PUBLICITY & INFORMATION

DATE: April 19, 2024

SUBJECT: THE VANDALISM OF STEVE BIKO GRAVE AND MEMORABILIA

AZAPO is saddened by the thuggery and the vandalism of Steve Biko's tombstone that was unveiled on the 27 March 2017 and the stealing of bronze fists attached to it.

The tombstone is at the Steve Biko Garden of Remembrance in Ginsberg, eQonce in the Eastern Cape.

The family was alerted of the vandalism on Friday morning, by the COO of the Steve Biko Foundation, Cde Bruce Waters.

Both Steve Biko's tombstone and the Biko house are recognized national sites, by the South African Heritage Resources Agency.

AZAPO is puzzled that the Buffalo City Municipality Metro and government is not maintaining and providing security to such important precincts.

The questions we ask are:

Could it be that the BCM Municipality neither recognizes nor cares about this great giant and the heritage he bequeathed to us?

Could it also be that the pivotal role played by Biko and sacrifices made to the people of **AZANIA** with his life, is insignificant to them?

AZAPO is calling upon the Municipality to help fence the entire precinct and provide security, as it should long have done.

AZAPO further urges the South African Police Services (SAPS) to investigate this highly disturbing matter, find the perpetrators and bring them to book speedily.

END

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

Name: **Jabu Rakwena**

Email: **jaburakwena@gmail.com**

Enquiries:

Jabu Rakwena 060 677 4257 or Nosipiwo Manona 065 899 4566

Office: **Publicity and Information**

*Unit 04 – Ground Floor,
396 Cork Avenue, Ferndale, Johannesburg 2194
P.O. Box 4230, JOHANNESBURG 2000.*