



AZAPO

AZANIAN PEOPLE'S ORGANISATION

TO: ALL MEDIA HOUSES FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FROM: AZAPO SECRETARY FOR PUBLICITY & INFORMATION
DATE: AUGUST 7, 2025

SUBJECT: AZAPO CALLS FOR AN INQUEST ON THE DEATH OF MAPETLA MOHAPI 49 YEARS AGO TO BE RE-OPENED

Today marks **17 898** days since Mapetla Mohapi mysteriously died in a police cell in Kei Road, East London; a murder which still has neither explanation nor accountability after 49 years. Since the day of his murder, no single person has ever been identified to be responsible or brought to book for his death.

Mohapi's last journey leading to his brutal death became the biggest cover-up of all time and the truth is still buried after 31 years of the so-called democratic state of the Republic of South Africa.

The apartheid police merely provided a 'suicide note' which was later proved to be a product of forgery, which clearly confirmed that his death was an act of murder. Many efforts to uncover the truth and bring those responsible before the courts have failed to bring light on the events leading to his death - still, **NOBODY** has ever been identified for his murder. Despite appearances by his widow, Nohle Mohapi-Mbetshu before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the truth about the death of Mohapi still remains elusive.

AZAPO is calling for the investigation of the circumstances leading to his death to be re-opened. **AZAPO** further calls for the identification of the police officer(s) who produced and presented the forged suicide note. Given, so much effort that was made to conceal the truth, then someone out there knows and has always known the truth.

Whether the person(s) responsible for this vile act is/are alive or dead, their name(s) need to be recorded in history, as the perpetrators of the heinous crime.

After 49 years of agony trying to find the truth - Mohapi's family, the country and the world deserve to know the truth.

AZAPO demands that the **Inquests Act 58 of 1959** be effected to unveil this long kept deep secret, so all the people with an interest in the truth can finally be provided with it. The family and the country need to hear and know the truth, so that the still open wounds can heal. 49 years is too long to wait for answers and justice.

END

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