

THE BLACK SASH



DIE SWART SERP

PO Box 319
Grahamstown, 6140
5 December 1988

Dear friend

Since our last package on Eastern Cape people who are on death row for politically-related offences, the following developments have taken place:

- * ACQUITTALS: Miki Yelani and Thembisile Baneti have had their convictions and death sentences set aside on appeal.
- * HANGINGS: Kholisile Dyakala and Zwelindumile Mjekula were hanged on November 24.
- * SENTENCES: Three men from Sterkstroom were sentenced to death on October 21 for a necklace murder.
- * REPRIEVES: Leon de Villiers and Patrick Goosen, two white policemen, had their death sentences commuted to 20 years and 15 years when the Sharpeville Six were reprieved on November 23.
- * APPEALS: The "Hanover Four" who petitioned the Chief Justice have been granted leave to appeal against their convictions and sentences.

As far as we know, there are now 33 people on death row for politically-related offences from the Eastern Cape.

This package focusses on the following death sentence cases:

- * The Sterkstroom Three.
- * The two from Burgersdorp, convicted on the basis of common purpose.
- * The Queenstown Six, convicted on the basis of common purpose.
- * The Stutterheim case: Three men convicted on the basis of common purpose.
- * Abraham Zeyo, from Kirkwood.
- * Sipho Gonya and Phutumile Dlabathi: Another common purpose case.
- * Mtutuzeli Ngqandu, from Port Elizabeth.
- * The Whittlesea case: Two men sentenced to death in the Ciskei Supreme Court.
- * Thembisile Baneti: Another man freed from death row.
- * Miki Yelani: And yet another set free on appeal.

We hope that the information will be of use in the campaign for the abolition of the death penalty.

Yours Sincerely

Barbara Orpen.

Research Convenor.