

ANC PRESS STATEMENT ON THE DEATH OF BUSHY MOLEFE

The announcement by the Mafikeng Anti-Repression Forum of the untimely death of Bushy Molefe is received with great sorrow by all the democratic forces in this country. Bushy was released from prison in Bophuthatswana in November 1991 after a hunger strike lasting 69 days. He fought so that the millions of people subjected to Bop "independence" should be free from repression and able to join and propagate the views of any political party of their choice. He worked tirelessly in his local ANC branch and with the Bafokeng Action Committee.

The death of Bushy Molefe is an indictment of all who continue to suppress free political activity for a unitary South Africa, an indictment of those who continue to deny the existence of political prisoners. Many political prisoners, like Bushy, were forced to take their lives to achieve freedom. Responsibility for his death rests on the conscience of those who refuse to respect the rights of all South Africans.

South Africa has been robbed of a man who had so much to give to the new society we are striving to achieve.

The ANC salutes Bushy Molefe. Let his death act as the spur to ensure the release of the hundreds of remaining political prisoners.

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