

# SAVE THE PRETORIA



Petrus  
Lubisi



Ncimbithi  
Mashigo



Naphtali  
Manana



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# **STOP THE EXECUTION OF THE PRETORIA 3**

Three young South Africans are going to be hanged unless there is decisive international action to save their lives. They are Petrus Lubisi (28), Ncimbithi Mashigo (20) and Naphtali Manana (24). They are currently incarcerated in one of Pretoria's dungeons awaiting a final appeal.

In November 1980 the Pretoria Three, all members of the South African liberation movement the African National Congress, were sentenced to death by the Pretoria Supreme Court. They had been accused of high treason, membership of the ANC (a banned organisation), murder, and, with six others, with attempted murder. All nine were found not guilty of murder. The Pretoria Three were found guilty of participating in a raid against the Soekmakaar police station, which the apartheid court judged to be an act of high treason and attempted murder. The judge ignored the fact that no one was killed. He sentenced them to death.

The Pretoria Three are part of the Soweto generation. They saw their classmates gunned down by the apartheid police as students peacefully protested against teaching in Afrikaans, a language they identified with oppression. They concluded that the apartheid regime would never listen to peaceful demands and protests. They recognised that the only way to end the inhuman system of white supremacy was to fight back. They left South Africa with thousands of their classmates to train as freedom fighters.

Today South Africa is at war. Yet captured freedom fighters are tortured, sometimes even to death. They are denied Prisoner-of-War status and instead are brought to trial and increasingly the apartheid courts are using the death penalty. This is despite the pledge by the ANC which, when declaring its adherence to the Geneva Conventions, guaranteed PoW status to captured South African military personnel.

Join the campaign to ensure that South Africa accords PoW status to captured freedom fighters and to save the lives of the Pretoria Three. International campaigns such as this can succeed. They saved the lives of two SWAPO leaders sentenced to death in 1976 in Namibia, and again, in 1980, James Mange, another ANC freedom fighter, had his death sentence commuted.

## **ACT NOW!**

**■ PRISONER-OF-WAR STATUS FOR CAPTURED FREEDOM FIGHTERS  
IN NAMIBIA AND SOUTH AFRICA**

**■ STOP THE EXECUTION OF THE PRETORIA THREE**

**■ FREE ALL SOUTH AFRICAN AND NAMIBIAN POLITICAL PRISONERS**

**Contact Southern Africa—The Imprisoned Society for stickers, postcards and further copies of this leaflet**

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