

1. Jolobe was born at Indwe in 1902, son of a minister. He trained as a teacher at St. Matthew's, where he was encouraged by Principal Mather in his writing. He went to Fort Hare in 1925 and studied English and Theology. He first taught at Paterson High, Port Elizabeth, but in 1931 was ordained a Presbyterian minister. He began his ministry in New Brighton, where he married Nurse Jean Nongogo. He was a beloved pastor.

Cartoon: Jolobe in clerical (Presbyterian) dress, praying for the recovery of Mrs. Nodadi Qoto, aged 75.

2. His devoted ministry culminated in his election in 1973 as the first Black moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa. But he was also a literary figure. He played a great part in the preparation of the Xhosa-English-Afrikaans dictionary. In April 1973 he received an Honorary D.Litt from Fort Hare. Although modest and self-effacing, his feelings ran deep, as can be seen in that magnificent poem The Making of a Servant. Alas, we can give only one stanza of the translation.

Cartoon: Jolobe elected Moderator of the Presbyterian Church.

I know we are giving Seth Mokotimi a standing ovation next week, but I think Jolobe should have one too. Or Jolobe and others writing at the Dictionary.

3. I can no longer ask how it feels
To be choked by a yoke-rope
Because I have seen it myself in the chained ox.
The blindness has left my eyes. I have become aware.
I have seen the making of a servant
In the young yoke-ox.

Cartoon: The training of the young yoke-ox (The Outlook, Dec. 1976) carries a photograph of Jolobe on its cover)