

1. Biko was born in 1946 in Kingwilliamstown. He went to Lovedale, Mariannhill, and to the Medical School, Durban, in 1966. He joined NUSAS and the University Christian Movement, but left both. The demand of black students was for a black organisation.

Cartoon: Biko walking out of the UCM conference in Grahamstown followed by all the black delegates.

2. In 1969 the South African Students Organisation (SASO) was founded to promote black consciousness and Biko was its first president. In 1970 he married Nontsikelelo Mashalala and they had two children. In 1972 he was expelled from Medical School for "poor academic performance". Many thought it was because of SASO, but this was refuted by Professor John Reid of the Medical School. Biko helped also to found the Black People's Convention (BPC). His militancy and persistence led to his banning in 1973.

Cartoon: Biko delivering an impassioned address to a BPC conference

3. On 18 August 1977 Biko was detained. On 13 September he was dead. The inquest revealed shocking details of inhuman treatment, but the magistrate found no one responsible. This incredible verdict did incalculable damage to white South Africa's reputation abroad and left the courtroom stunned. Steve Biko's name will go down in history as one of those who made great sacrifices in the struggle for emancipation.

Cartoon: The stunned courtroom or Newspaper placards in English, Dutch, German, Zulu "Biko verdict unbelievable".