

people when we hit back, those who say we are not at war when we die must answer the simple question: On whose side are they? Are you counted in our ranks?

We call upon the international community to save the lives of our children. Therefore, let us organise as Christians. This government that is killing children, this government that kills clergymen can only be said to be a government that is not Christian and by order of Jesus Christ let us fight it. We, who are workers cannot watch our children die. What will we be working for? To feed children for their death at the hands of fascism? Let us strike and destroy the firms which the multinationals defend by supporting our enemy. We must do away with these sell-outs who come to us and say "we were in Umkhonto" but are now working for the enemy.

This act of murdering our children and sentencing them to long-term imprisonment points to the urgency of the implementation of the Freedom Charter, the document which guarantees freedom for all. This road is tough. It goes via the gallows and dungeons.

FORWARD TO A PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT!

MAATLA KE A RONA!

POWER TO THE PEOPLE!

I Speak my Mind

The sentencing of our three Comrades: Johnson Lubisi, Petrus Mashigo and Naphtali Manana, to death by the racist judge roused indignation among the entire membership of our movement and MK. Immediately after this brutal judgement was announced different units of MK got together to discuss the implication of this judgement. Below we publish some views expressed by different comrades.

Emil Monde

When the fascist regime of Pretoria passed a death sentence on Mini, Khayinga and Mkhaba in 1963, it thought as it still thinks now, that it was going to instill fear into the people of South Africa with the intention of subduing them

and crushing the liberation movement from fighting and demanding what is by right ours. On the contrary, we have redoubled our determination and efforts in fighting the racists of Pretoria.

The racists have failed to learn lessons from their past death sentences that they have imposed on our people, that the will of a determined people to be free can never be subdued by such acts of judicial murder, mass detentions, long years of imprisonment and open terror on our people on the dusty streets of Soweto, Nyanga, Gugulethu and many other places in our country.

The death sentence that the fascists passed on November 26, on our three comrades namely; Johnson Lubisi, Petrus Mashigo and Naphtali Manana is one of the fascists' strategy of trying to instil fear into the militant sons and daughters of our country, a strategy doomed to failure.

Queen Mafutha

During the height of the Pentagon's war of aggression in Vietnam, President Ho Chi Minh said: "... The more aggressive they show themselves to be, the graver their crimes will be..." What the boers are doing to our people, is tantamount to what Hitler did in Europe and what the US did in Vietnam.

The death sentence passed on Comrades Johnson Lubisi, Petrus Mashigo and Naphtali Manana is but the lethal fascist last kicks of a dying horse.

The three patriots have been sentenced to death without committing any crime at all, but for fighting this internationally abhorred crime against humanity, apartheid. We of the African National Congress, have long declared that the racist Nationalist government of Pretoria has been founded on injustice and inequality. We urge the masses of our people and progressive mankind the world over to come forward and say: "NO! TO THE ILLEGAL HANGING OF THE THREE CHILDREN OF ISANDLWANA".

Sizwe Mkhonto

The lives of our three comrades who are justifiably continuing the battles fought by our forefathers against the colonialists must be saved.

These comrades have "accepted death for the sake of life, and prison for the sake of freedom", and this is our motto. They have readily responded to the lofty call of our people. Their response and attitude to our historic mission is a positive moral category.

We cannot at all leave such murderers unchallenged. It is impossible to be silent, when the lives of our fellow patriots are at stake.

Paulos Motho

This crime against humanity, apartheid, is not worth this world. To the people of South Africa, apartheid is high treason. This move by the racist will not yield the desired results, just as it has failed in the past, for we shall not be intimidated nor shall the masses of our people shrink with fear, panic and capitulate.

The racists have long sewn the seeds of hatred in our people, and everyday as our struggle unfolds, the hatred becomes steeled revolutionary commitment, sacrifice and determination to seize power.

We know that as the tide of the revolution grows more powerful of more such acts are forthcoming as the racists approach their doom.

This is part of Botha and Malan's 'Total Strategy', to bring terror, death and pain amongst the oppressed. History has proved that no amount of guns, torture, killings, etc., can stop a united and determined people in their drive to genuine freedom. Cuba, Vietnam, Angola and now recently Zimbabwe are fine examples.

Alex Mashini

Our right to fight by any means at our disposal to free ourselves from this genocidal system is recognised by the entire world community which has long declared apartheid a crime to mankind. It is not surprising that the African National Congress to which these three patriots of our country belong, is recognised by the world as a true leader of our people.

According to the Geneva Convention, our three comrades deserve the status of POW. Sentencing the three patriots to death, is a repetition of what Hitler did to people who resisted Nazism. The Pretoria racists must not be allowed to do this criminal action.

Irvin Shongwe

As the lines of our struggle are drawn with mathematical precision, as the revolutionary tide grows stronger, we expect more of such brutal measures by the genocidal apartheid regime. To us in the revolution, this act by the racists, is a sign of weakness, fear and panic.

We shall not be intimidated or terrorised by a dying horse who in response to the determined mass actions of our suffering people and the sound of the liberating gun murders, terrorises, kills and imprison without course.

No amount of intimidation, torture, terrorism and violence can stop history's destined wheel, for Ethiopia, Vietnam, Angola, etc., have proved beyond doubt that a united and determined people is more powerful than arsenals or nuclear bombs.

We urge the international community to rise up in defence of the lives of Comrades Johnson Lubisi, Petrus Mashigo and Naphtali Manana - fighters of peace and champions of democracy - who have been sentenced to death by the criminal apartheid racist regime. We pledge the masses of our people inside the country to come out and stand by our comrades and see to it that the racists do not carry out this heinous crime.

It is clear that the Pretoria fascists have launched a full-blooded campaign of terror against the people, the revolution and the African National Congress with its military wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe.

For the ANC this enemy brutality emphasises the urgency of the need to overthrow the apartheid regime. We once more want to make it clear to the racists that as they rule by the gun, so shall they perish.

David Skhosana

If there was to be any formula for hatred, then this continued slaughter of our people by the Pretoria fascists is one. There's totally no point in getting angry or crying. For anger and tears won't wash off the racist filth from the face of our country. Our task is to wash this filth with hatred for the enemy, with revolutionary organisation and mobilisation. It is our task as young people in our revolution to see to it that our movement grows stronger. It is also our task as young people to ensure that we don't achieve 'moderate victory' but that all power - political and economic - must be in the hands of the oppressed and exploited people of South Africa. What we want is the complete dismantling of the present existing state machinery and replace it with a people's government.

In no way should we find ourselves ruling with the oppressors. For this would be a betrayal of Mahlangu, the cause of our three comrades in the death row and all our patriots.

Our objective is to ensure the implementation of the Freedom Charter.