

FUNERAL ORATION DELIVERED IN HONOUR OF THE LATE  
VUSI M. DIALE

DA 183

"The have always been people strong enough to resist the most powerful kings, to refuse to bow before them, (but) there have been very few to resist the masses, to stand up alone to the mislead multitude. "

Brothers and Sisters,

With the calm and solemnity that a place of death commands, I'm going to remind you of the dark days exactly 30yrs back, when Brakpan stood along with other black areas rejecting the introduction of Bantu Education, with more than 3 000 pupils boycotting the system then.

Since then we have noticed with dismay the total annihilation of our strength and unity. We have seen towards the last quarter of the 70's and early 80's, our people being gradually reduced into voiceless and toothless society— resulting in Tsakane becoming totally isolated from the rest of the Black population.

Today, heavy with crime, good residents despaired of the fate of the township, the moral destiny of Tsakane.....justice, honour, spirit — all seemed lost. History repeats itself, Historians say. Today our youth are caught up in an un-ending violent situations. Education being at the focal point once-more.

Young people or rather students have taken upon themselves to resolve their problems seein that parents have shown less inclination in their schooling affairs. School-parents meeting are poorly attended, the majority have never been in the school yards to assess their students' progress—in this instance such dissatisfactions are bound to happen. What is happening country-wide is a clear indication that students have lost confidence in their parents and leaders.

The seeds of hatred, the seeds of war, have been sown in the fertile soil of the students grieving hearts and begun to germinate.

To the Diale family and relatives, peace be unto you. You name has gone down in the annals of history, wherever justice and honour is demanded you shall be the source of reference to our children and their children. You gave birth to brotherhood and nationhood.

Vusi's real offence is that he has dared to stand up for truth and students demands at a moment when many saw the peril but no other was ready to brave the extremity of personal danger in order to aid in averting it. For that courageous vindication of basic student rights he will be honoured wherever men have free souls.

Do not pity him for what he had to endure and suffer. Envy ~~with~~him. Fate and courage swept him to the summit.

To the fallen comrade, fair well my brother, you were chosen to take your place in the struggle for peace and justice. When the names of the Heroes are written, yours too shall be among them. You shall be there with Steve Biko, Mapetla Mohapi, Saul Mkhize and others.

Peace be with you.

lala chawe, uyadela wenz ucolapho.

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