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PEOPLE CURRENTLY UNDER SENTENCE OF DEATH
IN SOUTH AFRICA AFTER BEING CONVICTED
IN TRIALS ARISING OUT OF POLITICAL PROTEST

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March 1989

Death Row List

PEOPLE CURRENTLY UNDER SENTENCE OF DEATH IN SOUTH AFRICA March 1989

Patrick MANGINDA (23)
Desmond MAJOLA (27)
Dickson MADIKANE (26)

Sentenced to death in September 1986 in the Cape Town Supreme Court by Justice AJ Lategan. Convicted of murder following the killing of a councillor by a crowd of over a hundred in Bridgton, Oudtshoorn in November 1985. Appeal rejected, September 1988. Lawyers petitioning State President to re-open trial to hear new evidence.

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Similo Lennox WONCI (21)
Mziwoxolo Christopher MAKELENI (22)
Ndumiso Silo SIPHENUKA (25)
Mackezwana MENZE (40)

Members of the Addo Youth Congress, sentenced to death in January 1987, in the Port Elizabeth Supreme Court by Justice Kroon. Convicted of murder on the basis of common purpose for allegedly killing a farmer and his wife in Kirkwood in June 1985. Petition for clemency rejected by President Botha. Execution date set for 4 October but all four subsequently granted a stay of execution for lawyers to seek permission to present new evidence showing that Wonci was two years younger than the trial judge had thought.

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Robert John McBRIDE (23)

ANC combatant, sentenced to death in April 1987 in the Pietermaritzburg Supreme Court by Justice Douglas Shearer. Convicted of the murder of three women killed in a car bomb explosion at Marine Parade, Durban, in June 1986. McBride said he had planted the bomb to protest at the State of Emergency imposed two days earlier with thousands of detentions. Appeal turned down, March 1988. Petition for clemency submitted, June 1988.

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Daisy MODISE (25)
Thomas CHAUKE (27)
Johannes TSHABALALA (18)

Sentenced to death in the Temba court of the Bophuthatswana bantustan in May 1987. The three are members of the Stinkwater Youth Organisation who allegedly participated in 'people's courts and necklacings'. No further details. Appeal thought to be pending.

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Death Row List

Tjeluvuyo MGEDEZI (28)

Member of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), sentenced to death with two others in May 1987 in the Klerksdorp Circuit Court by Justice J J Strydom. Convicted of murder for the killing of team leaders at the Vaal Reefs gold mine in February 1986. His co-accused were acquitted on appeal and released in October 1988 while his appeal failed.

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George SKOSANA (22)

Community activist from Atteridgeville, sentenced by Justice J P O de Villiers in the Pretoria Supreme Court in June 1987. Convicted of killing a suspected police informer in Saulsville in February 1986. Refused leave to appeal. Execution set for August 1988 but granted a stay of execution to petition the State President for clemency.

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Mzwandile GQEBA (22)Lundi WANA (20)Thembinkosi PRESSFEET (30)Mzwandile Roro MNINZI (27)Monde Trevor TINGWE (23)

Wantu SALINGA (27) : Died in prison, December 1987

Sentenced to death in June 1987 in the Supreme Court sitting in Port Alfred. Convicted of murder for the killing in Queenstown in December 1985 of a woman accused of fraternising with the police. She was killed shortly after police shot dead 14 people attending a meeting in the local Methodist Church. Appeal due, March 1989.

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Senele MASUKU (22)Oupa Josias MBONANE (21)

Sentenced to death in August 1987 in the Pretoria Supreme Court by Justice Human. Convicted of murder for the alleged killing of a policeman in Soshanguve in February 1986. Masuku was already serving a 10 year sentence imposed earlier in the year for participation in the ANC's armed struggle.

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Death Row List

Joseph CHIDI (23)

Sentenced to death by Justice le Grange in the Rand Supreme Court in September 1987. Convicted of murder for the killing of a councillor in Tembisa in May 1986. Appeal due February 1989.

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Vuyisile GONI

Member of the Port Elizabeth Youth Congress (PEYCO) sentenced to death by Justice Mullins in the Supreme Court sitting in New Brighton in September 1987. Convicted of a killing in Walmer in November 1985.

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Nico Ledube MNYAMANA (31)Menzi TAFANE (21)

Sentenced by Justice Solomon in the Port Elizabeth Supreme Court in September 1987 for a killing in Burgersdorp in January 1986. Convicted on the evidence of two unnamed state witnesses who were indemnified from prosecution and whom the defence stated had been offered money by the police to implicate them. Leave to appeal granted.

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Johannes MOSEKI (23)

Sentenced in October 1987 in the Rand Supreme Court by Justice Irving Steyn. Convicted of killing a policeman in Tembisa in March 1986. Application to appeal rejected by Appeal Court, March 1988.

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ReubenClifford

Both sentenced in November 1987 in the Nelspruit area after being convicted of the murder of a suspected police informer. No other details.

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Mtutuzeli Bottoman NGQANDU (22)

Sentenced in November 1987 in the Supreme Court sitting in Uitenhage by Justice Foxcroft. Convicted of killing a policeman in Port Elizabeth in September 1985. Granted leave to appeal.

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Death Row List

William Mzazile NTOMBELA (30)

Sentenced in the Rand Supreme Court in November 1987. A shop-steward with the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (CCAWUSA), Ntombela led a strike against the State of Emergency in July 1986. Convicted of killing a strike-breaker. Appeal rejected November 1988. Petition for clemency launched by CCAWUSA.

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Abraham MNGOMEZULU (23)

Sentenced to death in November 1987 in the Rand Supreme Court by Justice O'Donovan. Convicted of killing a suspected police-informer during a stayaway in support of the rent boycott in Soweto in April 1986. Execution set for 14 July but granted a stay in order to petition the Chief Justice for leave to appeal.

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Abraham ZEYO (23)

Sentenced in 1987 in the Eastern Cape. Convicted of murder following the death of a woman killed by a crowd searching for an informer in Kirkwood in April 1985. Appeal due, March 1989.

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Mxolisie NCAPHAYI (20)Vuzumsi JACK (24)Samson BOOYSEN (35)Bennet SONAMZI (22)

Sentenced in the Grahamstown Supreme Court in January 1988 by Justice le Roux. Convicted of murder for the death of a man stoned by a crowd in Kwezi, Hanover, in December 1985. Ncaphayi, a member of the Hanover Youth Organisation, has been granted leave to appeal. The other three are petitioning the Chief Justice to be allowed to do the same.

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Gilindoda Norman GXEKWA (22)

Member of the Uitenhage Youth Congress sentenced to death three times in three separate trials between August 1987 and March 1988. First sentenced by Justice T M Mullins in the Supreme Court in New Brighton for killing a suspected informer in Uitenhage in the aftermath of the police massacre there in March 1985.

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Death Row List

Gilindoda Norman GXEKWA (22)
Xolani Moses STUURMAN (25)
Vuyani Petrus JACOBS (19)

Gxekwa was sentenced again, with two others, in the Port Elizabeth Supreme Court in February 1988 by Justice Solomon for killing an alleged police informer in December 1985 in Uitenhage. Both Gxekwa and Stuurman were assaulted and tortured with electric shocks. Gxekwa was found to have 'closely associated' himself, though not actively participated in, the fatal attack. Stuurman granted leave to appeal.

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Gilindoda Norman GXEKWA (22)
Vuyani Petrus JACOBS (19)
Mthetheleli LUCAS (24)
Tozamile MOOI (27)

Gxekwa and Jacobs with two others were sentenced by Justice van Rensburg in the Grahamstown Supreme Court in March 1988 for killing a suspected police collaborator in Uitenhage in October 1985. The conviction of Lucas and Mooi was on the basis of 'common purpose'. Only Mooi was granted leave to appeal. Lucas has petitioned the Chief Justice for leave to do the same.

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Rodney MOLOI (24)
Stanford LEBEPE (24)

From Tembisa, sentenced in March 1988 after being convicted of killing a municipal policeman. Appeal due, March 1989.

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Elliot Malindana NKUNA (37)
Mpande Joseph MALHALELA (30)

Sentenced in the Supreme Court sitting in Nelspruit in March 1988. Convicted of the murder of a man at Mbuzini in June 1986. In July 1988 they were granted leave to appeal and to reopen their trial to hear new evidence. Appeal due, March 1989.

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Mthetheleli Zephania MNCUBE (27)
Mzondeleli Euclid NONDULA (24)

ANC combatants sentenced by Justice J P O de Villiers in the Circuit Court sitting in Messina in May 1988. Convicted of murder for causing landmine explosions. Mncube was also charged with killing two policemen while escaping from custody. Granted leave to appeal.

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Mandla MNGOMEZULU (25)

Sentenced in May 1988 by Justice Galgut in the Supreme Court sitting in Stanger. Mngomezulu, an ANC member reportedly picked up in Swaziland, was convicted of killing a suspected police informer in May 1987.

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Sipho GONYA (18)

Phutumile DLABATHI (18)

Sentenced in July 1988 by Acting Justice Grobbelaar in the Supreme Court in Port Alfred. Convicted of murder for killing a suspected police informer in Duncan Village in October 1985. Granted leave to appeal.

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Stanford NGUBO (36)

Johannes BUTHELEZI (46)

Bethwell SABELO (39)

Vusumuzi KHUZWAYO (24)

Sentenced to death in August 1988 by Justice van Heerden in the Durban Supreme Court. The four, three of whom were bus drivers and members of the Transport and General Workers Union, were convicted of murder for killing a bus driver who refused to join a strike. Refused leave to appeal.

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Israel MACHASA (25)

Jerry MOLEBENG (25)

Johannes MONO (23)

Sentenced by Justice Lichtenberg in August 1988 in the Bloemfontein Supreme Court. Convicted of killing a municipal policeman during a stayaway in Tumahole, Parys, in May 1986.

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Dilizintaba 'Lucky' NOMGANGA

Sentenced to death in the Orange Free State Supreme Court in September 1988 by Justice Van Coller. NUM shaft steward at the Welkom Western Holdings gold mine convicted of murder after two mine officials were killed in unrest following dismissals in June 1987. Granted partial leave to appeal.

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Death Row List

Mangena Jeffrey BOESMAN (35)
Msokili Alfred WILLIE (20)
Mhlawubi William DESEMELE (21)

Sentenced to death by Justice Zietsman in the Grahamstown Supreme Court in October 1988. Convicted of killing a teacher during a school boycott in Sterkstroom in October 1985. Refused leave to appeal, March 1989.

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Wilson MATSHILI (33)
Patrick MOLEFE (27)
Takalani David MAMPHANGA (25)
George MAUGEDZO (36)

Sentenced by Justice T T Spoelstra in the Rand Supreme Court in March 1989. Four South African Railways and Harbours Workers Union members convicted of murder following the killing of four strike-breakers during a South African Transport Services (SATS) dispute in April 1987.