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PROFILE: Ntombi Regan SHOPE (Ms)

Born April 15, 1950 at Shiluvane Hospital, Northern Trasvaal

Fourth child of Mark and late Grace Shope.

Widow of late Edward Shakes Kubayi.

Attended primary school at Nwamitwa Village in the Northern Transvaal.

Secondary education at Morris Isaacson High School in Johannesburg.

Teacher training at Tivumbeni Training School Tzaneen.

Mother of four children, two daughters and two sons.

In 1980 left teaching and went to the University of the North to study Law.

In 1980 I joined a student's organization, Azaso, and in September was elected minute secretary thereof.

After a protest boycott of classes, which was called by Azaso against detention under security law of two fellow students, I was refused permission to reenter the University in 1983.

I stayed home in 1983 at Nkowankowa, Tzaneen. and founded a women's organization called Pfunanani to help develop women, since my area was rural and undeveloped.

I represented Pfunanani in the first working committee that established the U.D.F. in the Trasvaal in 1983.

In 1984 I was arrested at the Tiokweng border coming from Botswana into South Africa.

I was kept incommunicado from March 18th to August 17th 1984.

I was later charged with terrorism and furthering the aims of the African National Congress.

On January 30, 1985 I was sentenced to 3 years imprisonment.

In 1988, after my release, I found employment in the Lowveld Council of Churches in the Eastern Transvaal as a fieldworker in the Home & Family Department. '

I then organized unemployed workers and founded a women's organization for the region, Eastern Transvaal Women's Union.

In September, 1989, I was elected chairperson of the region's reception committee, to receive leaders released from Robben Island when they visited the region.

In April, 1990, I was appointed by the Internal Leadership core of the A.N.C. to be Regional Convenor of the legal A.N.C. in the Eastern Transvaal Region.

At this moment I am still working as convenor, and I do general welfare work.

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Eastern Transvaal Region

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