

Kwedie Mzingisi Zilindile Mkalipi (1934 -)

ORDER OF LUTHULI IN SILVER



**AWARDED TO KWEDIE MZINGISI ZILINDILE MKALIPI
FOR HIS EXCELLENT CONTRIBUTION TO THE STRUGGLE
FOR A NON-RACIAL, NON-SEXIST, JUST AND DEMOCRATIC
SOUTH AFRICA**

Kwedie Mkalipi was born in 1934 in Bazia in the district of Umtata in the former Transkei. He took part in politics in the late 1950s and in 1962 was arrested and charged with being a member of the banned Pan Africanist Congress. He was acquitted when State witnesses refused to testify against him.

In 1964, he was again arrested, and was charged with sabotage in 1965. He was convicted in February 1966 and sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment. He spent two decades in Robben Island's notorious 'B' Section. Mkalipi was released in December 1985, but immediately arrested under the State of Emergency regulations and subsequently deported to the Transkei.

After his release in 1986, Mkalipi taught History, Business Economics and Economics at several schools in the Peninsula. From 1987 to 1997, he was General-Secretary of the Savings and Credit Co-operative League of South Africa. In 1997, Mkalipi became the Chief Executive Officer of the National Co-operatives Association of South Africa, a position he held until his retirement in 2003.

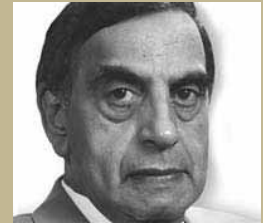
He is a founder member of the National Co-operatives Association of South Africa and the National Agriculture Central Co-operative Sector of Africa.

He was a fearless fighter against *apartheid* and continues to be an avid human rights supporter who looks back with pride at the triumphant political transition from the *apartheid* system to the new democratic and free South Africa.

Abdullah Mohamed Omar (1934 - 2004)

ORDER OF LUTHULI IN SILVER

**AWARDED TO ABDULLAH MOHAMED OMAR
FOR DEDICATING HIS LIFE TO THE STRUGGLE AGAINST
APARTHEID AND FOR HIS EXCELLENT CONTRIBUTION TO
THE BUILDING OF A DEMOCRATIC, NON-SEXIST, NON-
RACIAL AND JUST SOUTH AFRICA**



Popularly known as 'Dullah', Abdullah Mohamed Omar was born in 1934 in Observatory, Cape Town and studied law at the University of Cape Town. He graduated with an LLB degree in 1957. He was admitted as an attorney in 1960 and as an advocate of the Supreme Court in 1982.

While practising as both an attorney and an advocate, he served deprived communities, being involved in civil and criminal defence work and handling housing, pass laws, labour and work-related cases. He was a defence lawyer in many political trials involving members of banned organisations being charged with resistance activities against the *apartheid* regime.

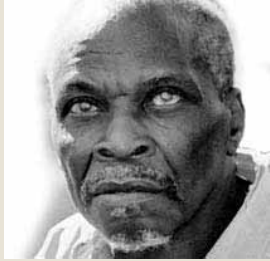
Omar was Chairperson of the United Democratic Front (UDF) Western Cape region in 1987 and 1988, and Vice-President from 1988 until the UDF's dissolution in 1991. He was a national Vice-President and Western Cape Regional President of the National Association of Democratic Lawyers, a trustee of the South African Legal Defence Fund. He served as director of the Community Law Centre at the University of the Western Cape until his appointment as South Africa's first Minister of Justice in a democratically elected government in 1994.

He was elected to the African National Congress (ANC) National Executive Committee in 1991 and as Chairperson of the ANC in the Western Cape in 1996. He was a member of the constitutional committee of the legal department of the ANC from 1990 to 1994, and a member of the ANC's negotiating team leading to the constitutional and political settlement in South Africa. Omar served as Minister of Justice from 1994 to 1999, and was also the Minister responsible for Intelligence. He played a key role in the overhaul of South Africa's Intelligence services. As Justice Minister, his key stewardship role in the setting up and activities of South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission will be remembered for years to come.

He was appointed Minister of Transport in June 1999, after the country's second democratic election. Omar was honoured with Doctorates of Law from the University of Fort Hare in 1993, the University of Durban-Westville in 1996, and the University of the Western Cape in 2004. He was also honoured with awards in the United States, Chile and Germany for his contribution to the struggle for human rights in South Africa.

Madimetja Laurence Phokanoka (1938 -)

ORDER OF LUTHULI IN SILVER



**AWARDED TO MADIMETJA LAURENCE PHOKANOKA
FOR HIS EXCELLENT CONTRIBUTION TO THE STRUGGLE FOR
DEMOCRACY, NATION-BUILDING, HUMAN RIGHTS AND PEACE**

Madimetja Laurence (Phokes) Phokanoka was born in 1938 in Sekhukhuneland in the former Lebowa. He was a student at the University of Fort Hare in the late 1950s when he was a wanted man for his involvement in student activities. Realising the broader patterns of oppression, of which student governance was but one, Phokanoka, fired by idealism, cast his sights beyond student affairs.

He went underground and, under the command of Walter Sisulu, joined Umkhonto we Sizwe. He soon became a commissar and was involved in the Wankie-Spolilo Operation, after which he was arrested and sentenced to 18 years on Robben Island.

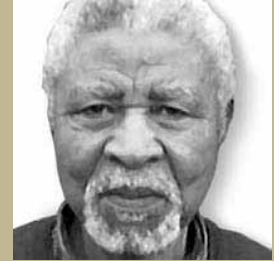
On his release, he was involved in peace negotiations with the security forces of the former regime in the then Northern Transvaal. He declined nomination to Parliament and preferred to work as a junior official in the then Northern Province Department of Safety and Security. He is now blind, retired and living in the rural areas of Sekhukhuneland.

Madimetja Laurence Phokanoka has made an outstanding contribution to the struggle for democracy. He is a true nation-builder, actively involved in nurturing basic democracy and human rights, and is a pioneer of justice and peace as well as conflict resolution.

Archibald Sibeko (Zola Lembe) (1928 -)

ORDER OF LUTHULI IN SILVER

**AWARDED TO ARCHIBALD MNCEDISI SIBEKO
FOR HIS EXCELLENT CONTRIBUTION TO THE
STRUGGLE FOR LIBERATION, WORKERS' RIGHTS
AND A NON-RACIAL AND NON-SEXIST SOUTH AFRICA**



Archibald Sibeko, also known as Zola Zembe, was born on 3 March 1928 in Kwezana Village, near Alice in the Eastern Cape. He attended school at Lovedale, but moved to Cape Town where he became deeply involved in the trade union movement, alongside Oscar Mpetha and Ray Alexander Simons. He joined the South African Railway & Harbours Workers' Union (SARHWU) and became its Secretary. In 1955, he was a founder member of the South African Congress of Trade Unions (SACTU), the first non-racial trade union federation in South Africa.

Sibeko also joined the African National Congress (ANC) and the South African Communist Party in 1953 and was accused in the Treason Trial in 1956. He was acquitted and permanently banned, but remained a champion in the struggle on all fronts – both for workers' rights as well as for political emancipation. When the decision was taken to form Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK), he was among the first to become involved in the Western Cape.

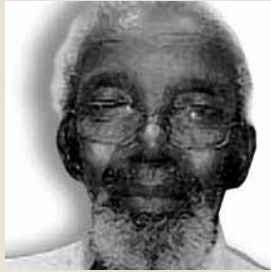
He was arrested with the late Chris Hani in 1961, but before the finalisation of the trial, the Western Cape region instructed him and his comrades to go abroad for military training. This involved considerable personal sacrifice, as he left behind his five young children and his expectant first wife, whom he never saw again, since she died a few years later. He travelled to Botswana, Zambia and Tanzania, before going to the Soviet Union and Cuba for military training in 1964. On his return to Tanzania, MK's first camp was opened in Tanzania at Kongwa, where Sibeko was a Camp Commander. He was later deployed to Western Europe.

Sibeko vigorously mobilised the international trade union movement in support of the struggle against *apartheid*. As the National Treasurer and later the Co-ordinator for Western Europe, he travelled widely in Europe, the United States, Canada, Australia and the former Socialist countries, winning millions of workers across the world in support of the struggle for freedom and democracy in South Africa.

On returning to South Africa in 1990, Sibeko was elected Honorary President of SARHWU and was elected Deputy Chairperson of the ANC in the Western Cape. Archie Sibeko also worked in the first democratic election in 1994 at a voting station in Khayelitsha. After suffering a minor stroke, he returned to the United Kingdom to join his wife, Dr Joyce Leeson.

Christmas Fihla Tinto (1925 -)

ORDER OF LUTHULI IN SILVER



AWARDED TO CHRISTMAS FIHLA TINTO FOR HIS EXCELLENT CONTRIBUTION TO THE STRUGGLE FOR A NON-RACIAL, NON-SEXIST, JUST AND DEMOCRATIC SOUTH AFRICA

Christmas Fihla Tinto was born on Christmas day in 1925 in the Mqanduli district of the former Transkei. At an early age, he found himself swept into a current of protest and revolt. In 1942, after taking a leading role in a protest against poor food at St John's College in Umtata, he was expelled and his angry father sent him to work on the mines in Boksburg. Once again he became embroiled in protest actions. He was taken to Germiston station in handcuffs, and was deported to the Transkei. He subsequently left to work in Cape Town, joining the Langa branch of the African National Congress (ANC) in 1951. He was elected its chief volunteer in 1954.

In 1960, Tinto took part in the march of 30 000 people from Langa to Caledon Square police station, Cape Town, virtually on the doorstep of the white Parliament, which immediately led to the first State of Emergency being declared, under the Verwoerd regime. In 1961, he was delegated to attend the All-Africa Conference in Maritzburg. During the 1976 youth uprising, Tinto was detained in Polsmoor Prison and on Robben Island until his release in 1978.

In 1983, at the launch of the United Democratic Front (UDF), Tinto became Vice-President for the Western Cape region. He played a key role in various UDF campaigns and was subsequently re-elected. Following the imposition of a State of Emergency, Tinto was once again detained and finally released in 1985. He was one of the first Western Cape members of our new democracy's Upper House of the time, the Senate, from 1994 to 1996.

Dorothy Nomazotsho Zihlangu (1920 - 1991)

ORDER OF LUTHULI IN SILVER

**AWARDED TO DOROTHY NOMAZOTSHO ZIHLANGU
FOR HER EXCELLENT CONTRIBUTION TO THE
STRUGGLE FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND FOR HER
SELFLESS CONTRIBUTION TO THE STRUGGLE
FOR A FREE AND DEMOCRATIC SOUTH AFRICA**



Dorothy Nomazotsho Zihlangu was born in 1920 at Dyamala Village in Alice in the Eastern Cape. She received her Standard Six primary education at Ncerha Primary School in Alice.

In 1939, she went to Cape Town with the intention of improving her educational qualifications. Financial constraints prevented her from doing so, however, and she found a job as a domestic worker in Green Point.

In 1941, she was forcibly relocated from the Cape Town city centre to Langa township under the Group Areas Act where she joined the African National Congress and later the ANC Women's League.

Zihlangu took part in the Defiance Campaign in 1952, which defied all laws promoting racial segregation on trains and public amenities. The Campaign, which was a crucially important political factor in the period prior to the banning of the ANC and other political organisations in 1960, led to the formation of the Federation of South African Women in 1954.

Between 1954 and 1955, she was among the local organisers and volunteers who were actively involved in the Freedom Charter Campaign, which ultimately led to the adoption of the Freedom Charter in Kliptown near Johannesburg on 25 June 1955.

In 1956, she participated in the historic women's march to the Union Buildings in Pretoria to protest when the draconian pass laws were extended to women.

In 1960, Zihlangu participated in the one-day 'stay-at-home' protest, during which people had to surrender their *dompasses* at their nearest police stations. In April 1960, she was, along with many other women activists, arrested and detained for six months under the State of Emergency regulations. At that time, she was pregnant and immediately after her release she gave birth to a son, Melisizwe.

She was banned and put under house arrest with her husband in the same house.

Zihlangu was actively involved in the founding of the United Women's Organisation, of which she became Vice-Chairperson in 1985, the South African National Civic Organisation and the United Women's Congress.

At the beginning of the State of Emergency in the mid-1980s, Zihlangu went into hiding, but continued to work underground for the ANC. However, police later arrested her. In 1988, she was part of the group of persons who decided to defy their banning orders. This forced the State to lift the banning orders but other restrictions were imposed on them.

Flag Marutle Boshielo (1920 -)

THE ORDER OF LUTHULI IN GOLD



AWARDED TO FLAG MARUTLE BOSHILO FOR HIS EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE STRUGGLE FOR LIBERATION AND WORKERS' RIGHTS

Flag Marutle Boshielo was born into a poor family in 1920 in Phokoane in the Sekhukhune district, in the then Northern Transvaal. He was the founder member of Sebatakomo, a resistance movement in Sekhukhuneland. He later went to Johannesburg to seek employment.

Boshielo's political activism started while he was working as a driver for a bakery in Johannesburg, when he recruited workers to join the Bakery Workers' Union and the broader liberation movement. His outstanding leadership saw him elected to the national leadership of the South African Congress of Trade Unions (SACTU).

Boshielo joined the Communist Party of South Africa (CPSA) and the African National Congress (ANC) in the 1940s and became an active member. His commitment, bravery and dedication to the cause of his people saw him elected to serve in the Transvaal Executive Committee of the ANC.

The CPSA assisted Boshielo to further his studies through evening classes. He actively participated in the historic Defiance Campaign of 1952, one of the highlights of the liberation struggle in South Africa. Owing to his revolutionary role in the liberation struggle, Boshielo became a prime target in the wave of *apartheid* repression. He was barred from attending gatherings and ordered to resign from all organisations to which he belonged. The ANC subsequently sent him for political and military training in Moscow, in the then Soviet Union. Upon completion of his military training, he was sent to Tanzania to form part of the Congwa camp of Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK). While in Tanzania and Zambia, Boshielo played a prominent role in MK.

In 1972, he was captured near Caprivi (bordered by Botswana, Namibia and Zimbabwe), while on his way to South Africa with two other freedom fighters to undertake an MK operation. His two comrades were killed instantly in a shootout and it is believed that Boshielo was captured and incarcerated by Ian Smith's forces in the then Rhodesia. Boshielo has not been seen since. The exemplary political contribution of Flag Boshielo remains an inspiration to freedom-loving South Africans.

John Langalibalele Dube (1871 - 1946)

THE ORDER OF LUTHULI IN GOLD

AWARDED TO JOHN LANGALIBALELE DUBE
FOR HIS EXCEPTIONAL LEADERSHIP AND CONTRIBUTION
TO THE STRUGGLE FOR EQUAL RIGHTS
AND A DEMOCRATIC SOUTH AFRICA



John Langalibalele Dube – scholar, gentleman, leader, farmer, teacher, politician, patriot and philanthropist – was born in 1871 in the former Natal. He was educated at Inanda and Amanzimtoti (later Adams College). In 1887, he accompanied the missionary W C Wilcox to the United States of America (USA), where he studied at Oberlin College while supporting himself through various jobs and lecturing on the need for industrial education in Natal. He returned to Natal, but soon moved back to the USA for further training and to collect money for a Zulu industrial school – as he called it – modelled along the lines of the Tuskegee Institute.

In 1901, he established the Zulu Christian Industrial School on 200 acres of land at Ohlange in the Inanda district. Three years later, he also launched the IsiZulu/English newspaper *Ilanga lase Natal* (Sun of Natal), through which he began to establish his political reputation.

On his return from his third visit to the USA in 1905, *Ilanga lase Natal* had attacked the decisions of missionaries, among others, on land allocation rent and their failure to defend African interests. Dube protested and petitioned the Government against proposed legislation. He used his newspaper to amplify the need for African unity and African representation, and to air more specific grievances. He particularly emphasised the need for education and financial help from white philanthropists.

Among his sources of influence, Dube was drawing on the prevalent thinking among blacks in South Africa at the time, and this in turn was influenced by some trends in black thought in the USA. In Natal, this African-American influence was due to the American Zulu Mission.

Thanks to Dube's interventions, printing, shoe-making, blacksmithing, bee-keeping, bricklaying, bookkeeping and other vocational courses were taught for the first time at Amanzimtoti.

Dube's African industrial school and newspaper were a direct challenge to the colonial authorities and the white workers, who feared 'competition' from African and Indian artisans in the 1890s.

Dube bitterly opposed the arrest and trial of Dinizulu in connection with the 1906 Bambata Rebellion and actively assisted in raising funds for his defence. The Natal Government attempted to suppress *Ilanga lase Natal* before and during the Bambata Rebellion. Dube publicised Dinizulu's arrest, and his relationship with the Royal House became so strong and enduring that by the 1930s he was acting as their chief adviser.

In 1909, Dube was a member of the delegation to Britain to protest against the Act of Union and in 1912 he accepted the Presidency of the African National Congress (ANC).

In 1914, Dube was one of the ANC delegates who went to London to protest against the 1913 Land Act. In 1935, he became a member of the All African Convention and represented Natal on the Natives' Representative Council from 1936 until his death in 1946, when he was replaced on the Council by Chief Albert Luthuli.

John Dube fought all his life for the unity and liberation of all Africans.

Anton Muziwakhe Lembede (1914 - 1947)

THE ORDER OF LUTHULI IN GOLD



**AWARDED TO ANTON MUZIWAKHE LEMBEDE
FOR HIS EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE STRUGGLE
FOR A NON-RACIAL, NON-SEXIST, FREE AND DEMOCRATIC
SOUTH AFRICA**

Anton Muziwakhe Lembede was born in 1914 at Eston in the former Natal. He completed his elementary education at home, being taught by his mother. The family moved to KwaMphophethwa in Mbumbulu in 1927 to enable the children to have access to formal education. Lembede, who had been baptised as an Anglican, converted to Catholicism, which played a central role in his life.

Lembede started his formal schooling at the age of 13 at the Catholic Inkanyezi School. He secured a scholarship to train as a teacher at Adams College, Durban, from 1933 to 1935.

Through private studies two years later, he passed the matriculation equivalence exams with a distinction in Latin. He taught in Natal and the Orange Free State during which time he obtained BA and LLB degrees over a six-year period from the University of South Africa (UNISA).

In 1943, he moved to Johannesburg to serve legal articles under Dr Pixley ka-Isaiah Seme, the veteran African National Congress (ANC) leader. He qualified as an attorney in 1946 and became Pixley Seme's law partner.

Two former acquaintances, Jordan Ngubane and A P Mda, initiated Lembede into the ANC in 1943. Together with other intellectuals, the three worked to form the ANC Youth League (ANCYL) on 10 September 1944.

Lembede was elected the League's first President. He was central in the drafting of the ANCYL's March 1944 Congress Youth League Manifesto which first outlined the League's African nationalist ideology. In 1945, UNISA awarded him an MA in Philosophy.

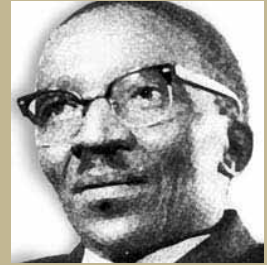
In April 1944, he was elected Provincial Assistant Secretary to the Transvaal ANC. In December 1946, he was elected to the National Executive Committee and became a member of the National Working Committee under A B Xuma's leadership.

Lembede, a profound intellectual, was a leading advocate of more militant strategies and tactics in the ANC, and was later considered an architect of the 1949 Programme of Action, even though he died before its adoption.

Isaac Bangani Tabata (1909 - 1990)

THE ORDER OF LUTHULI IN GOLD

**AWARDED TO ISAAC BANGANI TABATA
FOR HIS EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE FOUNDING
OF ORGANISATIONS WHICH FORGED UNITY AMONG
THE OPPRESSED ACROSS RACE AND CLASS BOUNDARIES**



Isaac Bangani Tabata, political activist and author, was born near Queenstown in the Eastern Cape and educated at Lovedale and Fort Hare. In 1931, he left university and moved to Cape Town, where he worked as a truck driver. He joined the Lorry Drivers' Union and became a member of its executive. He also joined the Cape African Voters' Association.

In 1933, he started attending meetings of the Trotskyist-oriented Lenin Club and subsequently was instrumental in founding the Workers' Party of South Africa, an offshoot of the Lenin Club.

He assisted in founding two organisations, the All-African Convention (AAC) in 1935 and the Non-European Unity Movement in 1943, later known as the Unity Movement of South Africa.

As an organiser of the AAC, Tabata made annual trips to the Transkei in the late 1940s and early 1950s. The political necessities of the time forced the people to organise on a nation-wide scale.

Tabata was banned in 1956. In 1961, he established and became President of the African People's Democratic Union of Southern Africa as a unifying instrument following the Sharpeville massacre of the previous year. In his 1962 Presidential Address to the African People's Democratic Union of Southern Africa, Tabata depicted the working class as the historical unifier of the disparate structural locations of oppressed peoples.

Tabata went to exile in Zambia in 1963 and also lived in Tanzania and Zimbabwe. He was married to Jane Gool, also a political activist.

Through fierce intellectualism and the unquenchable thirst for human freedom, I B Tabata made an indelible mark on the history of the liberation struggle.