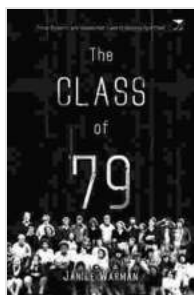


# Three Students Who Risked Their Lives To Destroy Apartheid

In the annals of history, the story of three ordinary students who risked their lives to destroy apartheid is a tale that deserves to be told and retold. Their courage, determination, and sacrifice ultimately helped to bring about the end of one of the most oppressive and racist regimes in history.

The three students were Steve Biko, Bantu Stephen Biko, and Barney Pityana. They were all born in South Africa in the 1940s, and they grew up witnessing the horrors of apartheid firsthand. Apartheid was a system of racial segregation that was enforced by the white minority government of South Africa. It denied black South Africans basic rights such as the right to vote, the right to education, and the right to own land.



## The Class of '79: Three Students Who Risked Their Lives to Destroy Apartheid by Abha Sharma

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 2551 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
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Print length	: 159 pages

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Biko, Biko, and Pityana were all deeply affected by the injustices of apartheid. They became involved in the anti-apartheid movement as teenagers, and they quickly rose through the ranks. Biko became the leader of the South African Students' Organization (SASO), and Biko became the leader of the Black People's Convention (BPC). These organizations were at the forefront of the fight against apartheid, and they played a key role in mobilizing black South Africans to demand their rights.

In 1976, the South African government cracked down on the anti-apartheid movement with a wave of violence and arrests. Biko, Biko, and Pityana were among those who were targeted. Biko was arrested and tortured by the police, and he died in custody in 1977. Biko and Pityana were also arrested and tortured, but they survived. They continued to fight against apartheid until the regime was finally overthrown in 1994.

The story of Biko, Biko, and Pityana is a powerful reminder of the power of courage, determination, and sacrifice. Their story is an inspiration to all who fight for justice and equality.

## **The Early Years**

Steve Biko was born in King William's Town, South Africa, on December 18, 1946. His father was a clerk and his mother was a teacher. Biko was a bright and inquisitive child, and he excelled in school. He was also a gifted athlete, and he played rugby and cricket for his school team.

Bantu Stephen Biko was born in Queenstown, South Africa, on December 18, 1946. His father was a minister and his mother was a teacher. Biko was a shy and reserved child, but he was also very intelligent. He was a voracious reader, and he loved to learn about history and politics.

Barney Pityana was born in Uitenhage, South Africa, on February 2, 1945. His father was a factory worker and his mother was a domestic worker. Pityana was a lively and outgoing child, and he was always getting into trouble. He was also a gifted student, and he excelled in math and science.

The three boys grew up in very different circumstances, but they all shared a common experience: they were all exposed to the horrors of apartheid from a young age. They saw how black South Africans were treated as second-class citizens, and they were determined to do something to change the system.

## **The Anti-Apartheid Movement**

Biko, Biko, and Pityana became involved in the anti-apartheid movement as teenagers. They joined the South African Students' Organization (SASO) and the Black People's Convention (BPC), and they quickly rose through the ranks. Biko became the leader of SASO, and Biko became the leader of the BPC. These organizations were at the forefront of the fight against apartheid, and they played a key role in mobilizing black South Africans to demand their rights.

The anti-apartheid movement was a dangerous one. The South African government was determined to suppress any dissent, and it used violence and intimidation to silence its opponents. Biko, Biko, and Pityana were all arrested and tortured multiple times. But they refused to be silenced. They continued to speak out against apartheid, and they inspired others to do the same.

## **The Death of Steve Biko**

On September 12, 1977, Steve Biko was arrested by the South African police. He was tortured for several days, and he died in custody on September 12, 1977. Biko's death was a major turning point in the anti-apartheid movement. It galvanized black South Africans and led to a wave of protests and demonstrations. Biko's death also helped to focus international attention on the issue of apartheid.

## **The End of Apartheid**

In 1994, the apartheid regime was finally overthrown. Nelson Mandela was elected president of South Africa, and he began the process of reconciliation and healing. Biko, Biko, and Pityana all played a role in the new South Africa. Biko became a member of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and Biko became a minister in Mandela's government. Pityana became a bishop in the Anglican Church.

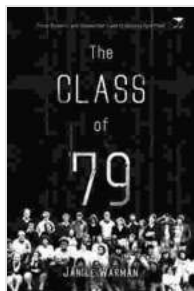
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## **Legacy**

The legacy of Biko, Biko, and Pityana is still felt today. They are remembered as heroes of the anti-apartheid movement, and their work continues to inspire people around the world who are fighting for justice and equality.

There are many ways to honor the legacy of Biko, Biko, and Pityana. One way is to learn about their lives and work. Another way is to support organizations that are working to fight racism and discrimination. Finally, we can all work to create a more just and equal world.

Biko, Biko, and Pityana were ordinary people who did extraordinary things. They risked their lives to fight for justice and equality, and they helped to change the course of history. We owe them a great debt of gratitude, and we must never forget their sacrifice.



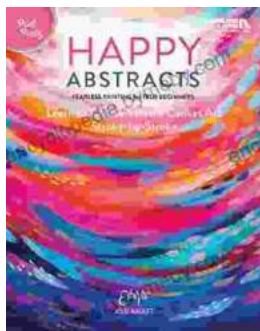
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