

STATEMENT ON THE BISHO MASSACRE (16/9/92)

With great sadness the Holy Father learned of the numerous victims of the recent violence at Bisho. He commends the dead to our heavenly Father's eternal love and invokes divine gifts of strength and comfort on the injured and on effected families. In the name of Jesus Christ the Prince of Peace, he begs all concerned to desist from the path of violence and to foster the ways of understanding, reconciliation and harmony. He encourages those responsible for the destiny of South Africa to lead the country in a peaceful and democratic way to a brighter and more just future.

While the immediate occasion of the message is the Bisho massacre, nevertheless, it is an expression of his concern for the violence, which continues to plague the country and to claim so many innocent lives and victims. Such a concern was manifested in his discourse to the bishops of the Southern African region during their visit to Rome.

His sentiments of condolences and prayers, then, embrace all the victims of violence and their families.

*Issued by: Archbishop Ambrose de Paoli
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