Inventory of the Reverend Allan Boesak Collection

Videos   **(AB 001-04)**

1985 – 2001

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Reverend Allan Boesak (1945 -)
Allan Aubrey Boesak was born on 23 February 1945 in Kakamas, Northern Cape, South Africa.

From 1970 to 1976 Rev Boesak studied at the Kampen Theological Institute in Holland, where he completed a doctorate on ethics. Returning to South Africa shortly after the 1976 Soweto uprisings, Boesak increased his political activities through the church. He became known as a liberation theologian, after the publication of his doctoral work, *Farewell to Innocence*, in 1976. He was elected President of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches in 1982, a position he held until 1991. Dr Boesak was inter alia an anti-apartheid activist, cleric and politician. He was jailed in May 2000 for a period of 36 months for fraud and theft. The case was heard before the Supreme Court of Appeal as well as the Constitutional Court and he was subsequently exonerated, granted an official pardon and reinstated as a cleric in late 2004.

He rose to prominence during the 1980s as an outspoken critic and opponent of the National Party's policies and played a major anti-apartheid activist role as a patron of the United Democratic Front (UDF) from 1983 to 1991.

He has written a book, *Running with Horses: Reflections of an Accidental Politician,* about his 30 years as an activist; it was published in 2009.

Reverend Allan Boesak Collection
1.   Background
The former Technikon South Africa (TSA) received the donation of personal records of Dr Allan Boesak in 16 boxes on 30 August 2000. Dr Danny Titus (then Dean of Public Safety and Criminal Justice Department at TSA) acted as mediator in the process of obtaining the personal records.

The records in question were housed at the University of the Western Cape (Historical Research Institute & Mayibuye Centre) at that time. Dr Boesak gave permission for his records to be moved to the TSA Archives and Records Centre.

After the initial transfer of records, Dr Titus handed 4 files containing records pertaining to Dr Boesak's court case to the TSA Archives. During 2001 several records, including audio, audio-visual and photographs were added to the Collection.

The collection consists of correspondence, copies of various court cases, newspaper and magazine cuttings, photographs, memorabilia and audio and video cassettes containing speeches and sermons. It is, regrettably, a fragmented collection as some of his records were seized during the apartheid era, while others remain abroad.

 TSA, Vista University and the University of South Africa (Unisa) merged in 2004 and the collection was transferred to the Unisa Archives on the Pretoria (Muckleneuk) campus.

Inventories, were created as each new donation was received.

2.   Description of this collection (38 tapes)
This collection consisting of video tapes was transferred to the Archives in 2001. It contains video tapes made by the Dutch company NCRV and various other individuals pertaining to Reverend Boesak. It also includes two televised interviews by John McClaughlin (USA) and Dali Tambo (SA). A series of seminars conducted by Allan and Elna Boesak under the banner of the Foundation for Peace and Justice is also included.
Items 4 and 24 contain very good footage on Allan Boesak's skills as orator.

As the videos were exposed to environmental damage (heat, dust, humidity), the quality of the images and sound have deteriorated. Both formats, VHS and BETA, were used for capturing information. Due to hardware obsolescence, the BETA tapes could only be viewed at the SABC. Migration to CD ROM on this collection should be done for preservation and retrievability.

Allan Boesak Collection – Videos (38 tapes)

NAME OF OFFICE	**Allan Boesak Collection**		SOURCE CODE	**AB 001-04**
PERIOD COVERED BY RECORDS	DATE FROM : **1985** DATE TO : **2001**		TYPE	**Video**

File Ref	Vol	Name/ Description	Date from	Date to	Item nr	Box
Cone Communication. VHS (x2)		Sounds against silence. Definitive version (2 copies).[1]	n.d.		001-04-01	15-16-1
IKON.VHS		Kerkdienst Guguletu: Fragmenten	19/12/1993		001-04-02	
VHS		ANC Salutes UDF/Rocklands Civic	18/08/1991		001-04-03	
NCRV. VHS		Hier en Nu. Zuid Afrika.[2]	13/09/1985		001-04-04	
NCRV. VHS		Miniatuur	10/01/1994		001-04-05	
GBOC. VHS		Global Business Opportunities Convention	n.d.		001-04-06	
VHS		US Talk Show: John McClaughlin interviews Joseph la Bonte & Allan Boesak[3]	n.d.		001-04-07	
BETA	1	Vrou in Veelvoud[4]			001-04-08	
BETA	2	Do.			001-04-09	
BETA	3	Do.			001-04-10	
BETA	4	Do.			001-04-11	
BETA	5	Do.			001-04-12	
BETA	6	Do.			001-04-13	
BETA	7	Do.			001-04-14	
BETA	8	Do			001-04-15	
BETA	9	Do			001-04-16	
BETA	10	Do.			001-04-17	
BETA	11	Do.			001-04-18	
BETA	12	Do.			001-04-19	
BETA	13	Do.			001-04-20	
BETA	14	Do.			001-04-21	
Kampanje. BETA	1	Lughawe Kimberley, trompoppies, vergadering met streek[5]			001-04-22	
Kampanje. BETA	2	Savoy Hotel. Onderwysers + Allan Vrouesentrum[6]			001-04-23	
Kampanje. BETA	3	Studentevergadering. Kimberley. Allan "Nou is die Tyd"[7]			001-04-24	

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[1] These are two identical copies of concerts given by popular musicians against oppression, i.e. Bruce Springsteen, Sting, Tracey Chapman

[2] This tape contains footage of the student uprising in 1976; defiance campaign as well as footage of Dr Boesak being awarded his doctorate in the Netherlands. Soundtrack damaged.

[3] John McClaughlin interviews these two ant-apartheid activists where they are making a plea for US investment after sanctions were lifted

[4] This is a series of videos where Allan and Elna Boesak embarked on an initiative for the empowerment and upliftment of rural women. It was done under the banner of the Foundation for Peace and Justice [Title in English: Woman in diversity]

[5] This tape appears to have been filmed shortly after Nelson Mandela's release from prison. The ANC is campaigning in Kimberley 1992/1993. It also contains footage of Nelson Mandela [Title in English: Airport Kimberley, drum majorettes, meeting with region]

[6] Allan Boesak and Nelson Mandela meets with teachers and the ANC Women's League [Title in English: Teachers & Allan]

[7] *Contains a speech by Nelson Mandela. Allan Boesak urges student that it is time now to vote for the* ANC

File Ref	Vol	Name/ Description	Date from	Date to	Item nr	Box
Kampanje. BETA	4	Studente. Kimberley. Professionele persone ouditorium[8] .	n.d.		001-04-25	15-16-1
Kampanje. BETA	5	Besigheidsmense. Mense algemeen	n.d.		001-04-26	
Kampanje. BETA	6	Verkiesing Kimberley. Nagmaal in Katedraal[9]	n.d.		001-04-27	
Kampanje. BETA	7	Onderhoud Madiba. Kerkdiens	n.d.		001-04-28	
Kampanje. BETA	8	Allan in Kerkdiens. Christelikheid[10]	n.d.		001-04-29	
Kampanje. BETA	9	Mynwerkers. SA Sakekamer	n.d.		001-04-30	
Kampanje. BETA	10	Laaste Rally Kimberley[11]	n.d.		001-04-31	
Kampanje. BETA	11	Heideveld Rally	n.d.		001-04-32	
Kampanje. BETA	18	Onderhoud Lionel Louw II	n.d.		001-04-33	
Kampanje. BETA	19	NEC Konferensie	n.d.		001-04-34	
Kampanje. BETA	20	Allan Boesak. Cradock/PE	28/03/1993		001-04-35	
Kampanje. BETA	21	Onderhoud Carl Niehaus	n.d.		001-04-36	15-16-1
		"How I'd love to be Free – Jimi Matthews			001-04-37	
VHS (x3)		Allan Boesak on People of the South. Interviewed by Dali Tambo	25/11/2001		001-04-38	

AVDW/9/AB 001-04(video)

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[8] Allan Boesak discusses the amalgamation of different departments of Education. He said that if the people wanted to have a government who would make Education a priority that they should vote for the ANC
[9] Holy Communion in the Cathedral
[10] Church service conducted by Allan Boesak in the Northern Cape. Possibly a Dutch Reformed Missionary Church
[11] Allan Boesak speaks to the people about the NNP's new image that cannot hide their dishonest faces