

Nat Nakasa – 2005 Awards

Winner

01



Alf Kumalo

It was the year of the jackboot of John Vorster. Habeas corpus had disappeared, the 90-day-detention without trial Act had given policemen a license to kill and assault behind closed doors with impunity. “The police hated journalists, and photographers in particular, for their pictures portrayed the truth about an evil system. Kumalo, despite warnings, risked a severe beating to take the Mashabela picture. He had tried to sell it to several papers with no success.” Sullivan said that Dave Hazelhurst, to his credit, had splashed the picture across two pages under the headline: Alf Kumalo, photographer extraordinary Kumalo has, over the decades shown integrity, fearlessness, resistance to censorship, courage and a commitment to serve South Africans by having his photos published despite obstacles.