Title:

Year of fire year of ash: the Soweto revolt: roots of a revolution

Authors:

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Abstract:

Some 35 years after its original publication, but never previously available in South Africa, *Year of Fire, Year of Ash* still stands as one of the leading accounts of the 1976-77 Soweto Revolt, one of the most significant acts of resistance in the history of the anti-apartheid movement. Authored by a South African activist and scholar who was intimately involved in the movement, *Year of Fire, Year of Ash* provides an unparalleled insight into the origins and events of the uprising, from its antecedents in the early 1970s to its role in galvanising the global struggle against apartheid. Crucially, the book overturned much of the conventional logic around the uprising, by showing that it was not simply a student protest, but a revolt by the wider black working class. As South Africa experiences a new wave of popular revolt, and as new forms of Black Consciousness come to the fore in movements around the world, Hirson's book provides a timely reminder of the continued significance of the Soweto revolt to struggles against oppression today. This South African edition includes an abridged transcription of an interview with Billy Masetlha.

Keywords:

SOWETO
AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS (ANC)
APARTHEID

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Originally banned on publication by the apartheid government, *Year of Fire, Year of Ash* is an eye-opening account of how, in June 1976, 20,000 school students faced down the tanks and guns of a vicious racist regime, in a revolt that galvanized the black working-class and became a pivotal turning point for the anti-apartheid movement. More than this, the book overturns much of the conventional logic that served to explain the event at the time, showing it was not simply a student protest, but part of a wider uprising. Released in this new edition to mark the fortieth anniversary, *Year of Fire, More* by Baruch Hirson. *Revolutions In My Life*. Baruch Hirson. Out of Stock. *The Cape Town Intellectuals: Ruth Schechter and Her Circle, 1907-1934*. Baruch Hirson. Out of Stock. *A History of the Left in South Africa: Writings of Baruch Hirson*. Out of Stock.