

# MINERS SHOT DOWN

A film by  
Rehad Desai

The *School of Public Health and Family Medicine*, in conjunction with the Health Sciences Faculty Transformation Portfolio, Rural Students Network, Health Sciences Student Council and the Students for Law and Social Justice will be co-hosting a showing of the critically-acclaimed and harrowing documentary about the shooting of the Marikana mine workers.

May 1<sup>st</sup> is May Day, a holiday that memorialises workers' struggles across the world for social justice, and marks the killing of workers by police during a march for the introduction of an 8 hour working day in Chicago in 1886.

While we gear up to celebrate May Day in South Africa this year, it sobering to reflect on one the biggest challenges to our post-apartheid democracy.

In August 2012, mineworkers in one of South Africa's biggest platinum mines began a wildcat strike for better wages. Six days later the police used live ammunition to brutally suppress the strike, killing 34 and injuring many more. Using the point of view of the Marikana miners, *Miners Shot Down* follows the strike from day one, showing the courageous but isolated fight waged by a group of low-paid workers against the combined forces of the mining company Lonmin, the ANC government and their allies in the National Union of Mineworkers.

What emerges is collusion at the top, spiralling violence and the country's first post-apartheid massacre. South Africa will never be the same again.

The film, directed by Rehad Desai, is approximately an hour and a half long. We will have a Question and Answer session after the film with Terry Bell, a labour journalist who has been closely associated with the making and distribution of the film.

URL for the film is at [www.minersshotdown.co.za](http://www.minersshotdown.co.za)

**Date: Tuesday, 29 April 2014**

**Time: 17h00 - 20h00**

**Venue: New Learning Centre Lecture Theatre**

**Directions to the venue: See map below**

# TABLE MOUNTAIN

