Ntlabati opens lecture series

By Seth Stein

The Political Science Department's series on Black Liberation Movements in Southern Africa began with a lecture Tuesday night in the Mezzanine lounge by the Reverend Gladstone Ntlabati, who said that the differences between blacks and whites "cannot be solved by agreement -- the only solution is a violent revolution."

Rev. Ntlabati was born in South Africa, where he attended the University of Natal before it was closed to Africans by the so-called University Extension Education Act. As an opponent of apartheid he was imprisoned and tortured by the government. In the United States he has worked with various black organizations in the process making an "invaluable study" of the differences between American and South African courts and jails.

The South African situation is unique, he said, in that the white Afrikaners, "given the choice between sharing political power or death, would choose death." They were colonizers who came to Africa 300 years ago, but are now a nation with a distinct language, culture, and tradition. An integral part of this tradition is their struggle.