

# Mr. President

*by Maina wa Kinyatti*

You who have made yourself  
Proprietor of our history  
Defender of backward ideas  
We are you captives  
You can keep us in captivity  
As long as you wish  
You can murder us  
But you cannot succeed in suppressing  
Our revolutionary writings  
You cannot cage ideas  
You cannot murder ideas  
Ideas belong to the people

In spite of your efforts  
The fire of revolution  
Will grow and spread  
From universities to factories  
From factories to the mountains  
From the forests to the river banks  
Your days are numbered

*15 January 1987  
Kamiti M.S. Prison*