

Truth would help

TOO many of those who lost members of their families to state-sponsored violence during the Struggle, still don't know exactly what happened to their loved ones. And so their search for the truth continues, all these years later.

That is certainly the case for the family of Ahmed Timol, who received the horrifying news that he had died five days after being arrested at a police roadblock in October 1971.

This was no ordinary death. Timol, a 29-year-old teacher and political activist, had died in police custody, but to this day, his family do not know what happened during those five fateful days before he was killed.

Now, 41 years later, his nephew Imtiaz Cajee is resuscitating the search for answers by launching a website in his uncle's name and by escalating the declassification of critical information now housed in apartheid-era archives.

We admire Cajee's efforts, and encourage him to forge ahead not only in the noble interests of the Timol family, but also on behalf of so many other families desperate for closure.

The fact that we are free and in a democracy does not ease the pain. But the truth would help.