

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 25 JANUARY 2016**

**RE: FOUR WOMEN SENTENCED FOR TEENAGER'S MURDER**

Fundiswa Faku (33), Lindelwa Jalubane (42), Nokubonga Jalubane (22) and Minenhle Jalubane (19) were sentenced in the Durban High Court on Friday for the March 2012 murder of 14 year-old Snethemba Dlamini.

The accused were related to the deceased with accused 1 and 2 being her aunts and accused 3 and 4 her cousins. On the day of the incident the accused gathered at the Umlazi home of accused 1 where they held a prayer service. They believed that the deceased was 'demon possessed' and wanted to rid her of the demons.

When the girl got home from school she was told that they were going to pray for her. The deceased was held down while accused 1 used a knife and her hands to remove the girl's intestines and internal organs through her vaginal cavity. The girl died on the scene.

In aggravation of sentence Senior State Advocate Noxolo Dube told the court that the accused had committed a horrific offence and their sentence should be a fitting one. She said that accused 1 and 2 were older than the deceased and she trusted them, looking to them for protection and guidance. To further her argument, she also used the social worker's report, where they had recommended direct imprisonment.

During sentencing, the presiding officer mentioned the irony of the incident saying that the accused had wanted to rid the deceased of evil spirits but they themselves ended up being instruments of evil.

Accused 1 and 2 were sentenced to life imprisonment and accused 3 and 4 were sentenced to 12 years imprisonment (half suspended for a period of 5 years on condition that they are not convicted of a similar offence during this period).

The Director of Public Prosecutions in KZN, Advocate Moipone Noko welcomes the sentence handed down by the court. "The sentences are appropriate given the serious nature of the crime. It is most unfortunate that a life was lost especially in such a gruesome manner. We hope that this sentence has a deterrent effect on like-minded offenders."

Kind Regards,

**Natasha Kara**

**Regional Spokesperson: DPP KZN**

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