

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

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RE: KILLER RAPIST SENTENCED TO LENGTHY PRISON TERM

On 28 August 2015, the Mount Fletcher Regional Court convicted and sentenced Zakhele Mchiza (39) of Nkululekweni village in the district of Mount Fletcher to an effective 88 years imprisonment. He was found guilty on two counts of raping a 26 year-old woman and 10 year-old girl, two counts of housebreaking with intent to commit an offence and one count of murder.

Mchiza was sentenced to life imprisonment for each count of rape, 18 years imprisonment for murder and ten years imprisonment for each count of housebreaking with intent to commit an offence. The court ordered that these sentences will not run concurrently.

On the night of 03 February 2012, Mchiza broke into the house of the 26 year-old victim. He then threatened to kill the victim, who was alone and raped her. While out on bail for the first rape, he broke into another house in Katlehong village, also in the district of Mount Fletcher, on the night of 27 September 2013. Once inside the house, he strangled an 80 year-old granny to death and thereafter raped her frightened 10 year-old granddaughter in the same room.

During the trial, Mchiza pleaded not guilty to all the five counts but acting regional court prosecutor, Banele Mhlongo led oral evidence of two witnesses and handed in DNA results linking the rapist to the crimes. Mchiza showed no remorse throughout the proceedings, even at the sentencing stage when he was informed that he was going to serve at least 88 years in prison he showed no emotions.

Passing the sentence, magistrate Ndumiso Booi commended the investigating officers who were involved in this case for their hard work. The NPA welcomes this sentence with

the hope that it will serve as a deterrent to would-be rapists who prey on vulnerable people.

Kind Regards,

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