

Media Statement



Tel: +27 12 845 6000

Email:
media@npa.gov.za

Victoria & Griffiths
Mxenge Building
123 Westlake Avenue
Weavind Park
Silverton
Pretoria

www.npa.gov.za

TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 24 June 2016

**RE: THAPELO LUCKY RABABUI SENTENCED TO 10 LIFE SENTENCES
& 504 YEARS**

Rababui (33) was convicted on 64 counts of heinous crimes by the North West High Court on 10 June 2016. These crimes were committed during a two year streak between 13 January 2012 and 02 May 2014 in Mahikeng and surrounding areas. They include rape, robbery with aggravation, housebreaking, pointing of firearm, attempted murder, attempted rape, assault, kidnapping, theft, malicious damage to property, driving without valid driver licence, reckless driving, unlawful possession of firearm and unlawful possession of ammunition charges.

In almost all incidents from which these charges emanated, the accused covered his face with a balaclava and his hands with gloves so that victims should not recognise him. In all his attacks he carried a firearm, a panga and or a knife and ordered them not to look at him whilst committing the acts.

In other methods that he used he would be in the company of others who are unknown and sometimes be driving or a passenger in a vehicle. The accused was arrested at a robot intersection where he collided with another vehicle. Both vehicles were declared write offs.

In handing down the sentence, Judge Samkelo Gura said the court would take into consideration the interest of justice and the interest of the community as well as personal circumstances of the accused person. He said the accused was not remorseful, pleaded not guilty and was linked to all crimes he committed through DNA and finger prints.

The court could not deviate from minimum prescribed sentence because of no substantial and compelling reason to deviate from prescribed sentence. It was also because of severity and seriousness of these crimes and therefore life sentences were

imposed. The accused who was a parolee. He was previously convicted for murder, housebreaking and unlawful possession of firearm in 2005. During that year he was sentenced to 10 years for murder and seven years for housebreaking and was ordered to run concurrently.

The court said the accused has a violent propensity, he is danger to society and in the interest of society he must be removed out of circulation permanently. The leave to appeal of conviction and sentenced was dismissed by the trial court.

The Director of Public Prosecutions, Advocate Johan Smit SC welcomes the sentence and congratulates both Advocate Ditaba Rantsane and Advocate Siphiwo Jika for their great work.

Kind Regards,

Frank Lesenyego

Regional Spokesperson: DPP North West

078 801 5756

flesenyego@npa.gov.za