

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

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RE: CHILD KILLER SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT

A 32 year-old man from Jan Kempdorp in the Northern Cape was today sentenced to life imprisonment by the Northern Cape High Court after he was found guilty of murder of a six year-old Kutlwano Garisepe and attempted rape of Kutlwano's mother.

Judge Livhuwani Vuma sentenced Tefo Dikole to life imprisonment for murder of Kutlwano who tried to prevent him from raping his mom while they were walking to school.

The court heard that on 22 August 2016, Kutlwano's mother missed the bus they usually took to school and she decided to walk with Kutlwano and his eight-year-old brother to school. While walking, they were stopped by the accused who asked the mother for R2, which she said she did not have.

The mother walked away but the accused grabbed her by the shoulder. She tried to fight off the accused but he over-powered her and pushed her to the ground. Kutlwano tried to fight the accused, slapping him and shouting for him to let go of his mother.

The accused took a broken bottle and stabbed Kutlwano several times. The boy died at the scene.

State Prosecutor, Advocate Kenneth Kgatwe requested the court to sentence the accused to a minimum sentenced as prescribed by law because he did not show any remorse and the murder was of the worst kind. He told the court that the boy suffered an unimaginable pain at the hands of the accused.

"The accused acted in the most callous and devious way by killing a young boy who was trying to protect his mother. His actions will forever have serious psychological consequences on Kutlwano's brother because he saw the accused trying to rape his

mother and his younger brother being stabbed to death. No person ever had to witness such a callous and evil act”, said Kgatwe.

Kgatwe further stated that the incident has shocked the community of Jan Kempdorp and that the community will lose respect for the courts, if the courts do not take these offences seriously.

Judge Vuma stated that the aggravating factors far outweigh the mitigating factors and there is nothing circumstantial and compelling for the court to deviate from the minimum prescribed sentence. She subsequently sentenced Dikole to life imprisonment for murder and seven years for attempted rape.

The Acting Director of Public Prosecutions in the Northern Cape, Advocate Abram Botha has welcomed the sentence. “We hope that this sentence will serve as a deterrent to would-be offenders who prey on vulnerable members of the society. The NPA is very pleased with the conviction and sentence. Justice has really been served”, said Botha.

Kind Regards,

Phaladi Shuping

Regional Spokesperson: DPP Free State

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