

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: 18 MAY 2017

RE: LIFE IMPRISONMENT FOR 5 KILLERS

Xolani Ntombela, Lungelo Dlamini, Siyabonga Gantsa, Ndumiso Nyandeni and Sibongiseni Ngema were sentenced to life imprisonment in the Durban High Court yesterday for the murder of a man in July 2015 in the Qakaza informal settlement, KwaMashu.

The accused lived in the KwaMashu Men's Hostel and the deceased, Nkunzikayibekwa Jabulani Nxumalo, lived in the informal settlement close by. On the day of the incident, the accused as well as other men from the settlement gathered together to discuss an allegation that someone had bewitched a member of the community. At the conclusion of the meeting some men including the accused remained behind, consuming alcohol and standing around a drum where a fire had been lit.

At some point, the deceased, whose house was close to the gathering, approached the group but then returned to his house. The members of the group and the accused began throwing stones at the deceased's car and house. They went on to forcibly enter his home and dragged him outside, placing him into the fire. The deceased was assaulted with boulders from a nearby building site and a tyre was placed on him. He died at the scene with the post mortem report citing head injuries and burns as the cause of death.

In aggravation of sentence, State Advocate, Bonga Mbokazi told the court that the accused had planned the attack and had killed the deceased in a brutal and vicious manner. Evidence in court was that prior to the incident, the accused were told that they shouldn't worry about going to jail as they would receive food and cigarettes there. Advocate Mbokazi also told the court that the accused had shown no mercy in killing the accused and had done so in full view of the community.

The court sentenced them to life imprisonment.

Director of Public Prosecutions in KZN, Advocate Moipone Noko, "We are very pleased with the conviction and sentence of the accused. It is an appropriate sentence that sends a message of zero tolerance to lawlessness thus deterring would-be offenders. The unfortunate loss of life is regretted."

Kind Regards,

Natasha Kara
Regional Spokesperson: DPP KZN
Enquiries: nramkisson@npa.gov.za
0716700229