

Media Statement



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TO : ALL MEDIA

DATE : 06 NOVEMBER 2017

RE : RAPIST GOT LIFE IMPRISONMENT

The Limpopo Local Division sitting at Thohoyandou sentenced the child rapist, Ronald Mulibana Sambo (29) to life imprisonment last week.

The accused raped the minor (5) on 13 October 2016 at Xikundu village in the district of Saselamane after he lured the child victim under the pretence of going to buy her sweets at a certain spaza shop.

He walked away with the child and three suspicious male persons followed him from behind. He was seen crossing the road with the child to the bush. The three continued to follow him into the bush and found him on top of the child, raping her. They grabbed him and called for back-up from members of the community who apprehended him until the police came.

The accused pleaded guilty to the charge and was found guilty as charged.

The State Prosecutor, Advocate Zwodangani Mabodi submitted to the court that the accused was found in the act and his case was an open and shut one and as such accused had no other avenue of escape open to him. The state argued further that the victim sustained very serious injuries to her genitals as reflected in the medical report. It was further submitted that the high court, as the upper guardian of all children, is duty bound to uphold the children's rights as contained in Section 28 of the Constitution.

He also called the mother of the victim who stated she has noted behavioural change from the child after the incident.

The acting Judge, Mannda Madima agreed with the state's submission that there were no substantial and compelling factors justifying a lesser sentence than life imprisonment and accordingly sentenced the accused to life imprisonment.

The NPA welcomes the sentence.

Kind Regards,

Mashudu Malabi- Dzhangi

Regional Spokesperson

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