

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

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RE: RAPIST SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT

The Free State High Court sitting in Phuthaditjhaba sentenced a 26-old man to life imprisonment yesterday after he pleaded guilty to three counts of housebreaking with an intent to rape and rape and two of housebreaking with an intent to commit crime unknown to the state.

Judge AJ van Rhyn sentenced Freedom Malane to three years for each of the two counts of housebreaking with an intent to commit crime unknown to the state, nine years for each of the two counts of housebreaking with an intent to rape and rape where the victims were aged 26 and 48 years respectively. Malane was sentenced to life imprisonment for housebreaking with intent to rape and rape where the victim was a 70 year-old woman.

In his plea, Malane stated that on 2 December 2017, he broke into the house into a house with an intent to commit crime but he was disturbed and left without taking anything. On 21 August 2018, he again broke into one of the houses in Phuthaditjhaba with intent to commit crime but left without taking anything.

On the same night, he broke into the house of his 70 year-old relative and raped her. On 16 December 2018, Malane broke into the house of a 26 year-old woman who was also related to him and raped her. He knew that the victims were alone when he broke into their houses. He committed the last offence on 16 June 2019 when he broke into the house of a 48-year-old woman and raped her in front of her children.

The last victim was able to identify him and he was arrested. DNA sampling and fingerprints linked him to the other criminal offences.

The State Prosecutor, Advocate Dansi Mpemvane presented a victim impact statement facilitated by Ntebo Tsatsanyane in which the two victims related to the accused stated that they no longer trust their family members because they were violated by one of them. The 48 year-old victim said that her children talk about the incident to their friends because they have not yet realised the seriousness of the incidents.

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Regional Spokesperson: DPP Free State

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