

# Media Statement



Tel: +27 12 845 6000

Email:  
[media@npa.gov.za](mailto:media@npa.gov.za)

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

[www.npa.gov.za](http://www.npa.gov.za)

**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 24 OCTOBER 2017**

**RE: RAPIST SENTENCED TO THREE LIFE SENTENCES & 15 YEARS IMPRISONMENT**

On 23 October 2017, the Tzaneen Regional Court sentenced Thabo Shadrack Maake (31) from Jokong village in the Bolobedu area to three life sentences for three counts of rape and a further 15 years imprisonment for robbery.

The first incident happened in 2009 at Jokong village where the accused threatened a 11 year-old victim with a sharp object and took her to the bush to rape her. On the second incident, Maake requested a 14 year-old girl, who was his relative to accompany him to buy cold drink. Along the way, he dragged her to the nearby bush and raped her. Again in 2013, Maake followed a woman who had just alighted from a taxi, he threatened her with a sharp object and took her to a nearby tree where he raped her. He further robbed her of a bag containing personal items. He took the woman to an unoccupied house where he raped her for the second time.

During the trial, he pleaded not guilty and denied all the charges against him. The state led the evidence of the complainants who positively identified the accused as the culprit. Two of the victims knew the accused prior to the incidents. The prosecutor further led DNA evidence which linked him to all three victims.

The court accepted the evidence of the state witnesses and convicted him for three counts of rape and one count of robbery.

In aggravation of sentence, the prosecutor, Rikhotso Paul presented the victim impact reports compiled by the probation officer and argued that life sentence should be imposed in respect of each count of rape and 15 years for the robbery charge. He submitted that there were no substantial and compelling circumstances which warranted deviation from the prescribed minimum sentence.

The court agreed with the prosecutor's submissions and sentenced him accordingly. The court ordered that the his name be entered into the National Register for Sexual Offenders.

Kind Regards,

**Mashudu Malabi- Dzhangi**  
**Regional Spokesperson**  
**DPP: Limpopo**  
**074 823 3603**  
[mmalabi@npa.gov.za](mailto:mmalabi@npa.gov.za)