

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

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RE: RAPIST SENTENCED TO THREE LIFE TERMS

A 23 year-old man from Maruping village in Kudumane, Northern Cape finally paid for his evil deeds when he was sentenced to three life sentences by the Northern Cape High Court sitting in Kathu. Acting Judge AJ Ndlovane sentenced Tiisetso Jethro Pieterse to an effective life imprisonment after he convicted him on eight counts of rape and four counts of robbery with aggravating circumstances.

The court heard that Pieterse started his crime spree in November 2012 when he raped his first victim in Maruping village. On 16 July 2014 he raped a second woman in the same village before robbing her of her cellular phone and cash. In October 2016 he broke into the house of his third victim and also raped her. He stole four cellular phones and cellular phone chargers.

Pieterse continued with his crime spree when he raped another woman in Batlharos village before running away with her cellular phone and cash. He raped two more women before raping a 9 year-old girl on 22 December 2015. He was arrested soon after raping a 12 year-old girl on 20 August 2016.

Arguing in aggravation of sentence, State Advocate Rowena Makhaga requested the court to impose hefty sentence on the accused.

"The only way to protect the community from the accused is to sentence him to life imprisonment because he was going to continue with his crime spree if he was not arrested. It is now the duty of the court to protect the community from him and the only way to protect the community is to sentence him to life imprisonment", said Makhaga.

Judge Ndlovane concurred with him and sentenced Pieterse to life imprisonment on each three counts of rape, 10 years for each of the other five counts of rape and 15

years for each count of rape. Pieterse will effectively serve life in prison after the judge ordered the sentences to run concurrently.

The NPA welcomes the sentences with the hope that it will serve as a deterrent to would-be rapists who prey on vulnerable members of society.

Kind Regards,

Phaladi Shuping

Regional Spokesperson: DPP Free State

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