

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 28 JUNE 2019**

**RE: TWO MEN SENTENCED TO 20 YEARS FOR MURDER**

The Mankweng Regional Court sentenced Matome Frans Shai (30) and Sipho Michael Mogano (26) to an effective 20 years imprisonment after they were found guilty of murder.

The court heard that on the evening of 20 May 2016, the deceased, Mokataki Mokwalakwala(25) was in a tavern when he was attacked by the two accused. Both accused pummelled him with fists and kicked him with booted feet until he fell unconscious. He was later taken to hospital where he died on arrival.

Both accused pleaded not guilty to the charge. However the court found them guilty as charged.

The state prosecutor, Matibidi Malatji, led the evidence of the forensic pathologist who testified on the injuries sustained by the deceased during the assault.

In aggravation of sentence, the prosecutor called the mother of the deceased who testified that since the death of the deceased who was a bread winner, she is suffering financially and pleaded with the court to impose an appropriate sentence.

The state argued that the court should impose an appropriate sentence on both accused, as they showed no remorse. The court concurred with the prosecutor that the only appropriate sentence is 20 years direct imprisonment. The accused then brought an application for leave to appeal their sentences but that was unsuccessful.

The Director of Public Prosecutions in Limpopo, Advocate Ivy Thenga commended investigating officer Moagi and Prosecutor Malatji for their good work in ensuring that the accused were punished for their evil actions.

Kind Regards,

**Mashudu Malabi- Dzhangi**

**Regional Spokesperson: DPP Limpopo**

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