

Schoolgirl 'deliberately' burnt

Sowetan, Pg 2 / 30/05/17, NW SAPS, NEGATIVE

Accused linked to death by petrol fire

By **Bongani Nkosi**

The fire which killed schoolgirl Boitumelo Dlamini in a veld near Letlhabile in North West was started by someone standing adjacent to her.

This testimony by a forensic expert contradicts defence of accused number one in the murder case, Cynthia Mosupi, 24, that she did not know who

lit the petrol-soaked Dlamini.

Mosupi and her co-accused and friend Sharon Thwala, 25, want the North Gauteng High Court in Pretoria to accept their version of events the day Dlamini was burnt alive.

Mosupi maintained that while they poured petrol over Dlamini, someone in the group of friends they were with lit a cigarette. Dlamini, whom they allegedly soaked with petrol to scare off and teach a lesson, suddenly went up in flames, Mosupi argues.

But Lit-Col MJ Bekker, stationed at the police's forensic laboratory, told Judge Tshifhiwa Maumela it was improbable that the fire could have been illuminated by someone not in close proximity to Dlamini.

Maumela heard that Thwala held the Grade 12 pupil, while Mosupi doused her with petrol.

Asked if the fire could have been started by someone removed from Dlamini, Bekker said: "No, not from a distance... It's most likely the fire came from one of the three."

Mosupi also suffered minor burn wounds on her buttocks and ankle during the fracas.

Bekker said she sustained the injuries because she became exposed to the rapid raging fireball. Dlamini was killed in a love triangle. Mosupi allegedly got angry that she was dating her ex-boyfriend Tokelo Makalepho, now 26.

Other two co-accused, Koketso Moyo and Victor Pilane, were acquitted before the matter was sent to high court.

The trial continues.

Missing man found burnt in grave

Sowetan, p. 2, 30/05/17
NW SAPS neg.
Death leads to revenge
killing of family member

By **Boitumelo Tshhele**
North West Correspondent

The body of a North West man who went missing after visiting his cousin has been found burnt and buried in a shallow grave.

Tuelo Mokoto went missing on May 2 while visiting his cousin Onalenna Seditso in Tlapeng village near Morokweng in Ganyesa.

Provincial police spokesman Brigadier Sabata Mokgwabone said three people have been arrested for his murder.

Mokoto's car was found burnt in the bushes a few days after he disappeared, but with no traces of his body.

His disappearance sparked an alleged revenge killing of the son of Onalenna, who was accused of knowing Mokoto's whereabouts.

The family feud led to the death of Okame Seditso, who was also burnt to death by unknown people.

Yesterday, Onalenna said the killings were painful.

She confirmed one of the three suspects arrested was her son. "I wish one day I would wake up and be told that this was a big nightmare, I cannot believe that my son killed his cousin."

She said she was shocked to hear about Mokoto.

Mokgwabone said no one was arrested in connection with the murder of Okame.

Mokgwabone said the suspects aged 28, 29 and 38 had already made their first appearance in court on May 26.

I'M NOT SAFE, SAYS MANYIKI

By DULILE SOWAGA
TSHEPO Manyiki (32), the accused in the murder case of 15-year-old Nombuyiselo Nombewu, abandoned his bail application yesterday.

Manyiki told the court he didn't feel safe and that he was threatened by other prisoners when he was being driven to the Klerksdorp Magistrates Court in North West.

Manyiki is accused of killing Nombuyiselo, from Jouberton, on 14 May and burning her body.

Angry residents filled the small courtroom to catch a glimpse of the accused, and the court orderly at one stage had to close the door to keep people out.

Many people protested outside the court, calling for the deaths to stop and to oppose bail for the suspect.

The case was postponed to 31 July for further investigation.



Residents of Jouberton protested outside the Klerksdorp Magistrates Court. Photo by Rapula Mancai

North West police spokesman Brigadier Sabata Mokgwabone said Nombuyiselo was last seen on 12 May, when her gogo sent her to one of the neighbours.

"She didn't come home and a missing person's case was opened on 13 May. Her burnt body was found in the bush the following day and in the evening the suspect was arrested," said Mokgwabone.

Manyiki was out on bail for another rape case that allegedly happened in December.

Girl slain, man in dock

(Pretoria News, SAPS NW) (POS) Pg 2.

A MAN, 32, accused of killing a 15-year-old girl and burning her body, abandoned his bail application in the Klerksdorp Magistrate's Court yesterday.

Tshepo Manyiki's legal representative told the court that other inmates had threatened his client when he was brought to court from Potchefstroom. His case was postponed to July 31. He is accused of killing Nombuyiselo Nombewu near Klerksdorp, and burning her body. She was last seen on May 12, when her grandmother sent her to one of the neighbours.

She did not come back home. Her burnt body was found in open veld two days later. - ANA

30/05/2017 THE STAR Pg 2 (POS) SAPS
Fearful accused rejects bail

A 32-YEAR-OLD man accused of killing a 15-year-old girl and burning her body abandoned his bail application in the Klerksdorp Magistrate's Court yesterday. Tshepo Manyiki said he was no longer applying for bail and that other inmates had threatened him. His case was postponed to July 31. He is accused of killing Nombuyiselo Nombewu at Jouberton Extension 7 near Klerksdorp and burning her body, which was found in the veld on May 14. Angry residents, mostly women, packed the courtroom. Manyiki also appeared in the same court on a separate charge of rape of a minor. - ANA

Kidnap accused seek bail

INA 1 Pg 3 1 New TR 30/05/17 1 New SAPS.
Police have arrested 32 people who allegedly set Ditsobotla municipality on fire and kept the mayor hostage

NTHUSANG LEFAPA

THE formal bail application of 32 people arrested for holding Ditsobotla local municipality mayor Daniel Buthelezi hostage will be heard tomorrow.

The 32 appeared in the Lichtenburg Magistrate's Court yesterday following their arrest on Thursday morning.

Last week police successfully arrested 32 people, who allegedly set the Ditsobotla local municipality on fire and kept the mayor hostage in an ordeal which lasted eight hours.

An angry community member, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said criminal elements and unemployment are the main causes of such behaviour.

"These kidnapping and torching of buildings are gang related and not caused by political infighting," he said.

"It is not the first time that some of these people have been arrested. We have seen a series of such occurrences and these people are not law abiding citizens.

"They even hijack some projects implemented by the municipality and not shops which are owned by foreigners.

"Today in court they did not show remorse and vowed to repeat what they did at the municipality."

MEC for community safety and transport Dr Mpho Mollhahane commended the police's swift response and decisiveness in apprehending the suspects.

"We have managed to secure the mayor safely, no suspect was hurt and



JUDGMENT DAY: Following a hostage situation involving mayor Daniel Buthelezi and the setting alight of the municipal offices 32 people will appear in the Lichtenburg Magistrate's Court tomorrow. PICTURE: MPHO MOLLHANE

we want to thank SAPS for a job well done. The department pleads with the public to calm down as everybody is safe and the situation has subsided."

Dr Mollhahane said his department completely condemned these acts of

hooliganism although he was happy that the mayor was home safe.

He said the damage cost will be high as the municipal chamber is completely burnt and that service delivery is not related to the kidnapping or torching of

the building as the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) process is at a state of consultation.

Police commissioner for Bokone Bophirima Lt-Gen Baile Motswenyane said the police force used all of their

units in the force which are at their disposal to ensure the arrests of the suspects and they were happy that the mayor is safe.

A municipal worker, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said she was deeply saddened by the events which transpired the previous day.

"I am really hurt because I do not know where I am going to work or if next month I will receive my salary. Mayor Buthelezi is a good person with a kind heart and it is sad that something like this happened to him, because his life was threatened at a place where he commits himself to serving the people of Ditsobotla.

"It is not right for anybody's life to be threatened in this manner."

Concerned resident Stephanus Botha commended the special task force and SAPS in general for apprehending the suspects in a swift manner and restoring the public's trust in the police who often come under fire.

"The police did a good job by arresting the suspects as some people think they can do as they please. Nobody has the right to burn buildings and go on the rampage just because they have unresolved issues with their leaders.

"Their arrest is a good example for other citizens in the country to say that you should follow the correct channels when you have grievances with the government."

Meanwhile, the offices are being cleaned at the municipality and most of them will be opened today. - Newsnote

The New Age Page 1 SAKS NW (P3)30 May 2017

'Murderer' abandons bail

UNION, COMMUNITY PROTEST OUTSIDE COURT FOLLOWING MURDER OF TEENAGER

THYS MOKGWAETSE

A MAN arrested in connection with the grisly murder of 15-year-old Nombuyiselo Nombewu abandoned his bail application yesterday.

Tshepo Manyiki, 32, briefly appeared in the Klerksdorp Magistrate's Court where he was supposed to request bail.

However, his legal representative Kgoiso Balozi then told the court that his client had decided against applying for bail.

Manyiki was arrested and charged with murder after Nombewu's charred remains were found in the veld in Jouberton, Klerksdorp, two weeks ago.

Nombewu's murder is one of many that have shocked the province and the nation at large, resulting in more calls for swift justice against perpetrators.

Some have gone to the extent of calling for the reinstatement of the death penalty for crimes of this nature.

Postmortem results are yet to identify the exact cause of death and if the deceased had been raped before she was killed.

During his appearance, members of Health and Other Service Personnel Trade Union of South Africa (Hospersa), the ANC and the community at large protested outside the court.

The deceased's aunt, Vuyelwa Nombewu said: "We are not happy

at all about the outcomes of the court, because our daughter is dead, while Tshepo (suspect) is still eating and living in a safe place.

"And we still ask ourselves why is he getting so much protection?"

"This is something that traumatised our family."

"The deceased's twin sisters, Khanyisa and Khanyisile, are 12 years old.

Hospersa national youth coordinator Mankisi Jan said: "Our justice system is failing us because it shouldn't be easy for these perpetrators to gain access to bail.

"I know bail is a matter of human rights, but what about the right to live the victim had been denied?"

Jan also blamed political leaders and the South African Council of Churches for not giving much support in these cases.

"There is a need for an organised structure composed of different civil society organisations which will deal with these kinds of issues on a daily basis," Jan said.

Hospersa's Happy Kall said the union will embark on an early protest again on June 21 to Klerksdorp Magistrate's Court as part of their campaign to oppose bail for Manyiki.

Kall said the union has called on law enforcement agencies to speed up all cases involving violence against women.

The case was postponed to July 31. mas@thorenwage.co.za



FUMING: Members of Health and Other Service Personnel Trade Union of South Africa and the community at large protested outside the Klerksdorp Magistrate's Court during the court appearance of Nombuyiselo Nombewu's alleged killer. PIETRE MATHOMANE