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### GIRL'S BREASTS, TONGUE CHOPPED OFF

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By KASONDE KASONDE AND BRIAN HATYOKA -

A TEENAGE girl in Kapiri Mposhi has been brutally murdered in yet another chilling sequel of suspected random ritualistic killings happening around the country.

The body of the girl was found naked with her tongue and both breasts ripped off. She was below the age of 20, according to police preliminary findings. The killers and the motive

behind the murder of the unidentified girl are yet to be known as investigations by police progress.

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The ritualistic killing occurred in a space of less than two weeks after another shocking murder of an albino woman in Lundazi in Eastern Province.

The Lundazi woman had both hands cut off and several teeth extracted, while her husband was left unconscious after being stabbed in an incident that has shocked residents.

The Kapiri Mposhi teen was found in a bush in Lwanshimba area, bringing the number of murders in the province to four thus far.

Over the past years, Central Province has ranked high in murder and defilement cases, with the latter being around more than 500 as of 2010 while at national level, more than 6,000 cases have been recorded since 2010.

Central Province Commissioner of Police Lillian Kamukoshi said the murder could have taken place between Monday and Tuesday this week.

"Police visited the crime scene and found the body of the girl, which was naked, with her tongue and both breasts cut off and we suspect this was a ritual killing," Ms Kamukoshi

said.

"We are investigating and will not rest until the culprits are brought to justice."

She said police were alerted of the killing by Oliver Sibanda who discovered the victim's body.

She appealed to anyone missing a family member to identify the deceased girl, whose body is currently in the Kapiri Mposhi Hospital mortuary awaiting identification as well as a postmortem.

Central Province is ranking high with murders and sexual-related offences, especially defilements.

Police records confirm 160 cases of defilement happened in 2013, while 188 and 80 cases were reported in 2012 and 2011, respectively.

In Kabwe, two bodies of a male and female were last week found near the former Zambia Consolidated Copper Mines dumpsite.

The male was in his late 30s while the female in her late 20s. Ms Kamukoshi called on members of the public to identify the bodies which were in Kabwe General Hospital mortuary.

In Livingstone, a security guard at a school has been murdered by unknown persons who went away with 13 computers.

The murder happened at Shungu Namutitima Primary School, and the victim has been identified as Gift Kopola of Malone Township.

Southern Province Commissioner of Police Mary Chikwanda said in an interview that the attack happened between 18:00 hours on Tuesday and the early morning of Wednesday this week.

Ms Chikwanda said the matter was reported by school deputy head teacher, Suzanne Habajene, and that the value of the stolen items had not yet been established. Police investigations are going on.

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By JUDITH NAMUTOWE - THE Zambezi River Authority (ZRA) has said the feasibility study on the Batoka Hydropower Station has been reviewed. ZRA chief executive officer Munyaradzi Munodawafa said in an interview yesterday that the review on the



ABOUT THE AUTHOR



...demo structure, power house and capacity output on the project had been completed.

Mr Munodawafa said the authority was currently waiting for the second phase of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

"We have reviewed the Batoka Hydropower Station feasibility study. The study on the demo structure, power house structure and the capacity output on the project has been completed," Mr Munodawafa said.

He said the finalisation of the study and the EIA was expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2015.

Mr Munodawafa said consultants were currently working on other processes and thereafter the project committee which include senior Government officials , utilities and ZRA would visit the project this month.

He said once all these processes were completed, ZRA would then be able to select the developer for the project, after which the authority would be able to come up with the actual value of the project.

Zambia and Zimbabwe signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to team up and start the Batoka hydropower project which is estimated to cost about US\$4 billion.

The agreement was signed during the council of ministers held at Kariba in Siavonga recently.

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