

MEDIA STATEMENT
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KZN Health MEC visits the family of slain Newcastle councillor, slams the murders for their callous actions

KwaZulu-Natal Health MEC, Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo, has condemned in the strongest possible terms the cold-blooded assassination of ANC Osizweni Ward 6 councillor, Thembi Mbongo.

Mbongo, 35, was shot in her home in front of her husband and children, allegedly by two men who had knocked at her door, requesting to speak to her on Saturday night.

Today, MEC Dhlomo, who is the political champion of Amajuba, visited Ms Mbongo's family home in Osizweni, where a large contingent of ANC supporters had gathered, singing slogans and denouncing the violent manner in which she had been killed. MEC Dhlomo joined them in condemning the murder.

"I have worked here and served the people of Amajuba for many years. Even during the years of political turbulence, this area was relatively peaceful, and no people were forced to flee because of political violence. We never saw something like this... the murder of women. It is a new phenomenon," said MEC Dhlomo.

MEC Dhlomo called on the public to exercise political tolerance and accept all elected candidates, as they had been chosen by their respective political parties.

He described Mbongo's murder as unacceptable and an embarrassment, even to the perpetrators.

"Once the perpetrators get arrested and convicted, when they get asked in prison what crime they were convicted for, they will be embarrassed to have to tell other inmates that they killed a woman."

Conveying his deepest condolences to the family, MEC Dhlomo also called on authorities to leave no stone unturned in hunting down the perpetrators, so that they can be caught and subjected to the full might of the law.

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