

MEDIA RELEASE
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Tears as Edendale staff mourns the death of their colleague

Edendale Hospital staff members were inconsolable as MEC Dhlomo joined them in the memorial service of Sister Thabisa Daysen Doyisa held in the institution this afternoon. Present in the service were Sr Doyisa's family as well as her husband's family members.

Sr Doyisa, 46 years old, was shot dead by an assailant using a high calibre shotgun as she arrived at her home last Friday in Naperville, Pietermaritzburg. The Edendale Hospital CEO, Mrs Zanele Ndwandwe, who arrived at the scene shortly afterwards says she will forever be haunted by the cries of Doyisa's 11 year old son who said he was feeling bad that he could not do anything to protect and save his mom's life.

She went on to describe Doyisa as a woman of few words, humble, respectful, honest and an industrious person who always smiled. She said the very fact that all hospital components are converged for the service clearly shows that she was a people's person. She reminded all those attending that Doyisa was the third female nurse violently killed at UMgungundlovu District since the beginning of the year.



The CEO said Doyisa's life was taken at her prime age and peak of her career. She says the Department had invested so much in her ever since she started her career as a Student Nurse in 1992. Doyisa went on to become an Enrolled Nursing Assistant and then undergone comprehensive training for General; Psychiatric; Community and Midwifery Nursing. In December 2014, she qualified as an Advanced Midwife.

Her good leadership qualities were also attested to by the Head of the Obstetric and Genecology Unit, Dr Thami Buthelezi, who said Sr Doyisa as an Advanced Midwife was a good mentor to other nurses serving under her.

MEC Dhlomo said the Department will arrange a Social Worker and Psychologists programme for Doyisa's children so that they can learn to deal with the calamity that befell

them. He says the whole episode makes him very angry:

'On following this matter I was shocked that an R5 Rifle was used; a gun of war intended to maim and blow the brains out. How selfish is this individual and what worthy is he compared to an Advanced Midwife – a scarce skilled professional helping in curbing maternal deaths in the country!'



Dhlomo then asked the Doyisa and Shangase families to co-operate as they prepare for the funeral.

Sr Doyisa leaves behind her husband; both her parents; six brothers; two sisters and her four children, one at the University and those aged eleven; seven and four years old. She will be laid to rest at Izotsha graveyard in Port Shepstone on Saturday, April 30.

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