

To all Media
29 November 2016

KZN Health MEC, Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo pays a moving tribute to Prince Mshiyeni doctor found murdered at her home

MEC Dhlomo together with the hospital staff spoke glowingly on the exceptional qualities the late Dr Vajnah Banoo Mohamed possessed especially when dealing with survivors and victims of Gender Based Violence especially sexually violated children.

At the memorial service organised by Prince Mshiyeni Memorial Hospital management this afternoon, November 16, 2016, Ismail Mohamed, the only brother she had and two other close relatives, represented the family.

MEC Dhlomo indicated that it was with a deep sense of loss that he learnt about the passing on of Dr Mohamed whilst he was on official business trip in China with the Premier last week.

‘We agreed with the Premier that a fitting homage be paid to this committed, caring and industrious Doctor who met her untimely death at the hands of callous thugs who displayed a total disregard of such an important life.

What saddens us most is the fact that Dr Mohamed was attacked and killed within the sanctified period when the whole country is observing 16 Days of No Violence Against Women and Children.’

MEC Dhlomo says it is always disheartening to learn that a person who has ensconced himself or herself in high security area is found brutally murdered in that environment. The same was the story of the 63 year old Dr Mohamed who police say her body was found lying on the bedroom floor with head injuries in her luxury home.

It was also revealed that the good doctor was found with masking tape around her face at a upmarket complex that has electrical fencing and remote control access to the driveway gates.

Dr Mohamed worked at Prince Mshiyeni Hospital between May 2003 and May this year spending all this time at the Thuthuzela Care Centre, a haven dedicated to taking care of sexually assault victims. At this centre the survivors are debriefed by Social Workers, examined and put on Post Exposure Prophylaxis by Doctors to prevent HIV transmission. It is also here that victims have their statements taken by the Police and then get introduced to the National Prosecuting Authorities to process the matter.

Amongst outstanding features mentioned about Dr Mohamed was that she would come to work even in circumstances when her health was faltering. This she would do even at strenuous times when she had to make court appearances as a witness for the victims.

Sister Nompumelelo Dyide, the Team Leader at the Centre in paying tribute to Dr Mohamed

said:

Dr V.B. Mohomed would go an extra mile doing things, more than just being a doctor. Some clients would come to the Centre with no money to go back home and Dr Mohomed always provided her own cash for them to the extent that she would leave behind petty cash to be utilized even on days she was off duty.

It was not only cash that she would provide but also buy dresses especially for the young victims – dresses still with name of the Shop and Price Tag as means to booster and restore the morale and dignity of the survivor.’

MEC Dhlomo expressed hope that the law enforcement agencies would work tirelessly to find perpetrators of this ghastly crime.

ENDS

For clarity, please call Desmond Motha @083 295 3901



MEC Dhlomo comforting the family of Dr Vajnah Mahomed at the memorial service at Prince Mshiyeni Memorial Hospital names: Suraya Mahomed; Ayesha Haffejee and Fouzia Fareed



MEC Dhlomo with the only brother, Ismael Mohomed

Pictures Themba Mngomezulu