

Fallen Cuba-based medical students back home, will be buried on Tuesday and Wednesday

18 December 2017

THE MORTAL remains of the two medical students who sadly lost their lives when they drowned in Cuba have arrived on South African soil, and are due to be buried separately, on Tuesday and Wednesday this week.

Amid a sombre atmosphere, the deceased arrived at Oliver Reginald Tambo International Airport after midday yesterday, and were later flown to King Shaka International Airport. They were then transported to mortuaries closer to their homes.

Sibusiso Thanks Ngeleka and Sihle Cebo Makhaye – fourth and fifth year medical students respectively - had been part of a group of students who had hired a house to celebrate the birthday of one of their fellow compatriots in Havana, Cuba.

It is alleged that on they decided to go and “cool down” in the swimming pool. When they did not return, their friends started a frantic search for them. After Makhaye was discovered inside the pool, he was rushed to hospital, but demised on the way. The group, meanwhile, continued the search for Ngeleka, who was also found in the pool having already demised.

With support from local Government, the Ngeleka family will bury their son tomorrow (Tuesday, 19 December 2017) at KwaNzimakwe area, near Margate, on the south coast of KwaZulu-Natal; while the Makhaye family will bury theirs on Wednesday 20 December 2017, at Manguzi near the Mozambican border.

KZN Health MEC Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo has visited both families and sent his last respects.

ENDS

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