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MEDIA ALERT

TO : ALL MEDIA DATE : 29 July 2013

ATTENTION : NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRE

MEC MCHUNU EXPRESSED UTTER DISGUST AT THE BRUTAL KILLING OF FIVE FAMILY MEMBERS IN ESHOWE

KWAZULU-NATAL MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Willies Mchunu, has welcomed the speedy arrests of five suspects in connection with the killing of five members of the Mnyango family in eMbongolwane village, outside eShowe at the weekend.

Five family members of Mnyango family were killed in eMbongolwane area over the weekend (Saturday, 27 July 2013) at approximately 20h00.

Thulisile Mnyango (50) and her four children, Cebile Mnyango (21), Lungelo Mnyango (17), Mlamuli Mnyango (10), Qiniso (2) were at their homestead in eMbongolwane area when they were attacked by group of unknown people.

It is alleged that the suspects set alight four houses and the five family members who were in one of the houses were burnt to death. It is suspected that a petrol bomb was used during the attack

The motive of the killing is not known as yet. The five suspects are expected to appear in the Eshowe Magistrate Court tomorrow (Tuesday, 30 July 2013).

Mchunu today condemned this brutal attack on the Mnyango family, saying those responsible for it would face the full might of law.

"It is shocking and baffling that people could mow down the entire family at once. This act should be condemned by all peace loving people. It, unfortunately, reflects how morals have undergone a radical decline to an extent that people could murder women and children.

"I want to commend the police for a swift reaction in apprehending five suspects and I am convinced that the justice system will swiftly deal with this matter. We need to send a clear message to criminals that such heinous acts of criminality would not be tolerated in KZN," said Mchunu.

Mchunu also extended his heartfelt condolences to the Mnyango family and has assigned a team of senior officials from the Department of Community Safety and Liaison to engage the local structures to normalize the situation in the area.

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