



the premier

Department of
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FREE STATE PROVINCE

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MEDIA STATEMENT

PREMIER MAGASHULE SHOCKED AT ELDERLY COUPLE MUDER CASE

TO ALL MEDIA For Immediate Release

Perpetrators of violence against the vulnerable, particularly elderly women should have no place in society, Premier Ace Magashule said on Tuesday.

Premier Magashule was reacting to the arrest of six young people for the murder of an elderly couple in Bethulie in the southern Free State.

Tshepo Ramatlama, 18, Sphiwe Sakman, 18, and four minors face charges of murder, house breaking, and theft of a motor vehicle. They appeared in court yesterday and the case was postponed to April 15. They are still in custody.

The six stand accused of murdering Gordon Adam, 70, and his wife Lorraine Adam, 70, on February 9 at their farm near Bethulie.

Premier Magashule congratulated the police for the breakthrough in the Adam's murder case and called the community to assist the police in the investigation.

The Premier added that the arrest of minor children in serious crimes such as murder and robbery demonstrated that crime was eroding the moral fibre of our communities.

“These children are supposed to be in school but they are now in prison charged with serious case of murder and robbery. It is high time we stand up as society and say enough is enough,” Premier Magashule said.

“We need to fight crime on all fronts. We must also protect our youth because they are our future. We must ensure that we continue with our

various programmes to create work opportunities for young people including recreational facilities so that they do not end up doing criminal activities.”

“At the same time we would like to warn all young people that crime does not pay. If you commit crime you will do the time. We urge our religious leaders to play their part and intensify moral regeneration programmes in our communities,” Premier Magashule said.

MEC for Police, Roads and Transport Butana Komphela also called for intensified and united action against crime including farm attacks and the scourge of rape.

“Our people cannot leave in fear of being killed or raped by children old enough to be their grandchildren. As society we must work together to fight crime. The police will not be able to do this on their own. All of us must stand up against crime,” Komphela said.

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