



## Reported Attacks of Persons with Albinism – Most Recent Attacks Included

By Under The Same Sun (UTSS) Canada & Tanzania <http://www.underthesamesun.com/>

DATE OF REPORT: September 15, 2016

**PWA = Person(s) with Albinism**

**PFI = Press Freedom Index for 2016 (180 countries surveyed)**

<https://rsf.org/en/ranking>

**(PFI for Canada = 18 of 180 & USA = 41 of 180)**

**Killings: 187**

**Attacks: 313** \*Attacks include survivors of mutilations, violence, rape, attempted abductions, missing, grave violations, asylum (permanent residency) cases\*

**Total: 500**

**Total Countries: 26**

### **NOTE 1: Many attacks & killings of PWA in Africa are not documented or reported.**

UTSS is certain that crimes of colour against PWA are common in various parts of almost all African countries. *LEGENDS & MYTHS ABOUND, AND UTSS HAS YET TO HEAR OF ONE THAT IS HUMANIZING.* Most myths reduce PWA to ghosts, magical beings or curses, etc. On rare occasion the discrimination is reversed and the PWA are “deified” into “gods”. Either way, they rarely get to enjoy their status as normal human beings. Many countries have stories about the mysterious disappearance of PWA. There is a growing, documented truth to these rumors. We know that many PWA have “disappeared” due to abduction, then mutilated and killed by fellow citizens (sometimes family members “friends” or neighbours) for the purpose of witchcraft related rituals. Muti murders or “medicine” killings have a deep, longstanding history, and are a familiar concept to most Africans.

**NOTE 2: Countries known to be involved in the cross-border trade of PWA and their body parts:** Tanzania, Burundi, Kenya, DRC, Mozambique, Malawi, South Africa, Swaziland,

### **Benin, 10 reports: (PFI 78 of 180) 4 killings / 2 survivors / 4 missing**

**Most recent survivor: On March 18, 2015,** a 10 year old girl with albinism by the

name of Sena Mireille Tonoukouin narrowly escaped possible abduction and death in the town of Simwe Hounto, Benin. On that day a complete stranger showed up in Sena’s town at around 2 :30 PM. He was a 40 year old man from Sèmè, a town of Porto Novo in Benin around 200 miles away. He asked a woman by the name of Maman Agathe where a 10-year old girl with albinism by the name of Sena Mireille Tonoukouin lived. She told him. When the alleged kidnapper showed up at Sena’s home, 2 of her brothers, also with albinism, by the name of Messrs Jean-Claude Tonoukouin and Maximilien Goudjanou, interviewed him. They were alarmed that the stranger knew Sena’s name. His answers to their questions seemed suspicious and vague. The only clear answer he gave was when he indicated that he wanted to marry little Sena who was only 10 at the time. Everything led the family to believe that the stranger intended to kidnap their little Sena. Unfortunately, he managed to escape before anything could be done. At the time of this report, little Sèna was a grade 4 student and the fourth child in a family of seven; three of whom have albinism. (Source: Reported to UTSS on January 26, 2016, by Mr. AKPO FIRMIN of the Benin albinism association - NGO VALEUR Albinos; Tel. +229- 96 93 96 05 /+229- 95 54 75 13; Email: [valeuralbinos.ong@gmail.com](mailto:valeuralbinos.ong@gmail.com); Website: <http://valeur-albinos.org/index.html>)

**Most recent killing: In 2012,** a man with albinism was killed and his legs chopped off in the



township of BOPA, Hovon village, Benin. The murderers were arrested, prosecuted and sentenced to jail. Some of them are still in the civil prison of Lokossa while others have died. The victim's family was contacted but they declined to give more details. (Source: UTSS received this attack report on June 16, 2016, from Franck Hounsa, founder and CEO of Connexion Worldwide NGO, Benin; Frank is also commentator & producer of the documentary: *Noir à la Peau Blanche (Black with White Skin)*; published September 2015 in Benin, Email: [houetehou@yahoo.fr](mailto:houetehou@yahoo.fr); Phone: +229-97-89-55-28; Website: [www.connexionworldwide.org](http://www.connexionworldwide.org); Address: 01 BP 4166 Cotonou, Benin; for this murder case, watch from the 17:00– 17:32 on this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=utfUDjhSrac>)

**Most recent missing: On November 25, 2012**, a young man with albinism by the name of Abib Gontrand Akpithy went missing in Cotonou, Benin. His older brother Justin Martial Akpithy, also with albinism, says that Abib went missing after going to meet with a debtor. A few months earlier on April 6 Justin's second brother with albinism, Boris Parfait Akpithy, also went missing. Akuavi Tata, the mother of these 3 boys with albinism, 2 of whom are now missing recounts: "I heard people say people with albinism are not harmed. Some say so, but we don't know the kind of world we live in nowadays. Now that two of my own children with albinism have left with no trace, I can barely sleep. I have been so sickly; their disappearance gives me a very big worry. And I mourn them every day. That's what happened to me (in tears)." To date, the family has found no trace of their two loved ones. (Source: UTSS received this attack report on June 16, 2016, from Franck Hounsa, founder and CEO of Connexion Worldwide NGO, Benin; Frank is also commentator & producer of the documentary: *Noir à la Peau Blanche (Black with White Skin)*; published September 2015 in Benin, Email: [houetehou@yahoo.fr](mailto:houetehou@yahoo.fr); Phone: +229-97-89-55-28; Website: [www.connexionworldwide.org](http://www.connexionworldwide.org); Address: 01 BP 4166 Cotonou, Benin; for this attack case, watch from 19:03 to 20:13 & 20:15 to 21:48 on this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=utfUDjhSrac>)

### **Botswana, 3 reports: (PFI 43 of 180) 3 survivors**

**Survivor account: In September of 1998**, a 27 year old woman with albinism by the name of Ofentse Serurubele narrowly escaped a second plot against her life. The incident took place at Kanye, her native village in Southern Botswana. Although Serurubele was a primary school teacher in the city of Jwaneng, Botswana, she was pregnant and staying in her native village at the time. On this near fateful day, her young brother encountered three guys in the village night club who knew Serurubele. They offered him some beer to get him drunk, hoping to manipulate him into joining their murder plot against his sister. Fortunately he sensed something was wrong and secretly managed to replace the beer with water while pretending to be drunk. The guys asked him: "Where is your sister, the albino teacher?" "Your sister could actually make the deal: She is albino and pregnant!" "We want her flesh...!" Serurubele's brother lied, telling them she was teaching in Jwanenge City but would be home for the weekend and that they could find her then. When he got home from the club that evening, Serurubele's brother told her everything and warned her to leave immediately to Jwaneng city for her safety. After that incident, Serurubele stayed in the city for a long time. (Source: Personal interview by UTSS on January 22, 2014 with Mrs. Ofentse Serurubele, founder & chair of PWA Tshimologo Association Botswana, mobile number +267-72-962-779; Botswana Gazette, January 16, 2014, Understanding Albinism by Kago Komane, <http://www.gazettebw.com/?p=6718> )

### **Burkina Faso, 9 reports: (PFI 42 of 180) 2 killing / 6 survivors / 1 asylum**

**Most recent killing: On August 14, 2012** a 12 year old boy with albinism was killed in Gaoua, Burkina Faso. Witnesses report that the body was found with his head and genitals removed. (source: "L'Express du Faso" on Wednesday, August 15, 2012)

**Other killing account (date unknown):** A 16 year old *person with albinism* (PWA) was allegedly murdered by François Compaore, brother of Burkina Faso's president at that time. It is believed that the killing was related to human sacrifice. In the newspaper "L'Indépendant", a former soldier by the name of Delma Daogo, who was in active service to Compaore at that time, gave an interview where he explained: *François Compaoré (the president's brother) sent David Ouedraogo (his driver) to*



*Ouagadougou Central Mosque, a place where PWA congregate to appeal for money, in order to bring one of them to him so that he could make a sacrifice. David brought a 16 year old PWA for the alleged purpose of making prayers in the compound of François Compaoré. The driver was then given 50.000F (about 100 US dollars) and asked to go home. Once at his home, David realized he had forgotten his wallet and returned to pick it up. When he arrived, he saw that they had killed the PWA and cut him into pieces. (Source: l'Indépendant - link to article no longer active - This newspaper was founded by the late journalist, Mr. Norbert Zongo who was allegedly assassinated by President Blaise Compaore's regime due, in part, to the publication of this article about a PWA murder.)*

**Most recent abduction: On April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012**, Dr. Pius Kamau, an American physician originally from Kenya, was an eye witness at the Nairobi airport to three aggressive African men being allowed to transport a young boy with albinism out of the country without a passport. He said the men had come from Tanzania and were headed to Ouagadougou, in Burkina Faso and that they used loud, offensive language as the airline attendant asked for the missing passport -- they had three passports and none for the child. Dr. Kamau is now convinced that the three-year-old boy with albinism is no longer a baby headed to a loving family, but a sacrifice at some altar of a cruel witchcraft ceremony. (Source: HUFF POST: IMPACT - The BLOG; Three Year Old Albino – Victim of Witchcraft Sacrifice by Pius Kamau, Posted: 05/01/2012 at 4:00 pm)

**Burundi, 38 reports: (PFI 156 of 180) 21 killings, 13 survivors, 4 grave robbery.**

**Most recent killing: On March 24, 2016**, a four year-old girl with albinism was kidnapped from her home by unidentified men armed with machetes at around midnight, in colline Musemo, commune Mishiha, province Cankuzo, Burundi, not far from the Tanzanian border. **On March 29, 2016**, OHCHR was informed by police sources that the body parts of the little girl were found in a jerry-can and that three men were arrested in relation to the case. One of them had already been involved in the killing of PWA in 2008 and sentenced to a life sentence. OHCHR is following up to find out why he was released. (Source: Jean-Claude Kalume Misenga; Human Rights Officer; Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights New York Office (OHCHR NYO); United Nations; E-mail: [kalumemisenga@un.org](mailto:kalumemisenga@un.org); Tel: +1 (917) 3676967; Mobile: +1 (347) 971-5341; Web: [newyork.ohchr.org](http://newyork.ohchr.org); Address: United Nations Headquarters, New York, NY 10017, USA)

**Second most recent killing: On February 17, 2016**, at around 1:30 AM, a 4 year old girl with albinism by the name of Cimpaye was murdered in the Province of Kirundo, commune of Busoni, in the area of Muterwa, Hill of Irenga in Northern Burundi. She was sleeping when a gang of criminals armed with machetes burst into the home of her parents, Mr. Nyabenda Pascal and his wife Modeste Rwas. Among the intruders was a man wearing a military shirt of the National Defence Force. Three of the gang members broke into the house to abduct little Cimpaye. About 30 meters from the house they killed her, chopping off her arms and taking them. Cimpaye's parents wanted to bury their daughter in their yard but have been denied since they do not own the premises. Burundi's PWA association, APOB, have been in touch with the local authority on this matter. The director assured them she would send her staff in charge of Social Affairs along with the chief of the area to discuss the issue of the victim's burial. APOB officials also expressed deep concern about the safety of the remaining PWA in the commune of Busoni since it's the place with the highest number of PWA in the province of Kirundo. In October of 2015 another child with albinism narrowly escaped murder in the same commune. (Source: Report sent to UTSS on February 17, 2016, by Moise Nkengurutse, legal representative of the organization for PWA in Burundi - OPAB (Organisation des Personnes Albinos du Burundi); Address: Q. Mushasha, Sous Q. Nyabisindu, Transversal IV, No 18, Gitega\_Burundi, BP: 179, Gitega; Telephone: +25779323225 +25775401739; E mail: [opa.burundi@yahoo.com](mailto:opa.burundi@yahoo.com))

**Most recent survivor: On October 6, 2015**, a 10 year old girl with albinism by the name of Alice Girukwishaka miraculously survived a brutal attack at her home in Busoni town, in the province of Kirundo, in MUyange-Gisozi, Northern Burundi. Men armed with machetes attacked the family of Gerard NKUNZIMANA & NIZIGIYIMANA who were accommodating Alice. Fortunately neighbours managed



to intervene and help bring a premature end to the attack. Little Alice sustained injuries to the head and shoulder and underwent intensive treatment at Kanyinya Hospital in Kirundo. The criminals escaped before being identified. (Source: Moise Nkengurutse, Legal Representative of the of Burundi albinism association – OPAB; Address: Q. Mushasha, Sous Q. Nyabisindu, Transversal IV, No 18, Gitega\_Burundi, BP: 179, Gitega; Tel: +257-79323225 / +257-75401739; E mail: [opa.burundi@yahoo.com](mailto:opa.burundi@yahoo.com))

**Second most recent survivor: On March 20, 2015**, a 28year old man with albinism by the name of Ndagijimana Debok was attacked with a machete and his left leg severely injured, in the town of Gihanga, North western province of Bubanza in Burundi. As presidential elections approach in Burundi, the safety of PWA remains a matter of concern. The victim received treatment in a local hospital. Ndagijimana’s neighbour is suspected to be the perpetrator of this attack and investigations are underway. (Source: Account provided on March 28, 2015, by Mr Pascal Matabishi, member of Burundi’s PWA association - ASF – email: [pascaloni@icloud.com](mailto:pascaloni@icloud.com); tel: +257-75 97 14 98)

**Graver robbery: In August of 2012**, the grave of a woman with albinism by the name of Tabu was violated by unidentified criminals and her head was stolen. Eight months earlier, Tabu had succumbed to an extended and tragic battle with skin cancer and was buried in the cemetery of the Bugarama area, in the town of Muramvya in the province of Muramvya. Her son Venuste, also a PWA, was informed of his mother’s exhumed body and immediately reported it to the leaders of the Burundian PWA Association called “Albinos Sans Frontieres”. (Source: ASF – Burundi PWA Association)

### **Cameroon, 11 report: (PFI 126 of 180) 2 killings, 2 survivor, 6 asylum, 1 grave robbery**

**Most recent killing account: In August of 2009**, the foot of a young girl with albinism whose Identity remains undisclosed was found in a garbage can in Douala, the capital of the region of Littoral, Cameroon. She reportedly worked in a Snack Bar in that area. Her foot was kept in the morgue of the Laquintane Hospital in Douala. (Source: Information provided to UTSS on July 03, 2013 by Kakmeni Wembou Raphael, the leader of Cameroon Association for the Promotion of Albino CAPA)

**Most recent survivor account: In 2013** a mother and her infant with albinism began the process of seeking asylum in France because she feared for the life of her child in Cameroon where members of her community attempted to kill the baby for ritual purposes during local elections. (Source: Interview on June 12, 2014, between UTSS and Genespoir, France’s major PWA group who were strongly involved in this case.)

**Most recent asylum account: On December 23, 2015**, a man with albinism by the name Mr. Christian Eric Tchidjo from Cameroon was granted refugee status in UK. (Source: Interviews with UTSS)

### **Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), 61 reports: (PFI 152 of 180) 14 killings / 31 survivors / 1 missing / 9 grave robberies / 6 asylums**

**Most recent killing: On August 5, 2014**, a girl with albinism by the name of Namukyungu Byaombe was abducted and killed by unidentified criminals. Her body was found by a Police Unit of PNC. Investigation is underway and the Police report was submitted to the Public Prosecutor’s Department. (Source: Mr. JEAN DE DIEU KWIBONERA, Police Commander at the PNC of BARAKA; Phone: +243-811-374-759 and a PWA group called FFERAD; [fferadrdc@gmail.com](mailto:fferadrdc@gmail.com))

**Most recent survivor: On April 27, 2015**, around midnight, a 2 year old girl with albinism narrowly escaped abduction in the town of Kampene, a mining city located about 150 km away from Kindu in Maniema Province of DRC. After noticing her daughter had disappeared, the mother screamed for help and her daughter was released by the kidnapper. Sources from civil society in the territory of Mpangi declared having identified the man who attempted to kidnap the girl and indicated that the kidnapper sought shelter in the forest. (Source: Article published on May 05, 2015, on Radio Okapi Website: <http://radiookapi.net/actualite/2015/05/05/maniema-deux-enfants-albinos-echappent-aux-tentatives-denlevement-kampene/>)



**Most recent missing: On February 16, 2015**, a two year boy with albinism was abducted in Nyantende, in the territory of Kabare, province of South Kivu, DRC. A journalist for the Congolese Press Agency reported that early in second week of September, 2015, a trafficker of children with albinism was arrested for this crime by the police in Kamanyola in the territory of Walungu. The child's father and paternal uncle explained that the criminal, along with his accomplice and their neighbours, broke into their house while the parents were away, enticing the boy with sweets and wrapping him in a bag. The victim's older brother, age 7, said the kidnappers bought him cookies to gain his favour in order to commit their heinous crime. They have since vanished with the boy. One of the arrested suspects declared that it was his accomplice who wrapped the boy in the bag. The latter is now in the hands of police. (Source: Congolese Press Agency - ACP [Agence Congolaise de Presse]; *An albino child trafficker arrested in Kamanyola*; September 10, 2015, <http://acpcongo.com/acp/un-trafiquant-denfants-albinos-arrete-a-kamanyola/>)

**Most recent grave desecration: On February 4, 2015**, the grave of a young man with albinism by the name of Mr. Augustin Kerekwa was robbed. He previously died at age 40 and was buried in the community of Nyangezi, within the province of South – Kivu, DRC. This case was corrupted. (Source: Mr. Lushole Jonena, chairperson of DRC's ASSOCIATION FOR COMPLETE PROMOTION OF PEOPLE WITH ALBINISM (APIA), SOUTH – KIVU, DRC; Tel: +243-0853-155-093 / +243-081-467-3706. The information was collected from APIA and sent to UTSS in July of 2015 by BBC Journalist Byobe Malenga; <https://www.linkedin.com/pub/byobe-malenga/9a/50b/105>; [https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?id=1391123401155312&story\\_fbid=1594200034180980](https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?id=1391123401155312&story_fbid=1594200034180980).)

**Most recent asylum: During the first week of June, 2015**, legal history was made in Ireland when a man with albinism from DRC who wishes to remain anonymous was granted secured permanent residency through a non-asylum process. He suffered severe persecution and untreated skin cancer in his native country. (Source: UTSS was informed via a personal contact from his sister who is now a resident of Canada.)

**Egypt, 1 report: (PFI 159 of 180) 1 asylum – September 16, 2011**

**On Friday, September 16, 2011**, Hazem Abd Elkade, a 28 year old man with albinism from Egypt told journalist Sophie Bond about his life in Egypt and his new found asylum in New Zealand. He contrasted the profound discrimination facing people with albinism in Egypt with the amazing and equal opportunities he has found in New Zealand. Hazem's lawyer says: "He was seriously maltreated at multiple levels including such things as deliberate cigarette burns from supposed educators.... The hostility toward him was serious at best because of his Albinism. He has now been able to both marry and continue his studies. He is one of the nicest and most considerate people I have met in a long time and doing very well." Hazem says; "I want to be a professor in the university. The first time I ever got a salary was here in New Zealand. I can support myself and my research. I don't want to go back to Egypt, not even for a visit." (SOURCE: The Aucklander (online) - New home for Hazem, By Sophie Bond, Friday 16 September 2011, [http://m.nzherald.co.nz/aucklander/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=1503378&objectid=11040952](http://m.nzherald.co.nz/aucklander/news/article.cfm?c_id=1503378&objectid=11040952) ; Hazem's lawyer Allen Little QSM,JP)

**Ghana, 3 report: (PFI 26 of 180) 1 killing / 2 survivors**

**Most recent killing: On February 17, 2015**, the lifeless body of a 35 year old man with albinism by the name of Kofi Yeboah aka Agbleyevu was found at the entrance of Pastor Emmanuel Agbeze's residence in Owoakra, Boketey, under Amanase in the eastern region of Ghana. According to the pastor's wife, Gifty Asare, her husband ran off shortly after the death of Kofi and she has not heard from him since. Unfortunately the police have not been responsive to crimes committed in this area and allowed Pastor Agbeze to escape without questioning. Since that time however, police commander Spt. Yahaya of Suhum police station announced that because of the public interest whipped up by media related to the death of Kofi Yeboah, the homicide unit at police headquarters in Accra had taken over the investigation. (Source: Newton Kwamla Katseku, Executive Director of the Ghana Association of Persons with Albinism)



– GAPA, June 6 & July 24, 2015; [info@gapaghana.org](mailto:info@gapaghana.org) / [gapa4all@gmail.com](mailto:gapa4all@gmail.com) / [www.gapaghana.org](http://www.gapaghana.org) and Suhum police report number 112967)

**Most recent survivor: On February 27, 2010**, a man with albinism by the name of Newton Kwamla Katseku, who is also the Executive Director of the Ghana Association of Persons with Albinism (GAPA), narrowly escaped death. This event took place while attending a funeral in the town of Akwamufie, a community along the Volta Lake near the Adomi bridge on Atimpoku Ho road in the eastern region of Ghana. Early on during the funeral ceremonies Newton was approached by 4 different parties urgently warning him to leave or go into hiding. When he asked why, they informed him that it is against local tradition to tolerate or accept people with albinism in the vicinity. Newton spent close to nine hours hiding in a car as the funeral and other rites were performed before he was able to leave. He later reported the incident to several authorities but has never received a reply. (Source: Newton Kwamla Katseku, Executive Director of the Ghana Association of Persons with Albinism – GAPA, June 6 & July 24, 2015; [info@gapaghana.org](mailto:info@gapaghana.org) / [gapa4all@gmail.com](mailto:gapa4all@gmail.com) / [www.gapaghana.org](http://www.gapaghana.org))

**2<sup>nd</sup> most recent survivor: On July 16, 2009**, in the country of Ghana, a 2 year old boy with albinism (unnamed) was kidnapped by an 18 year old woman named Akua Linda. A week later on July 22, 2009 Linda was apprehended and confessed that a man named Biyanka sent her to feign playing with the boy so that she could steal him. Linda continued that Biyanka took the boy to Asuoyeboah, another Kumasi suburb, after which he was taken to an unknown destination. Akua Linda, according to the Police Capo, noted further that Biyanka returned the boy to her yesterday morning, explaining that what he intended to use the boy for could not work out as expected. Linda was therefore on her way to return the child to his mother when someone saw them at the Kejetia Bus Terminal in Kumasi, Ghana, and raised the alarm leading to her apprehension. Investigations continue. (Source: Daily Guide posted by Ghana Pundit; Thursday, July 23, 2009, “Girl Arrested for Stealing Albino” <http://ghanapundit.blogspot.ca/2009/07/girl-arrested-for-stealing-albino.html> )

**Guinea, 14 reports: (PFI 79 of 180) 5 killings / 5 survivors / 3 asylum / 1 permanent residency**

**2 Most recent killings: 1<sup>st</sup> Killing:** On a Sunday in September of 2010, at the area of *La Carrière*, in the town of Matam, district of Conakry, the body of a PWA was found with the eyes missing— very likely removed with a knife. According to our source, the unnamed PWA used to wander daily in that area with some friends, looking for their daily bread. Their life is made up of begging at the big market of Matam’s main station and on the streets of the Capital City. One morning his lifeless body was found laying on the sidewalk. **2<sup>nd</sup> Killing:** At very much the same time in 2010, at the Matoto Market, in the town of Matoto, another PWA was killed in some unexplained circumstances. His body was found completely dismembered; the attackers having made off with many of the body parts. These two PWA lifeless bodies have made the headlines of all local media including the National Broadcaster RTG. Many Websites and Private Radios have used these murders in their headlines. But unfortunately, no investigation has been considered as if PWAs have no rights. This silence and impunity make fragile the life of PWA in the republic of Guinea and everywhere in Africa.

**Most recent survivor account: On Saturday, June 18, 2011**, a 12-year old boy with albinism by the name of Abdoulaye Sylla managed to escape from his kidnappers near the Sous-Prefecture of Kouria located at the exit of Coyah, in the country of Guinea. The boy Abdoulaye explained that he had been abducted the day before just after leaving his father’s rice field. He had been sitting under a big tree when he saw two men rapidly approaching but doesn’t remember anything after that. The next morning he woke up in a strange house in another village but is unable to remember where it is. His feet and hands were tied and he was scared so he started to cry. Shortly after a woman appeared, untied the ropes and showed him where the main road was. As he was walking away he heard voices asking: “Where’s the little boy?” He began running and two men gave chase until they reached the main road and saw a taxi parked there at which time they vanished into the bush. This took place at around 8 PM when Mohamed Camara, a taxi driver on his way to the city of Kindia, rescued the boy. The taxi driver was Abdoulaye’s maternal uncle



whose sister had called him the day before in tears saying her son had not come home. Mohamed says; “I was on my way to Kindia to report the boy missing when I saw him being chased by two strangers. I immediately parked at the side of the road and instead of pursuing the boy, the kidnappers ran away. My nephew was lucky. Last year my neighbours son with albinism went missing at Coyah, and to date he has not been found.” (Source: Le NImba, Friday, July 8, 2011; <http://kaloumpresse.com/economie/936-kouria-un-albinos-echappe-a-ses-ravisseurs> and Bangoura, founder of Guinean albinism association - CNAB)

**Another survivor account: In October of 1994**, Amadou Diallo, a 19 year old teenage boy with albinism was assaulted in the Capital City of Conakry in his native country of Guinea. One day while walking to his home Amadou was approached by two unfamiliar men who stepped out of a military vehicle and surrounded him. He remembers them saying; “*This is the meat we were looking for. We’ve now got it.*” Amadou was knocked unconscious with a sharp cutting object. His next memory is of regaining consciousness two weeks later in a local hospital with a sever wound to the back of his head and a piece of skin missing. Several years later he realized the attackers intended to get his body parts. The injury to his head still troubles him to this day.

**Permanent Residency: On June 4, 2013** Amadou Diallo, a man with albinism from the country of Guinea was granted Permanent Residency status in Canada. Originally, Amadou fled Guinea to Norway and from 2008 to 2012 urgently sought asylum there. He was held in a refugee camp for 3 of these years during which time his asylum request was denied 4 times even though 2 persons with albinism had been murdered in his home country. UTSS worked extensively with Amadou’s case during this time, providing written testimony on the plight of PWA in Guinea. We also worked with the Canadian government and on July 16, 2012 he was granted a work permit and moved to Canada. On Tuesday, June 04, 2013, the country of Canada received Amadou with open arms by offering him permanent residency status.

**Most recent asylum: On July 27, 2015**, Mrs. Konate and her 6 year old son with albinism by the name of Aboubacar from Guinea were granted asylum in Belgium. (Source: Ms. Annie Mokto and her association ASBL *Ecran Total, Belgium*, email: [contact@ecran-total.org](mailto:contact@ecran-total.org) , Ph: 485 103 145 or 497 550 634)

**Ivory Coast, 26 reports: (PFI 86 of 180) 7 killings / 11 survivors / 4 missing / 2 asylums / 2 abandoned**

**Most recent killing: On Sunday, July 12, 2015**, the body of an unidentified boy with albinism estimated by police to be 6 or 7 years of age was found with half his hair removed in Yopougon (the outskirts of Abidjan), Beago Ward, Ivory Coast. His body was found by residents of the ward who reported the incident to police. The case is complicated according to police since the body showed no signs of violence. Also, the child’s disappearance was not reported by the parents so the police decided to start investigations there. Unfortunately Cote d'Ivoire is a country known for its witchcraft practices and PWA are often victims of ritual sacrifices. It is not uncommon to see parents' involvement in the abduction of their children with albinism. The child’s body has not yet been claimed. (Source: A Popular Pan Africa news website [www.koaci.com](http://www.koaci.com) , July 14, 2015; Article can be found at: <http://koaci.com/cote-divoire-corps-enfant-albinos-decouvert-dans-maison-inachevee-cheveux-emportes-103042.html>; also, Mr. Mamidou Coulibaly, founder and chairperson of the Albinism Association in Ivory coast – BEDACI - confirmed the news report by phone after meeting with Captain Kouassi, the Police Officer in charge of the investigation at Yopougon Police Station "Commissariat du 16e Arrondissement de Yopougon". Mr. Coulibaly’s contacts are: [ongbedaci@yahoo.fr](mailto:ongbedaci@yahoo.fr) or [ongbedaci@gmail.com](mailto:ongbedaci@gmail.com), Cell: +225-05 42 07 39)

**Most recent survivor: On the night of March 6, 2014**, Brou Yao Serge, a 25-year old man with albinism living in Port-Bouët (Gonzakville), in the district of Abidjan, Ivory Coast narrowly escaped abduction and possibly death. At around 9:30 that evening, Serge was stopped by two young men as he was walking from his Brother’s home. When he asked why they had stopped him, a quarrel ensued. As Serge tried to push his way past the attackers, they grabbed him by the neck saying they wanted his head. Fortunately Serge was able to defend himself and managed to escape. This incident has been reported to the police by Ivory Coast’s albinism society, BEDACI. (Source: PWA Group - Bien-Etre Des Albinos de



COTE D'IVOIRE (BEDACI); Adresse: 10 BP 1989 Abidjan 10; Tel: 24 00 31 20 /21 24 28 34/ 07 67 43 26; Email: [ongbedaci@gmail.com](mailto:ongbedaci@gmail.com))

**Another survivor account: On August 9, 2012**, a 28 year old woman with albinism by the name of Julienne managed to escape a second attack in her homeland of Ivory Coast. This date is branded in her memory. It was pouring rain on her way home from the marketplace in Abidjan when man offered to give her a ride. Julienne hesitated but finally decided to accept the offer. After a few miles the driver bluntly told Julienne he was sick and to get healed, his witchdoctor told him to have sex with a woman with albinism. The car was heading to the forest of Banco at the edge of the city of Abidjan to a place where mystical practices often take place. Fortunately Julienne was able to open the car door and jump out. On August 13, 2012, just 4 days after this second attempted attack, she fled her native Côte d'Ivoire to Tunisia. (Source: French Daily Paper "Le Monde" published on May 20, 2013; <http://emilienemalfatto.blog.lemonde.fr/2013/05/20/julienne-29-ans-refugiee-dermatologique/>)

**Asylum account:** Julienne is a 29-year old woman with albinism and a mother of a 13-year old daughter and an 8-year old son who, just four days after narrowly escaping a second attack due to her albinism, fled her native Côte d'Ivoire on August 13, 2012 to Tunisia. She was hoping to find a better life in another African country. Shortly after her arrival in Tunisia she obtained refugee status from the UNHCR. Despite her refugee status in Tunisia, Julienne's life has not improved as much as she had hoped, summarizing her experience by saying: "Here, people slap me, insult me and mock me. I don't have a job and I am unable to become integrated". (Source: French Daily Paper "Le Monde" published on May 20, 2013; <http://emilienemalfatto.blog.lemonde.fr/2013/05/20/julienne-29-ans-refugiee-dermatologique/>)

### **Kenya, 13 reports: (PFI 95 of 180) 5 killings / 8 survivors**

**Most recent killing: On September 20, 2015**, a 56 year old man with albinism by the name of Enock Jamenya succumbed to injuries from a brutal machete attack and died. Ten days earlier on **September 10, 2015**, it was reported that Enock survived a ritual attack by three men armed with pangas at his home in Gavudunyi village, Hamisi Subcounty, Vihiga county, Kenya. "When I told them I did not have any money, they asked for my ear or hand to sell to Tanzania," he said. A struggle ensued and the attackers sliced his left ear, arm, neck and fingers and left him unconscious. His brother Nickson Lugadiru, also with albinism, said Enock was found in that state by his son, who called for help. Lugadiru took his brother to Hamisi Subcounty Hospital, where he was referred to Vihiga. Enock was operated on for three hours after which medics said he was out of danger. The attack has rekindled concerns over the security of people with albinism ahead of Tanzania's October elections. "The attackers wanted my brother's body parts to sell to Tanzania," said Lugadiru who is one of four PWA in their family. The national coordinator of Kenya's Albinism Empowerment Network, Martin Wanyonyi, visited Enock at the hospital, condemned the attack and said if the criminals are not apprehended within 48 hours, his network would take to the streets in protest. (Source: theSTAR; *Hamisi albino attacked for his body parts*; by JOSEPH JAMENYA; September 14, 2015; <http://www.the-star.co.ke/news/hamisi-albino-attacked-his-body-parts>) / The Telegraph; *Kenya's albinos moved away from Tanzania border amid witch doctor threat*; By Aislinn Laing; September 24, 2015; <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/africaandindianocean/kenya/11885641/Kenyans-albinos-moved-away-from-Tanzania-border-amid-witchdoctor-threat.html>)

**Most recent survivor: On Friday, March 15, 2013**, a 7 year old boy with albinism in Embu, Kenya managed to escape relatives who tried to sell him for ritual purposes. He was kidnapped by his uncle together with other relatives who attempted to take off to an unknown destination where they were to meet the buyers. The boy said that the kidnappers threw him out of the window of a moving vehicle when he screamed. (Source: "7 Year Old Escapes Deathly Ritual," Citizen News, March 15, 2013, accessed June 26, 2013, <http://www.citizennews.co.ke/news/2012/local/item/8667-7-year-old-escapes-deathly-ritual> )

### **Lesotho, 1 report: (PFI 73 of 180)1 killing**



**In October of 2015** a 16 year old girl with albinism by the name of Thaba-Tseka was mutilated in what is suspected to be a case of ritual killing in the country of Lesotho, a country encircled by South Africa. According to police spokesperson, Senior Inspector Clifford Molefe, a woman from the victim's district arrested in connection with the murder was assisting with investigations. Thaba-Tseka met the suspect at an initiation school where they were both initiates. He declined to disclose more details, saying it would compromise investigations. He went on to say; "We are not in a position to disclose whether the crime was committed as a result of superstitious beliefs or not. All I can say is investigations are ongoing...Once the investigations have been completed, the case will be brought before court and the offenders will face the wrath of the law." (Source: Sunday EXPRESS: *Albino girl mutilated in suspected ritual murder*; November 22, 2015; By Pascalinah Kabi; <http://sundayexpress.co.ls/albino-girl-mutilated-in-suspected-ritual-murder/>)

**Malawi, 32 reports: (PFI 66 of 180) 12 killings, 15 survivors, 2 missing, 3 grave robberies**

**Most recent killing: On May 24, 2016**, a 38 year old man with albinism by the name of

Fletcher Masina was brutally killed in his field in Zintabira Village in Chief Chakhumbira's area in Ntcheu, Malawi. Ntcheu Police spokesperson Gift Matewere identified the deceased and said "We were alerted by his wife after 5 PM and when we went to the field, we discovered he was in a pool of blood. Private parts, arms and legs had already been removed". He said the police moved in swiftly after the wife reported the matter to them. Just prior to the attack, the victim had told his wife to go home and prepare food. She told the police in tears that she could not have left her husband alone even though he wanted her to prepare food. (Source: Nyasa Times; *Another albino killed, mutilated for ritual in Malawi*; May 25, 2016; By Owen Khamula; <http://www.nyasatimes.com/another-albino-killed-mutilated-ritual-malawi/>)

**Second most recent killing: On April 23, 2016**, a 17 year old boy with albinism by the name of

Davis Fletcher Machinjiri was murdered in Nambilika village in Traditional Authority Kachere, Dedza district, Malawi. According to Dedza police relations officer Sergeant Edward Kabango, Davis, a standard seven student at Tete primary school, went missing on Saturday when he went to the Tete football ground to watch a game. He never returned home and officers believe that Davis was abducted. Two Malawian men have been sentenced to 25 years in jail for the murder by Dedza First Grade Magistrate Eneta Jiya Banda. According to the Nyasa Times, Vuto Biswick and Emmanuel Robert plead guilty to the charges. The magistrate showed the court gruesome pictures of how Davis Fletcher Machinjiri was butchered by Vuto Biswick and Emmanuel Robert, who then took his body parts to Mozambique to sell. Since then two Mozambican herbalists have also been arrested. Dedza Police Deputy Publicist Cassim Manda said the arrest of Tafatatha Chithanyula (60 years old) and Madalitso Tafatatha was done after working closely with their Mozambican counterparts in Domwe. The suspects were from Undi Village in Traditional Authority in Angonia, Mozambique. The Malawian Police Officers are in the process of trying to have the Mozambique suspects tried in Malawi. (Sources: Malawi24; *Albino attacks: 17 year-old missing in Dedza*; April 27, 2016; By Archangel Nzangaya; <http://malawi24.com/2016/04/27/albino-attacks-17-year-old-missing-dedza/>; & News24; *25 years in jail for men who killed albino teen in Malawi*; May 5, 2016; <http://m.news24.com/news24/Africa/News/25-years-in-jail-for-men-who-killed-albino-teen-in-malawi-20160505>; & Nyasa Times - allAfrica.com; *Malawi: Two Mozambican Herbalists Arrested Over Murder of Malawian Albino*; May 8, 2016; <http://allafrica.com/stories/201605080155.html>)

**Third most recent killing: On April 3, 2016**, a 23 month old baby girl with albinism by the

name of Witine (or Whitney) Chilupha (or Chilumba) was abducted from her home in Chaziya Village, T/A Kapulula, Kasungu district, Malawi. Edna Mzingwitsa, the Public Relations Officer for Kasungu Police said the mother, 25 year old Madalitso Lemani, was alone in her house after her husband who is a taxi driver left for Mzuzu. As usual, the mother went to sleep at around 8.p.m with her child only to wake up at around 4 .a.m. to find her missing. Immediately noticing a broken window and suspecting that someone had broken in, she informed her neighbours. They tried to follow footprints but eventually lost the trail. Two weeks later on April 15, 2016, news24 reported "The girl, who went missing earlier this month, was found in a decomposed state by her mother, who said that body parts were missing from the corpse.



The girl's mother was fetching firewood when she made the gruesome discovery.” According to Malawi24 on the same day “Meanwhile the police have arrested the girl’s father and his friend on suspicion that they were involved in the abduction and killing of the child”. (Sources: Malawi24; *Abducted albino girl found dead*; April 15, 2016; by Archangel Nzangaya; <http://malawi24.com/2016/04/15/abducted-albino-girl-found-dead/> ; News24; *Mom finds her abducted albino daughter's decomposed body*; April 15, 2016; <http://m.news24.com/news24/Africa/News/mom-finds-her-abducted-albino-daughters-decomposed-body-20160415>; News24; *Police search for 'stolen' albino baby in Malawi*; April 8, 2016; <http://m.news24.com/news24/Africa/News/police-search-for-stolen-albino-baby-in-malawi-20160408>; Malawi24; *Manhunt for people who 'stole' albino baby continues*; By Lindiwe Sambalikagwa; April 8, 2016; <http://malawi24.com/2016/04/08/manhunt-people-whole-stole-albino-baby-continues/> ; Correspondence with UTSS by Bonface Massah, The Executive Director of the Association of Persons with Albinism of Malawi (APAM); email: [albinismassociationmw@gmail.com](mailto:albinismassociationmw@gmail.com) & [bonmassah@gmail.com](mailto:bonmassah@gmail.com); mobile: (265) 0881006474 & (265) 0 999399337)

**Fourth most recent killing: In April of 2016**, a 21 year old woman with albinism by the name of Enelesi Nkhata was mutilated and murdered on a farm in the Dowa District of Malawi. Her uncle and 9 additional people were arrested and have been arraigned to court. The police said that Enelesi’s remains were buried at the scene of the crime. Concerns were expressed over the security of the grave and the fact that the remains could be exposed during the farming season. President Overstone of Association of Persons with Albinism is taking the matter to the authorities so that the remains could be given a proper and dignified burial in her grandmother’s village of Kumtumba, Kaphuka Traditional Authority in Dedza District, Central Region. (Source: On September 12, 2016, during the UTSS Team country visit to Malawi, along with Association of Persons with Albinism of Malawi - APAM members and local police, conducted an attack information gathering exercise and visited the scene of the crime.)

**Fifth most recent killing: In March of 2016** a 20 year old man with albinism by the name of Namphiri Lang’awa was brutally murdered in Sub Traditional Authority Ndakwela in the district, Malawi. According to police authorities, suspected albino killer businessman Bashir Henery Goba and his gang of assailants who hunt and kill people with albinism are said to be the ones who killed Namphiri with help from the victim’s brother, Thomas Langa’awa, one of Goba’s associates. Delays in the investigation of this and other attacks are due to Officer-In-Charge Assistant Commissioner Macmillan Nyirongo, who has been embroiled in the spate of attacks that has devastated the nation. Nyirongo is currently being investigated by national police head office for allegedly pocketing K500,000 from suspected albino killer businessman Bashir Henery Goba. The issue of the bribe came to light after some junior officers were stopped from pouncing on Goba in relation to the killing of a man with albinism in the district, and the matter was forwarded to the head office who instantly initiated the investigations. A senior police officer who confirmed the investigations to Malawi Punch said “It’s difficult to disclose more details of our investigations right now, but we are making leads.” (Source: Malawi Punch; *Exclusive: Police Boss Pockets K500,000 To Shield Albino Killers*; May 11, 2016; <http://www.malawipunch.com/national/exclusive-police-boss-pockets-k500-000-shield-albino-killers/>)

**Sixth most recent killing: On February 26, 2016**, a 9 year old boy with albinism by the name of Harry Mokoshoni, was abducted from his family home and beheaded at Moto village, Traditional Authority Chikweo, Machinga district, Malawi. While Harry’s father was away fishing at nearby Lake Chilwa, unidentified men broke in and injured his mother, Edna Cedrick, as they tore the boy from her arms. On March 3 police confirmed the identity of a severed head they discovered wrapped in a piece of cloth in a neighbouring village. The body is still missing. A police officer from Machinga district, Isaac Ndala, confirmed the abduction and killing as did Deprose Muchena of Amnesty International. Early on, Machinga Police arrested Elias Chatha, the boy’s uncle, in connection with abduction and beheading. Since then they have arrested two other men, Innocent Lyson Kennedy and Justin Masitala and have placed a murder charge against the two suspects who are both from Kawinga and Nkoola in Machinga. (Source: allAfrica; *Malawi: Two More Arrested in Malawi Albino Child Killing Case, Total Arrests Now 10*; by Evance Chisiano; April 6, 2016; <http://allafrica.com/stories/201604070092.html>; Nyasa Times; *Malawi*



*Police net murder suspect on albino child*; by Owen Khamula; March 11, 2016; <http://www.nyasatimes.com/2016/03/11/malawi-police-net-murder-suspect-on-albino-child/>; AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL; MALAWI: PEOPLE WITH ALBINISM UNDER THREAT IN MALAWI; UA: 51/16 Index: AFR 36/3585/2016 Malawi; March 8, 2016; <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/afr36/3585/2016/en/>; GLOBAL DISABILITY WATCH; *Malawi's albino hunters and the rising mutilations*; March 7, 2016; <http://globaldisability.org/2016/03/07/malawis-albino-hunters-deadly-mutilations#>; NewsDay; *Albino hunters on the prowl in Malawi*; March 7, 2016; <https://www.newsday.co.zw/2016/03/07/albino-hunters-prowl-malawi/>; THINKPROGRESS; *'We Are Being Hunted Like Animals: Malawi's Albino People Are Threatened By Human Poachers*; By Beenish Ahmed; Mar 4, 2016; <http://thinkprogress.org/world/2016/03/04/3756677/malawi-albino/>

**Seventh most recent killing: On January 23, 2016**, a 53 year old woman with albinism by the name of Eunice Phiri was brutally dismembered and killed in Bokosi village TA Kaluluma in Kasungu district, Malawi. Five days later on January 28, 2016, a cattle herder by the name of Raphael Chirwa found Eunice's body lying near a big rock in Kasungu National Park. Police visited the scene and found the body in a decomposed state with both arms chopped off. The doctor established that death occurred due to severe loss of blood. What happened was that on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Eunice's brother, Masauko Phiri, came to her place with two friends saying they had come to get her because one of her sons living in Zambia was threatening to commit suicide. He also said that her older brother in Zambia had some bags of maize for her. Eunice agreed to accompany them and took her 8 year old son with albinism along. While travelling through Kasungu National Park the three villains attacked Eunice. Her son managed to escape and follow the same route home where he did not properly explain what had happened to his mother. This left the family thinking that his mother had sent him home. Finally realizing that Eunice was not coming home as expected, the family became suspicious and sent somebody to check for her in Zambia. Her elder brother said that she had not visit his home. Police say they will leave no stone unturned until these criminals are brought to justice. (Source: Official report by Edna Mzinigwitsa, Public Relations Officer, Kasungu Police Station, Phone: 0888822718/0993936653 provided to UTSS by Bonface Massah, The Executive Director of Association of Persons with Albinism of Malawi (APAM); email: [albinismassociationmw@gmail.com](mailto:albinismassociationmw@gmail.com) & [bonmassah@gmail.com](mailto:bonmassah@gmail.com); mobile: (265) 0881006474 & (265) 0 999399337; Also see 4 newspaper reports: <http://www.nyasatimes.com/2016/02/01/albino-woman-murdered-in-kasungu-malawi-police-hunt-for-killers/>; <http://allafrica.com/stories/201602012478.html>; <http://www.amnestyusa.org/news/press-releases/ritual-murders-of-people-with-albinism-in-malawi-must-end> and <http://pulse.com.gh/international/albino-attacks-malawi-government-not-protecting-albinos-amnesty-international-id4642482.html>)

**Most recent survivor: On July 20, 2016**, Alick Moses went to the house of Alinefi Develiaus (34), the mother of an 8 year old girl with albinism, to follow up on the negotiations he had been making with the little girls brother Develiaus, trying to solicit permission to abduct his sister for the purpose of selling her bones on the black market. At this point Develiaus took the matter seriously and reported it to Namitete Police in Lilongwe city. Moses took his case further, contacting the girl's mother and attempting to negotiate a deal with her in exchange for her daughter. Alick Moses was arrested shortly after the incident, following a report filed by the girl's mother as well. They arrested the 24-year-old suspect at Ndevu village in Traditional Authority (T/A) Kalolo's area Lilongwe District, Malawi. Lilongwe Police Public Relation Officer Inspector Kingsley Dandaula said the suspect will appear in court soon to answer charges. (Source: Malawi24: *Albino killings continue in Malawi: 8 year old girl abducted for 'sale'*; July 31, 2016; by Richard Jimu; News24: *Malawian man arrested for trying to abduct albino girl*; August 1, 2016; <http://m.news24.com/news24/Africa/News/malawian-man-arrested-for-trying-to-abduct-albino-girl-20160801>)

**Second most recent survivor: On June 16, 2016**, a 51 year old woman with albinism by the name of Lucia Kainga had her right hand hacked off and stolen at her home in the Chitipa district of Malawi. The victim and her husband come from Village Head Man Mweneipenza 5, in the area of Senior Chief Kameme, which borders Tanzania. According to Lucia's husband, 81 year old Yohane Mfungwe; in



the early hours of the morning “Someone was crying for help at the door of our house. It was when I opened the door to find out what was going on that I landed in the hands of the four men who attacked both of us”. Armed with machetes and sticks, the thugs who targeted Lucia’s head and two hands, only managed to speed off with one hand. Mfungwe, having sustained serious wounds to his head, said he recognized the voice of one of the attackers which may serve as a clue for the police. Lucia rushed alone to the Ipenza Police unit to report the incident after which she was hospitalized at Mzuzu Central Hospital where she received specialized treatment and battled for her life. Chitipa Police Publicist, Sergeant Gladwel Simwaka, has confirmed the incident and mounted a manhunt. They have sent criminal investigation officers into Tanzania to hunt for a man there. “We are working with our counterparts in Tanzania in order to arrest the suspect,” said Simwaka. Meanwhile, they have arrested a Malawian accomplice, Joseph Ndimbwa. Lucia said from her hospital bed that she was responding well to medication although she was in great pain. “They broke into our house, hit my husband with a metal bar rendering him unconscious and grabbed my neck whilst chopping off my right hand”. This attack was the first of its kind in the Chipita District. **On Sunday, August 7, 2016**, Malawi Police in the northern border district of Karonga found a chopped hand in the baggage of a customer at Alimwene Guesthouse along Bingu Highway close to Southern Bottlers’ warehouse district. It was wrapped in black plastic paper and was put in the middle of a sack of sweet potatoes. Karonga police say the hand is currently at the district hospital for examination and they have launched a man hunt for the suspect. (Source: Malawi24: *Vicious thugs hack albino woman’s arm*; July 16, 2016, by Bright Malenga; <https://malawi24.com/2016/07/16/vicious-thugs-hack-albino-womans-arm/>; News24: *Malawian man arrested for trying to abduct albino girl*; Nyasa Times: *An albino woman attacked, chopped off a hand in Chitipa – Malawi Police launch hunt for attackers*; July 17, 2016; by Ed-Grant Ndoza –Mana; <http://www.nyasatimes.com/albino-woman-attacked-chopped-off-hand-chitipa-malawi-police-launch-hunt-attackers/>; Nyasa Times: *Malawi Police hunt albino hand chopper in Tanzania, one arrested*; July 18, 2016; by Owen Khamula; <http://www.nyasatimes.com/malawi-police-hunt-albino-hand-chopper-tanzania-one-arrested/>; August 1, 2016; <http://m.news24.com/news24/Africa/News/malawian-man-arrested-for-trying-to-abduct-albino-girl-20160801>; Nyasa Times: *Malawi police confiscate chopped albino hand in Karonga: Found in bag at Alimwene Guesthouse*; August 15, 2016; by Tiwonge Kumwenda; <http://www.nyasatimes.com/malawi-police-confiscate-chopped-albino-hand-karonga-found-bag-alimwene-guesthouse/>)

**Third most recent survivor: On February 6, 2016**, a 54 year old Malawian school teacher and man with albinism by the name of Charles Chikambukire Ndaa survived violation and attack by Mr. Kasamba, a Malawian businessman running a shop in Monzambique situated on the border with Malawi along the M1 road. This was the second time Charles had come to this store to purchase iron sheeting for the house he was building. He explains that on this second visit the owner waited until the shop was empty, closed the doors & windows, demanded all of Charles money (a total of MK103, 000.00 in MK1000.00 notes), tore it up while accusing him of using magic to steal from him, among other threats he uttered the words “I will kill you today”, then he beat Charles with a piece of wood, tied him up and locked him in a room. Fortunately Charles was able to free his hands and reach the phone which was still in his pocket and call his son Emmanuel Dyson who was shopping in the same area. Emmanuel rushed to the shop and banged at the door shouting “my dad is inside, he has called me, please open the door.” By then a crowd had gathered and the police had been notified. Fortunately, the police in Mozambique arrived and arrested the shop owner. After giving statements Charles was released. Upon returning home to Malawi, Charles also went to the police there and statements were taken. He wants this case to be handled in Malawi since all parties involved are Malawian. (Source: Provided to UTSS by Boniface Massah, President of Association of Persons with Albinism of Malawi (APAM); email: [albinismassociationmw@gmail.com](mailto:albinismassociationmw@gmail.com) & [bonmassah@gmail.com](mailto:bonmassah@gmail.com); mobile: (265) 0881006474 & (265) 0 999399337)

**Fourth most recent survivor: In January of 2016** a 9 year old girl with albinism narrowly escaped abduction and possible death in the Machinga District of Malawi. According to Machinga district police spokesperson Davie Sulumba, they have Mandela Paipi in custody, a 24 year-old man who is identified as the suspect attempting to abduct the little girl. Mandela tried to entice the potential victim’s brother, 21year old Wyson Mackson, to help abduct his sister with albinism by promising to give him



K500,000 kwacha. Instead Wyson informed his mother and the suspect was arrested. Mandela Paipi who hails from Nachuma village in the area of senior chief Mkoola in Machinga district is now scheduled to appear in court. On April 6, 2016, Bonface Massah, The Executive Director of the Association of Persons with Albinism of Malawi emailed UTSS saying “we can confirm that the case really happened”. (Sources: Malawi24; *Albino abductor arrested*; January 24, 2016, by Mphatso Khutcha Richard; <http://malawi24.com/2016/01/26/albino-abductor-arrested/>; and information provided to UTSS by Bonface Massah, Executive Director of Association of Persons with Albinism of Malawi (APAM); email: [albinismassociationmw@gmail.com](mailto:albinismassociationmw@gmail.com) & [bonmassah@gmail.com](mailto:bonmassah@gmail.com); mobile: (265) 0881006474 & (265) 0 999399337)

**Most recent missing: On January 16th, 2015**, a two year old girl with albinism by the name of Ibrah Pillo was kidnapped from her parent’s home around 10pm in Matindira - Chindambo Village, traditional authority Kawinga Machinga district, Malawi. Ibra’s father is Pillo Imlani and her mother is Magret Chikopa. (Source: Communication between UTSS and Bonface Ophiyah Massah, Executive Director of THE ALBINO ASSOCIATION OF MALAWI –TAAM; email: [albinismassociationmw@gmail.com](mailto:albinismassociationmw@gmail.com) ; mobile: (265) 0881006474 & (265) 0 999399337)

**Most recent grave robbery: On August 1, 2016**, the grave of a 37 year old man with albinism was found violated and bones removed in Lazaro village, Traditional Authority Mankhambira in the Ntcheu district of Malawi. Rabson Kabondo had died in 2009. According to Police, the village headman Lazaro had been notified about this on August 1 and promptly went to the graveyard to discover that unknown criminals had removed bones from the local graveyard. (Source: Malawi24: *Hunt for albino body parts continues in Malawi: Thugs exhume bones*; August 4, 2016; by Bright Malenga; <https://malawi24.com/2016/08/04/hunt-albino-body-parts-continues-malawi-thugs-exhume-bones/>)

**Second most recent grave robbery: On May 11, 2016**, the grave of Spriano Felix was violated and robbed in Msemwe Village, Traditional Authority Simphasi, Malawi. Just a few weeks earlier on April 20, 2016, Spriano had died at the age of 20 from TB according to a medical report issued at Kamuzu Central Hospital (KCH). Mchinji Police spokesperson Moses Nyirenda confirmed the incident to *The Nation* saying “We went to the scene with forensic officers from Mchinji District Hospital and discovered that arms, legs and eyes were removed from the dead body. We ordered the reburial of the remains.” University of Malawi (Unima) College of Medicine (CoM) senior lecturer and hematologist Yohane Mlombe said that the culprits risk contracting TB from the deceased body. (Source: THE NATION ONLINE; *Thugs exhume albino remains in Mchinji*; May 11, 2016; By Precious Chilundu; <http://mwnation.com/thugs-exhume-albino-remains-in-mchinji/>)

### ***Mali, 15 reports: (PFI 122 of 180) 4 killings / 2 survivors / 2 missing / 7 asylums***

**Most recent killing: On May 23, 2016**, a 6-year-old girl with albinism by the name of Kadidia Bolly was mutilated and killed in Mopti ward of Bassond (also known as Burkina) in the country of Mali. Little Kadidia had a good life, enjoying the affections of her mother and family until that fateful day when her mother, Anta Barry, went on an errand leaving her daughter at home in the yard. In the mothers absence a neighbour by the name of Ibrahima Maiga (28) entered the yard and tried engaging Kadidia but she was ignoring him. Fatoumata Maiga (30), a neighbor lady living in the same yard encouraged her to respond to the man. After having gained Kadidia’s confidence he took her hand and walked to a shop to buy her some candies. It was the last time she was seen alive. When Anta returned home she asked the neighbours where her daughter was which led her to a local shop where she asked the manager. He informed her that Kadidia was with Ibrahima Maiga but when confronted Ibrahima denied the fact and swore he never saw Anta’s daughter. In despair and doubting what Ibrahima had told her, Anta Barry reported the matter to the Police. The police investigated and when they arrived at the suspect’s home they found the door locked. After smashing in the door they were greeted with a stench that led them to a large iron padlocked box. Inside were two bags with the brutally mutilated remains of little Kadidia Bolly. Her blood had been used by a witchdoctor called SIDY and his partner Ibrahima Maiga to make amulets to become rich. Neighbours came from everywhere to launch a manhunt to find the witchdoctor who had managed to escape the day



before. The crowd then turned against his 2 accomplices: Ibrahima Maiga and another man named Ali Cisse who they lynched. The latter died from his injuries but Ibrahima's life was saved thanks to the intervention of Police Commissioner SOW, CID Chief Boubacar Traore and their team. During the investigations Fatoumata Maiga and Ibrahima Maiga were sent to jail. At the hearing before the examining magistrate, another woman was also indicted. The judge charged all three with murder and complicity to commit murder and sent them to Mopti prison on Thursday, May 26, 2016. This relieved the Police Commissioner and his team, since the police station was besieged by a mob crying out for revenge. **NOTE:** People with albinism are commonly called *ou Gombele* in Mali. (Sources: 1 - maliweb.net; *Ritual crime in Mopti: A Gombele slaughtered and dismembered*; May 28, 2016; by Oumar COULIBALY; <https://www.maliweb.net/faits-divers/crime-rituel-a-mopti-gombele-egorgee-depiecee-1606482.html> / 2 - On June 1, 2016, Mamadou Sissoko, a member of SOS Albinism group in Mali confirmed the attack with UTSS / 3 - Aboubakhar El Hassane DOUMBIA; Responsible for the Programme Communication Information: Malian National Commission for the UNESCO; Cell: +223-66 24 32 62 ou 76 24 32 62; Office Address: Avenue Cheick Zayed, rue Mamadou SALL, porte 208 Dravela-Bolibana. BP: 119; Tel: 20 22 25 15. Fax: 20 23 37 67.)

**Most recent survivor: In 2011**, an ashamed young mother attempted to throw her 7yr old daughter with albinism into a well. Fortunately, she was stopped by a neighbor who threatened to call the police. The girl was safely placed with authorities. A few weeks later the girl was united with her biological father after proving his paternity and commitment to protect his daughter. Since that time the mother and her daughter were reunited and relocated to Burkina Faso.

**Most recent missing: In 2006**, the abduction of a baby boy with albinism occurred in Mali. On that fatal night the mother had decided to sleep outside in their yard so that her infant son could enjoy the fresh air. Upon waking the next morning she found that her baby was gone. (Source: An interview of Tierno Diallo on Radio France International on May 20, 2009 called "Invité Afrique" presented by Journalist Christophe Boisbouvier. Tierno is a man with albinism who founded the Malian albinism association in 1993 called SOS Albinos. He was later appointed Minister in Charge of Faith Affairs in 2013 under President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita.)

**Asylum: On July 29, 2011**, Ms. Rokia Kone, a woman with albinism from Mali received asylum in France.

**Mozambique, 35 reports: (PFI 87 of 180) 10 murders, 10 survivors, 5 grave robberies, 10 missing**

**Most recent murder: On June 6, 2016**, the mutilated remains of a 6 year old boy with albinism by the name of Faztudo Filipe were found in the central Mozambican city of Chimoio in the Mudzingandze area of the city in Manica Province. Unknown assailants dismembered little Faztudo's body, some of which were left in a sack and found by local residents. The head of public relations in the Manica Provincial Police Command, Leonardo Colher, said "The bandits cut the boy into pieces taking the hair, arms and legs with them, presumably for superstitious purposes, and abandoned the rest of the body in a sack". He went on to say that this is the first murder of a citizen with albinism reported in this province. "This crime shocked the residents of Mudzingadze", he added. "We already have some information from the victim's family and from witnesses. The boy was well known in his neighbourhood. We are working to gather all the clues to neutralize the criminals". (Source: allAfrica - *Mozambique: Albino Child Murdered and Dismembered*: June 6, 2016; <http://allafrica.com/stories/201606070193.html>)

**Second most recent murder: During the week of March 6 – 12, 2016**, a man with albinism lost both of his arms to a ritually motivated murder in the community of Dissuai, Mueda district of Cabo Delgao, Mozambique. He was accompanying his wife by bicycle to a health unit to have a tooth extracted when he was approached by a stranger who offered to transport the couple by motorcycle. According to witnesses and a police source quoted by the *Diário de Moçambique*, the unknown assailant simulated a problem with the bike and attacked the couple. He neutralized the woman with a machete blow and then



murdered the man before cutting off his arms and fleeing. According to the Diário de Moçambique report, before fleeing the killer returned the bloodied motorbike to its rightful owner, leading to speculation that the police may already have identified him. The wife of the deceased survived and was attended to in Mueda Rural Hospital before being transferred to intensive care in Pemba Provincial Hospital. (Source: CLUB OF MOAZMBIQUE.COM; *Mueda: Another albino murdered in Cabo Delgado, Mozambique*; by Adrian Frey; March 17, 2016; <http://clubofmozambique.com/news/mueda-another-albino-murdered-in-cabo-delgado-mozambique/> )

**Third most recent murder: On January 9, 2016**, the dismembered body of an adult person with albinism whose identity is unknown was discovered in Chinde district, Zambezia province, Mozambique. According to Radio Mozambique the victim was murdered by unidentified individuals on a farm with the use of a melee weapon. His head was missing along with some other body part. (Source: @Verdade; *Citizen killed and dismembered with albinism in Zambezia*; By Adérito Caldeiraon, January 12, 2016; <http://www.verdade.co.mz/nacional/56447-cidadao-com-albinismo-assassinado-e-esquartejado-na-zambezia>; & Margarida Ferreira Carneiro of Kanimambo Mission (albinism association), Lisbon, Portugal, [mmsrffc@gmail.com](mailto:mmsrffc@gmail.com); [kanimambopt@gmail.com](mailto:kanimambopt@gmail.com); <https://www.facebook.com/Mkanimambo>)

**Most recent survivor: On July 11, 2016**, the FOLHA DE MAPUTO – NATIONAL newspaper reported that a 17 year old boy with albinism recently escaped a kidnapping attempt in the city of Maputo, Mozambique, after being enticed by own cousin to move from Inhambane province, Vilankulos District, to the capital. The young boy has no family despite this cousin. He never knew his mother, his father died when he was younger and he lived with his grandmother until her death when he was a young teen. The event occurred when his cousin called him for a job submission in the capital- Maputo- where he said that he had a job for him. The young victim ended up with the police -PRM - in the 2<sup>a</sup> police station because someone following these events denounced what was going on and called for them. (Source: FOLHA DE MAPUTO – NATIONAL; *albino teenager escapes attempted abduction*; July 11, 2016; <http://www.folhademaputo.co.mz/pt/noticias/nacional/adolescente-albino-escapa-a-uma-tentativa-de-rapto/#0>)

**Most recent grave robbery: During the first week of May, 2016**, the grave of a man with albinism was violated and robbed in a family cemetery in the northern city of Nampula neighbourhood of Namutequliua, Mozambique. The grave raiders allegedly removed the body, cut off the arms, and then dumped the rest of the body in a bush near the cemetery. On May 11, 2016, Nampula provincial police spokesperson Zacarias Nacute reported that Mozambican police arrested eight people for tampering with the grave. Police said the grave contained the body of an albino citizen and the gang raided it to steal body parts. Thanks to the investigations undertaken by the police, it was possible first to arrest three of the suspects who had a bag containing 16 fragments of bone from the body. Later we managed to arrest the other five criminals, said Nacute. The public broadcaster reported that the suspects confessed to the crime. Two of the grave robbers were witchdoctors, recruited both to assist in selling the bones, and to use magic that would prevent the criminals from being caught. (Source: StarAfrica.com; *Mozambique nabs eight for interfering with albino grave*; May 12, 2016; Posted by APA; <http://en.starafrika.com/news/mozambique-nabs-eight-for-interferring-with-albino-grave.html>)

**Most recent missing: On the week end of February 5 – 7, 2016**, a 7 year old child with albinism was abducted in the coal mining area of Benga in Moatize, in the western Mozambican province of Tete, making this the fifth kidnapping in that area since December of 2015. The child was snatched in the middle of the night by a gang of six armed men who threatened his mother. They sped off in a car into the darkness with the child. Mr. Robilio Nhakalize (uncle) told reporters on Monday, February 8, that he had immediately reported to the Moatize police in hopes that they not only rescue the missing child, but also to protect the other two children with albinism in the family. “We don't know how we're going to live”, he said, “because the bandits know they left two other albino children here. We're afraid they could return at any moment. This situation is critical”. The Tete police say they have been looking for the kidnappers since the first abduction occurred, in Marara district. The second was in Ulongue municipality, capital of Angonia district, in January, The three later cases were all in Moatize. Many in the area believe that these



crimes entered Mozambique from Tanzania. (Source: allAfrica; *Mozambique: Another Albino Child Kidnapped in Tete*; February 9, 2016, by Maputo; <http://allafrica.com/stories/201602092225.html>)

**Second most recent missing: On January 17, 2016**, a 19 year old man with albinism by the name of Vitorino Fabiao was abducted in his home town of Moatize in the western province of Tete, Mozambique, bringing the number of such kidnappings to three since the start of the year. According to his aunt who asked not to be identified, the abductors used a friend of Fabiao who promised to bring a mobile phone recharge voucher to his house. “We weren't worried about his delay in coming home on Sunday. We thought they were still sorting something out, since they are friends. When he didn't come home at all, we rang up the friend, and he said he didn't know where Vitorino Fabiao was”. When they rang the friend again later, his reply was so strange that Fabiao's family decided to contact the police. The Moatize district police command sent a team to investigate. They talk to neighbours who said they had seen a blue car enter the yard, but they did not know when it had left again. Vitorino Fabiao has not been seen since. (Source: allAfrica.com; *Mozambique: Another Albino Kidnapped in Tete*; by Maputo; January 20, 2016; <http://allafrica.com/stories/201601210031.html>)

**Third, fourth & fifth most recent missing: Three children with albinism go missing just days apart** in Mozambique according to Police authorities who say they have been kidnapped in the Zobue region, in Moatize district, near the border with Malawi in the country's western Mozambican province of Tete. To date, the names and ages of the children are not known:

**On December 3, 2015**, a little girl with albinism was abducted in the Marara district.

**On January 4, 2016**, another little girl with albinism went missing in the Angonia district.

**On January 10, 2016**, a five year old boy with albinism was seized.

All of this according to Provincial police spokesperson Lurdes Ferreira who is quoted by state-controlled broadcaster Radio Mozambique. The fear is that the children may have been killed, and their body parts harvested for use in black magic rituals. (Source: starAfrica.com; “*Three albino children abducted in Mozambique*”; January 12, 2016; <http://en.starAfrica.com/news/three-albino-children-abducted-in-mozambique.html>)

### **Namibia, 3 reports: (PFI 17 of 180) 1 survivor / 2 killings**

**Most recent killing: In June of 2010** Ananias Shifotoka, a young man with albinism

from Uukwiyuwuushona Village in Oshikoto Region was found brutally murdered days after he went missing. His decomposing body was found in a bush cut into pieces with his head removed as well as his genitals, tongue, hands and toes missing. (Source: NEW ERA News Paper for a New Namibia, 29-June-2010)

**Most recent survivor: On Saturday, May 12, 2012** a 16 year old girl with albinism

claims to have been raped by 44 year old man. Prior to the rape he had been visiting the victim and enticed her with money and promises of a shiny car, cattle and marriage. They went for a ride that day and on their return to the village, the accused forced his victim into one of his abandoned buildings, where he is alleged to have raped her. This was confirmed by the victim herself. On Monday, May 21 2012 the suspected rapist was denied bail in Oshakati Magistrate Court. The accused, Jonas Mathias, known as Iingumu Netsali (44), was from a village near Ongwediva where he was arrested by the police. The case of Mathias was postponed by Magistrate Mika Namweya to 27 June 2012 for further investigation. (Source: Informante', May 23, 2012)

### **Niger, 1 report: (PFI 52 of 180) 1 missing**

**Missing & Presumed Dead - On the 17th day of the 2012 Islamic month of Ramadan in**

**Niger (likely August 6, 2012)**, a young man born with albinism in 1986 by the name of Seyni Hama went missing in the ward of Dar es Salam in the capital city of Niamey, Niger. He has not been seen since. On September 13 & 20, 2014, Ms. Kadidjatou Moumouni, leader and founder of the PWA association in Niger interviewed the victims' family and neighbours to confirm Seyni's disappearance. Both parties told her that



the abduction did in fact take place. At the time Seyni went missing, his family reported the case to the Police who did their investigation, but sadly were not able to find him. Two of Seyni's brothers also have albinism. (Source: On September 20, 2014, UTSS interviewed Ms. Kadidjatou Moumouni, leader and founder of the PWA group in Niger; ANAN Niger - [anan2013.niger@yahoo.com](mailto:anan2013.niger@yahoo.com))

**Nigeria, 10 reports: (PFI 116 of 180) 4 killings / 1 missing / 3 asylum / 1 kidnapping / 1 attempted kidnapping**

**Most recent killing: In April of 2013** a woman with albinism was found dead with some of her body organs missing at Okuta, a border town at Baruten Local Government Area of Kwara State, Nigeria. (Source: TheGuardian Nigeria, Friday, April 19, 2013, 19:32; From Abiodun Fagbemi, Ilorin)

**Missing report: In April of 2013** a woman with albinism went missing according to her relatives. She was a resident around Saw Mill area in the city of Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria. (Source: TheGuardian Nigeria, Friday, April 19, 2013, 19:32; From Abiodun Fagbemi, Ilorin)

**Most recent asylum report: On December 13, 2014,** a man with albinism from Nigeria was granted asylum in Phoenix, Arizona. (Source: Lawyer Ravindar K. Arora, Esq., 1441 E. McDowell Rd Ste. A, Phoenix, AZ 85006, P: 623-313-1232, F: 888-413-4183, E: [rarora@aroralegal.com](mailto:rarora@aroralegal.com))

**Rwanda, 1 report: (PFI 161 of 180) 1 grave robbery**

**On July 2, 2013,** authorities of the Macuba sector in Nyamasheke district in Rwanda were notified that the grave of Nyirahakuzimana Consolee, a woman with albinism buried eight months earlier, had been found desecrated and empty. Nyamasheke district mayor, Habyarimana Jean Baptiste, confirmed the grave tampering. He noted that it was difficult to determine who was behind the incidence, but that the coffin and cloths of the deceased were found scattered about 700 meters from the grave. (Source: Online media: C'eil d'Afrique – Article published on July 03, 2013 <http://oeildafrique.com/le-cadavre-dun-albinos-vole-au-rwanda/> ; IGIHE.com Published on 3-07-2013 <http://en.igihe.com/news/body-of-albino-stolen-from-grave.html>)

**Senegal, 9 reports: (PFI 65 of 180) 3 alleged killings / 4 survivors / 2 asylum**

**3 alleged killings:** Three unproven murders of people with albinism are alleged to be linked to the March, 2012 elections in Senegal. Several different sources have purported 1 killing in 2012 and 2 killings in 2010. These charges were actually made by President Abdoulaye Wade but apparently not at the same time:

- In 2012 during the electoral campaign, President Abdoulaye said before the steering committee of his own political party (the Senegalese Democratic Party PDS): ***“Some people told me that Pape DIOP killed a PWA they brought from Mali”***. (Source - Article: “Another GRAVE revelation from Wade”, Wednesday, May 30, 2012, <http://www.rewmi.com/> & Article: “MEETING OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE PDS: Wade accuses Pape Diop of killing an albino”, Wednesday May 30, 2012, <http://www.walf-groupe.com/> )
- In July of 2010 Abdoulaye Wade accused the regime of his predecessor Abdou DIOUF and his political party, the Socialist Party (PS), ***“of the mysterious deaths of two young female albinos whose disappearance was never clarified”***. (Source - WikiLeaks, December 17, 2010)

**Most recent survivor: On September 8, 2014,** an 8 year old boy with albinism by the name of Mohamed Diop was fortunately released by his kidnappers in Thies, a city located about 70 km East of Dakar, the capital city of Senegal. Mohamed was on his way home when accosted by occupants in a black 4x4 who forced him into the vehicle and drove away. Providentially a local-taxi driver witnessed the scene and gave chase while raising the alarm. This alerted people near the vehicle and the assailants ending up stopping and throwing the boy out. Mohamed was then taken to his mother by the taxi driver. (Source: Report received by UTSS on Friday, January 16, 2015 from Mr. Mouhamadou Bamba Diop, Chairperson of the Senegal PWA Group - association nationale des albinos du Sénégal – ANAS)

**Asylum: On June 17, 2015,** legal history was made yet again in the USA when a man with



albinism from Senegal (he wishes to remain anonymous) who underwent severe persecution due to his albinism was granted asylum in New York City, New York. (Source: His lawyer at Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP, One New York Plaza, New York, NY 10004; [friedfrank.com](http://friedfrank.com))

**South Africa, 7 reports: (PFI 39 of 180) 2 killings / 2 missing / 2 survivors / 1 grave robbery**

**Most recent killing: On August 5, 2015**, Ms. Thandazile Sqongwani Mpunzi, a 20 year old woman with albinism who was also a Grade 6 student at Sibongiseni Primary School, went missing in Phelandaba in Kwa-Zulu Natal, South Africa. **On August 16, 2015**, her remains were found in a shallow grave with most of the body parts and her skin missing. On the day of Thandazile's disappearance, she had received a call from one of the suspect to meet at Phelandaba, and by that evening she was not reachable on her cell phone. The family reported her missing on two occasions to the local police but they were ignored both times. Thandazile's mother then reported the matter to the local chief and ward council and a search was launched. They worked closely with the community and the police forum and were taken to a house where the community thought the murder might have taken place. A woman who lived there indicated that she had slaughtered a goat and not killed anyone, but with further interrogation the community found some clothing which was identified by the victim's mother. Several young men also present at the house then revealed a shallow grave where they had buried Thandazile's remains. Four suspects have been arrested; Mr. Siyabonga Gwala 18, Mr. Lindokuhle Khumalo 19, Mr. Mandla Mabuza 19 and the archbishop of New Star Church in Zion, Mr. Bhekukufa Gumede, who is the alleged mastermind behind the killing. Khumalo and Mabuza have already been jailed for 20 years after confessing to their part in the murder. Gumede and Gwala are still on trial as of January 30, 2016. (Sources: Nomasonto G. Mazibuko, National Director of the Albinism Society of South Africa, 187 Lara's Place, Bree Street, Johannesburg, 2000, Tel: [+2711 838-6529](tel:+27118386529), Mobile: [+2782 755-3884](tel:+27827553884), Email: [mazibukong@gmail.com](mailto:mazibukong@gmail.com), [www.albinism.org.za](http://www.albinism.org.za); News24, Albinism victim's family lives in fear, by Amanda Khoza, August 26, 2015; <http://m.news24.com/news24/SouthAfrica/News/Albino-victims-family-lives-in-fear-20150826>; Sowetan LIVE; *False love used to lure Albino woman*; By Sandile Motha; January 30, 2016; <http://www.sowetanlive.co.za/news/2016/01/30/false-love-used-to-lure-albino-woman>)

**Most recent survivor: On June 28, 2016**, a 12 year old boy with albinism went missing but days later was found and survived an attempted sale for ritual purposes in the little town of eManguzi in the northern province of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, just 15 kilometers from the Mozambique border. On July 6, 2016, SABC NEWS reported that Provincial police spokesperson Nqobile Gwala says the suspect, a 28-year-old woman, was arrested last week at eManguzi after attempting to sell a 12-year old boy with albinism for R 100 000. The arrest resulted after the traditional healer she was trying to sell the child to, James Mthembu, alerted the police and a trap was set. Mthembu said that when the woman offered him the children, he played along, before going to the Child Protection and Sexual Offences Investigations Unit at Jozini, which set up a sting operation with detectives from Richards Bay. Mthembu is known for his stance against the killing of albinos for muti purposes and has led marches to the magistrate's courts. The suspect's attempts for bail have been denied in Ubombo Magistrate's Court, and she is still in custody. The little boy has been reunited with his family and is receiving counselling. (Source: SABC NEWS; *Woman jailed for trying to sell a child with albinism*; July 6, 2016; <http://www.sabc.co.za/news/a/f92df9004d640599ae01ee4b5facb1b5/Woman-jailed-for-trying-to-sell-a-child-with-albinism-20160706>; iolNews: *Can I sell you an albino child?*; July 9, 2016; by Staff Reporter; <http://www.iol.co.za/news/crime-courts/can-i-sell-you-an-albino-child-2043617>; News24: *Praise after one albino child saved, but second still missing*; by Sabelo Nsele; July 7, 2016; <http://www.news24.com/SouthAfrica/News/praise-after-one-albino-child-saved-second-still-missing-20160706>; This attack was confirmed on July 27, 2016, by the office of Commissioner Nomasonto G. Mazibuko, National Director of the Albinism Society of South Africa, 187 Lara's Place, Bree Street, Johannesburg, 2000, Tel: [+2711 838-6529](tel:+27118386529), Fax: [+2711 492-0276](tel:+27114920276), Mobile: [+2782 755-3884](tel:+27827553884), Email: [mazibukong@gmail.com](mailto:mazibukong@gmail.com), [www.albinism.org.za](http://www.albinism.org.za))

**Most recent missing: On June 21, 2016**, a 4 year old boy with albinism by the name of



Maneliswa Ntombela, also known as Mlungu, was kidnapped and is still missing from Port Dunford near Richards Bay, Mkhoboza at eSikhaleni, outside eMpangeni in the north of the KwaZulu-Natal province in South Africa. The family says that Mlungu was playing with his cousin at a church several meters from his home. The victim's cousin told Mlungu's mother, Qhaphi Ntombela, that two men abducted him and they also referred to him by name. On Friday police arrested a 28-year-old woman in Emanguzi while looking for Mlungu saying their investigation revealed the woman had been arranging to sell another child with albinism in the area for R100 000 to a local traditional healer. They suspect she may also be involved with Mlungu's disappearance. His mother is pleased with the latest development in the case saying "I hadn't heard of the arrest from police. I've no words to describe how I feel about the arrest but I haven't lost hope and I won't ever lose hope". As of July 27, 2016, police are still busy following leads but little Mlungu is still missing. The Albinism Society of South Africa is also monitoring this case and we will keep UTSS informed. (Source: RadioVoP: *Shock As Albino Boy Kidnapped In South Africa's KZN*; June 27, 2016; <http://www.radiovop.com/index.php/africans-news/14008-shock-as-albino-boy-kidnapped-in-south-africa-s-kzn.html> & ECRnews: *Mother's last hope to find missing Esikhawini boy*: July 6, 2016; by Anelisa Kubheka; <https://www.ecr.co.za/news-sport/news/mothers-last-hope-find-missing-esikhawini-boy/>; News24: *Praise after one albino child saved, but second still missing*; by Sabelo Nsele; July 7, 2016; <http://www.news24.com/SouthAfrica/News/praise-after-one-albino-child-saved-second-still-missing-20160706>; iolNews: *Can I sell you an albino child?*; July 9, 2016; by Staff Reporter; <http://www.iol.co.za/news/crime-courts/can-i-sell-you-an-albino-child-2043617>; This attack was confirmed on July 27, 2016, by the office of Commissioner Nomasonto G. Mazibuko, National Director of the Albinism Society of South Africa, 187 Lara's Place, Bree Street, Johannesburg, 2000, Tel: +2711 838-6529, Fax: +2711 492-0276, Mobile: +2782 755-3884, Email: [mazibukong@gmail.com](mailto:mazibukong@gmail.com), [www.albinism.org.za](http://www.albinism.org.za))

### **Swaziland, 11 reports: (PFI 153 of 180) 3 killings / 7 survivors**

**Most recent killings: In May of 2016** in Nkoyoyo, Swaziland, a man with albinism by the name of Siphohlahlela was murdered by his wife, Pinky Zikalala. She hired 2 men to kill her husband and then tried to sell his corpse to a traditional healer (name withheld) who allegedly entered into an agreement with her. He is now the subject of intense police investigation. The wife along with the two men have since been arrested and charged for the murder. Prior to their arrest, Pinky Zikalala took the traditional healer to see the corpse at which time she asked to be paid for keeping her end of the agreement. The traditional healer is said to have backed out of the deal because he wanted Mahlahlela to be brought to him alive since he needed the blood of a person with albinism for ritual purposes. (Source: TIMES OF SWAZILAND; *WIFE ACCUSED OF SELLING ALBINO'S CORPSE TO INYANGA*; May 27, 2016; BY THEMBINKOSI MAVIMBELA; <http://www.times.co.sz/news/108061-wife-accused-of-selling-albino%E2%80%99s-corpse-to-inyanga.html>)

**Most recent survivors: 4 SURVIVORS OF THE SAME ATTACK: On September 02, 2013,** 4 men with albinism were attacked and seriously injured in the town of Mankayane next to Manzini, in Swaziland. Mr. Vilakati received this information from the victims' families and reported it to UTSS. He was able to visit 2 of the 4 victims in hospital; one called Thulane (19) and the other Ndzinisa (24); the other 2 remain unidentified. (Source: Mr. Dalton Vilakati, a PWA and recently appointed Member of Parliament in Swaziland - Phone number: +268-763-604-80)

### **World Press Freedom Index Trend for Tanzania:**

**2008 – 70 of 173**

**2009 – 62 of 175**

**2010 – 41 of 178**

**2011 & 12 – 34 of 179**

**2013 – 70 of 179**



**2014 – 69 of 180**

**2015 – 75 of 180**

**2016 - 71 of 180**

**Tanzania, 169 reports: (PFI 71 of 180)** All Tanzanian information on killings and attacks are gathered by UTSS through its field work and research; reports from victim's families and police reports in Tanzania.

**76 killings**

**72 survivors; all are deeply traumatized and some severely mutilated**

**1 abduction**

**18 grave robberies**

**2 failed grave robbery attempt**

**Most recent killing: On Tuesday, February 17, 2015**, the mutilated remains of a 1 year old baby boy with albinism by the name of Yohana Bahati were discovered by police in Shilabela Mapinduzi Sub-Village, a few kilometers from his home in Isabilo Sub-Village of Ilelema Village, Iparamasa Ward of Chato District, Geita Region, Tanzania. Both of Yohana's arms and legs were hacked off. Two days earlier five unidentified men armed with machetes attacked the homestead. Three of them seized Misalaba (father) while two of them forced their way into the house where Ester (mother) was preparing the evening meal. Misalaba managed to fight off the attackers and ran away leaving his wife behind with two children with albinism, one year old Yohana and his 3 year old sister Tabu. One of the assailants slashed Ester's face and body rendering her unconscious while the second grabbed little Yohana and ran away. Ester remained in serious condition in Bugando Referral Hospital in Mwanza City even after doctors operated on the machete lacerations sustained while trying in vain to protect her baby boy. A police search is underway and Yohana's father is being held in remand prison. No other arrests have been made at the time of this report. (SOURCE: UTSS interviews with Deputy Director of Public Prosecution Ms. Neema Ringo in Dar es Salaam and Iparamasa Ward Executive Officer (WEO), Christopher Mabuba who confirmed the attack.)

**Most recent survivor: Counted as 3 attacks - On July 22, 2016**, a 20 month old baby girl with albinism by the name of Tatu Emmanuel survived the **third abduction attempt within a 2 week span** in the Ndamhi Village of Fukalo Ward, Kwimba district, Mwanza Region of Tanzania. (NOTE: On December 27, 2014, Tatu's four year old sister Pendo who also had albinism was abducted and has not been heard from since.) Tatu's mother Sophia Juma was staying with her mother, Maryciana Sahani, during the 3 attempted abductions of Tatu. Tatu's father Emmanuel, who was arrested on December 29, 2014, for the abduction of his daughter Pendo, was released on bail in April of 2016. He and seven others are on trial for kidnapping. While now living at home, on all the three occasions when someone attempted to abduct his baby girl Tatu, Emmanuel was away grazing the cows. When Sophia his wife explained to him what had happened he took Tatu to the police and local authorities and asked the government to protect his daughter. The Misungwi District Commissioner instructed the Mitindo Head teacher to take Tatu into their residential school. This is one of 33 holding centers the Tanzanian government uses to provide security for children with albinism who are at risk. Tatu is now in Mitindo Primary School without her mother and at 20 months is the youngest child there. She is being cared for by older students with low vision and a matron. (Source: On July 26, 2016, the UTSS First Response Team issued a report after investigating the scene of the attempted abductions, and visiting Tatu's family, neighbours, Village Executive Officer, Police & Government officials.)

**Second most recent survivor: Counted as 4 attacks - TWO SISTERS SURVIVE 4**

**ATTACKS BETWEEN 2013 AND 2016: On May 23, 2016**, two sisters with albinism by the name of Kulwa Jawilu (5) and Tausi Jawilu (8) escaped abduction, and likely ritual mutilation and death, after assailants raided their home as they slept with their family in Shilabela sub-village, Bulunde Village, Kalitu Ward of Nzega District in Tabora Region, north-western Tanzania. On that fateful night unidentified men kicked in the door and grabbed the first child they saw, which happened to be Kulwa's twin sister Doto



who does not have albinism. Once outside they realized their mistake and threatened to kill Doto if the parents did not hand Kulwa over. Doto was screaming. Fortunately during all the chaos Tausi hide behind some bags of grain covering herself with a piece of cloth and little Kulwa was not even at home, having spent the night at her grandfather's house. As the attackers continued to search the house, they kept throwing clothes onto the grain bags. This gave Tausi further protection. In the end the criminals gave up and fled after stealing some valuables and locking the family into their home. The matter was reported to the police and Social Welfare Department of Nzega district and the government has relocated Tausi and Kulwa to a government-designated centre for persons with albinism in Tabora town. The girl's father said that this was the third attack. In 2013 and again in 2014 some men tried to abduct Tausi but failed when she screamed and the men ran away. During both times, he asked the local authorities to protect his daughters without success. "I am glad that they are now safe in Tabora even though I miss them," Jawilu concluded. The family has now relocated to another village. (Source: UTSS Tanzania staff was informed about these attacks between the dates of June 4 to 8, 2016, during their First Response Team investigation of another attack in Kagera.)

**Most recent survivor of rape: In February of 2014** a 17 year old woman with albinism by the name of Masalu Masanja was gang-raped by five men on her family farm in Gasuma Village, Bariadi District of Simiyu, Region, in north-western Tanzania. She contracted 2 STDs and became pregnant from the rape. Government officials brought Masalu and her three brothers with albinism to Buhangija Center for displaced PWA in Shinyanga where she was treated for the STD's and in November of 2014 gave birth to a baby girl without albinism. She does not know who the father of her child is and suffers from deep physical and psychological trauma as a result of the attack. Her ordeal was made worse by the fact that Masalu is also speech impaired, with minimum ability to make audible sounds, rendering her unable to cry for help. (Source: On June 6, 2014, UTSS staff first met and conducted a personal interview with Masalu during a routine visit to Buhangija, a key government center housing displaced persons with albinism in Shinyanga Town, Shinyanga Region, Northwest Tanzania.)

**Most recent abduction: On December 27, 2014,** a 4 year old girl with albinism by the name of Pendo Emmanuel was abducted in Ndamhi Village of Fukalo Ward, Kwimba District, Mwanza Region, Tanzania. The police have arrested 15 suspects in connection with the kidnapping. Three of the arrestees are relatives: Pendo's paternal grandfather, maternal grandfather and her mother. Due to the fact that her mother had just given birth to a baby girl with albinism and prison would not be appropriate for the baby, the Mwanza Regional Commissioner has ordered them to be sent to an alternative secured environment. The police have also set up a search party to look for Pendo. (Source: UTSS interview with Tanzanian police and Ndamhi Village Executive Officer as well as newspapers reports including: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/afp/article-2903078/UN-demands-investigation-albino-girl-abduction.html>; <http://allafrica.com/stories/201501080704.html>; <http://dailynews.co.tz/index.php/dailynews/39960-proven-albino-killers-must-be-severely-punhed>; <http://www.dailynews.co.tz/index.php/local-news/40153-rc-gives-mwanza-village-five-days-to-find-msing-albino-girl>; <http://www.ipmedia.com/frontend/index.php?l=76048>)

**Most recent grave robbery: On the night of August 18, 2016,** unknown criminals violated the grave and chopped of the right hand of a deceased man with albinism by the name of Modestus Njimbali in Mwaya Village, Mwaya Ward of Ulanga District in Morogoro Region, Tanzania. Modestus died at the age of 40 from skin cancer on July 23, 2016, and was buried two days later on July 25. Police are investigating the incident. (Source: UTSS received this information on August 27, 2016, from the Njimbali family, Morogoro Police and Tanzanian Albinism Society in Morogoro.)

**Second most recent grave robbery: On May 24, 2016,** the remains of a 7 month old baby boy with albinism by the name of Magufuli Begumisa were stolen from the grave just 3 meters from the family hut where he was buried on January 06, 2016, in Chankonko sub-village of Nyakashenyi Village, Businde Ward, Kyerwa District in Kagera Region, Tanzania. The baby was born on October 26, 2015, to his father Begumisa Isaka (36 - with albinism) and mother Jeniva Vegumisa (30 - without albinism). Magufuli was also survived by Festo, a 3 year old brother without albinism and Asimwe, a 6 year old sister with albinism.



The police launched an investigation after they confirmed that Magufuli's remains had been stolen. The incident has been recorded at the police station as Mabira/103/2016. The Businde Ward authorities have made arrangements to take 6 year old Asimwe to Kitengule Centre, one of the government-designated centers for persons with albinism. They have also advised the family not to return to their home. (Source: UTSS was informed on May 25, 2016, by officers of the Tanzania Albinism Society (TAS) in the Kagera region of the Lake Zone. Between June 4 to 8, 2016 UTSS First Response Team also conducted its own investigation in Kagera seeking further information from the family, police and relevant authorities.)

**NOTE: The first actual police documented murder of PWA in Tanzania was that of Arif in 2006.**

**Uganda, 6 reports: (PFI 102 of 180) 6 survivors**

**Most recent survivor: On July 7, 2015**, a 1 year old boy with albinism by the name of Matthias

Gumoshabe survived a machete wound to the head in Mugwara, Kitnaga Kashmbya Subcounty, Rukiga County, Kabale District, Uganda. According to his mother Prossy, the criminal, Alex Nkabibasa, attacked them at around 8:00 pm as they were coming from the mountains to harvest beans. Alex made 3 attempts to cut little Matthias as his mother kept dodging the machete. The fourth attempt inflicted a severe cut to his head above the right eye. Prossy then managed to escape and took Matthias to Kabale Regional Referral hospital after which she reported the incident to Kashambya Police who pursued and arrested Alex Nkabibasa the following morning, July 8, 2015. That day Alex admitted to having cut Matthias with a Panga but declined to give reasons for doing so. He was then released from custody by the police. In shock, the relatives and friends of Prossy made such a strong protest that he was re-arrested and remanded to Ndorwa Government Prison. Prossy is very worried that Alex will bribe the police and get out of jail. Allegedly he has made threats that when he gets out of jail he will kill both Prossy and Matthias.

Apparently, he has also told people that because the parents are so poor he will get out of jail soon because he has money. According to Prossy a rich person in their village seems to be above the law. She is worried that when Alex gets out he might burn her house down. Prossy is also a mother of a little boy and girl who do not have albinism. Mr. Sabiiti Michael, the director of Site for Community Services Program, a local NGO operating in Kigezi sub region has provided support for Matthias to get medical care for his wound. He also hopes to find a lawyer so that justice is served in this case. "I appeal to government to enact tougher laws that punish people who attack children with albinism in Uganda" Said Mr. Sabiiti. (Source: Michael Sabiiti, Founder and Director of SITE FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAM (SCOSP) ROOM 16 SOUTH WESTERN UMBRELLA WATER AND SANITATION BUILDING ON Plot 110 Mbarara Road~ P.O.Box 312, Kabale - Uganda ~ Mobile: +256 781524064/ Office: +256790877802; E-mail: [michael@scosp.org](mailto:michael@scosp.org); [michaelsabiiti@gmail.com](mailto:michaelsabiiti@gmail.com); Website: [www.scosp.org](http://www.scosp.org))

**Zambia, 9 reports: (PFI 114 of 180) 6 killings / 3 survivors**

**Most recent killing: On December 22, 2015**, a 36 year old man with albinism by the name of

Jeffrey Sikanyai was attacked & killed in Mandevu, Lusaka's Zani Muone West area, Zambia. He was left to die after his right forearm was cut off, most likely with an axe, for what appears to be ritual purposes. His body was found on the roadside the morning after his attack. Jeffrey was well-known in the area, and his family and friends said they were shocked by the death as he was very friendly. "We wouldn't say he had any enemies. He was friendly with most people. Also, his movements and whereabouts were predictable." (Source: Zambia Daily Mail; *Albino killed, arm chopped*; by Online Editor KELVIN KACHINGWE, Lusaka; Posted in Editor's Choice, News on December 24, 2015; <https://www.daily-mail.co.zm/?p=53668>)

**2<sup>nd</sup> most recent killing: On May 26, 2015**, a 37 year old woman with albinism by the name of Charity Zulu was killed during a ritual attack at her home in Kalumbu Village, Chief Magodi's area, Lundazi District, Zambia. The couple had just settled down to sleep when they heard a knock at the door.



When Charity's 42-year-old husband Robin Nyirongo opened the door, four men pushed their way in and stabbed him before going for his wife while he lay unconscious. Grabbing Charity, they cut off both of her hands and forcibly extracted several teeth from her mouth before fleeing. Her bother-in-law rushed to the house after hearing shouts for help; arriving just in time for her to narrate the ordeal before passing away. Eastern Province Police chief Eugene Sibote said they have launched investigations. Charity's body was brought to Lundazi District hospital mortuary while her husband was brought to the same hospital for recovery. District Foundation coordinator, Dylan Chifita, of the Lundazi District Albino Foundation has appealed to police to ensure that those behind the murder are arrested and prosecuted. (Source: allAfrica; Zambia: Albino Murdered; by Julius Phiri; May 29, 2015; <http://allafrica.com/stories/201506011441.html>; Also: <https://www.daily-mail.co.zm/?p=31345> And response by the NHRI: <http://www.lusakatimes.com/2015/06/03/hrc-condemns-albino-murder/> ; <http://www.lusakatimes.com/2015/06/02/human-rights-commission-condemns-killing-of-albino-in-lundazi/>)

**Most recent survivor:** *While no name, specific date or community is listed in this report, the source is trusted:* **In January of 2016** a 15 year old boy with albinism narrowly escaped abduction and possible death in the Matero Township of Lusaka; about 3km from Mandevu, Zambia. On that day the boy had been persuaded to accompany a certain man to a nearby shopping center to purchase a few things. The suspect then booked a taxi and took the boy with him. While in the cab he made a call, and in Swahili said that 'he was on his way with the albino-business, a boy, as arranged'. Fortunately the taxi driver understood Swahili and, realizing what was being arranged, drove to Matero police station instead. The mater was relocated to central police in Lusaka but the suspect has since been released on bond and so far he has only appeared before the arresting officer, not the court. The police are negotiating the matter with the suspect outside court and we (NAINZ) are closely following this mater. (Source: Report to the UN by NATIONAL ALBINISM INITIATIVE NETWORKING OF ZAMBIA (NAINZ); January 20, 2016; FINDECO House 17th Floor, Room 13, Cairo Road; Cell: +260 955 544 773 / 973 804 324)

**Second most recent survivor:** *While no name or specific community is listed in this report, the source is trusted:* **On December 12, 2015**, a 46 year old man with albinism from Lusaka, Mandevu area, Zambia, survived an attack near his home where his finger was chopped off. (Source: Report to the UN by NATIONAL ALBINISM INITIATIVE NETWORKING OF ZAMBIA (NAINZ); January 20, 2016; FINDECO House 17th Floor, Room 13, Cairo Road; Cell: +260 955 544 773 / 973 804 324)

**Zimbabwe, 2 report: (PFI 124 of 180) 1 killing / 1 asylum**

**In 2011 the severely mutilated body of a 26 year old woman with albinism was discovered.**

Professor John Makumbe was contacted by Zimbabwe police and taken to the morgue to assist in identifying the body. He noted that she had albinism and that her breasts and genitals had been removed. (Source: Professor John Makumbe, a professor of political science at the University of Zimbabwe and president of the Zimbabwe Albino Association (Zimas))

**On November 29, 2012**, a woman with albinism from Zimbabwe was granted asylum in Atlanta, Georgia. (Source: UTSS served as expert witness in this case)