

Two Mozambican brothers murdered

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TWO Sithole brothers aged 40 and 43 were murdered on the morning of 17 August around 03:30 AM at number 34-08th Avenue. This follows horrific sounds of gun shots, according to the spokesperson of Alex Police Captain.

Malatjie said the street vendor brothers, originally from Mozambique, were about to go to work when the incident occurred. He said one brother was shot as he stepped out of the door while the other was shot as he also went out.

A bag containing air-time was taken and the motive for the murder is still unknown.

“The deceased operated their business near Madala Hostel in Alex.

The case of murder was opened and the police urged the community to call Col.Baloyi on 0823199942 regarding the info that may shed light on the barbaric behavior.

The killings of foreign nationals are not new in Alex. While some argue that xenophobia is associated with such crimes, others say these crimes are not associated with hatred.

On the 4th of May 2015, Mthinta Bengu, Sizwe Mngomezulu, Ayanda Sibiba and Sifundo Mzimela, all accused in the Emmanuel Sithole (39) murder case were found guilty. Bhengu and Mzimela were found guilty in November 2015 of stabbing Sithole on the streets of Alex at the height of xenophobic violence.

The two criminals who reportedly took cigarettes from Sithole and killed him when he demanded that they should pay him. They were sentenced to 17 and 10 years respectively. Sithole’s brutal murder which appeared in camera as it unfolded, was documented by Sunday Times journalist, James Oatway. The photojournalist later helped transport the victim to hospital where he succumbed to his wounds.

Setjwetla Land Grab

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AFTER spotting the vacant land between Extension 7 and 8 and shared it with the so-called landless people, leaders behind the land grab have spotted another land.

When we arrived recently on the land, situated behind Silver Town in Setjwetla, Samuel Moiloa, one of the ANC leaders was busy allocating people with land.

“People are complaining and having challenges about slow service delivery of the government and people are impatient. We have families growing, and when they are growing, it means more land is needed.”

Moiloa said land was priority number one. “If you have land, you have a house; you have dignity, and peace of mind. There’s the question of privacy, people are renting for R2500, but now we have come up with a strategy, to solve this problem. We are grabbing the land and we are not shying away.”

He said those who once

qualified for RDP or people who already have rooms and are not renting, will be verified. “There’s a screening process that’s going to follow this. This is not a permanent place. We just need people to get settled for a while. Then we will be challenging the government so that they fast track the process of RDPS.

Man Kekana, one of the leaders, argued that they were fighting for people because people don’t have a place to stay. “We are the ones who are voting here and when they want votes, they come to us. We can’t go to government; they must come down to us. We want only South Africans to stay here.

Werner Smit, ward councilor of ward 109 said land invasions were concentrated along the river bank between Silver Town and the Gauteng Bridge and between Aloe Crescent and Gift of the Givers.

“There are claims of land being sold as well as land being invaded by foreigners,” said Smit

Smit said: “We need to protect the rate payer base in Marlboro Gardens and at the same

time, also contain the growth of Setjwetla as this is unplanned with no provision for services or roads.”

“The proliferation of new shacks places immense stress on the infrastructure there, especially the electrical network. The electrical infrastructure in Setswetla is on the verge of collapse. When that happens, no one in Setjwetla will have electricity. There are also no access roads in Setswetla anymore. Such roads are needed for policing, emergency medical and fire vehicles, waste collection and servicing of the existing electrical infrastructure.”

Police shot rubber bullets which resulted in about five children including a pregnant woman fainting. An ambulance was called where they were treated on the scene.

Responding on the allegations that he doesn’t attend meetings in that area, Smit said: “We have had community meetings in the past quarter, and land invaders have a history of threats and breaking up community meetings.”



Land Grab on the Rise: People who call themselves landless have embarked on land grabbing in Setswetla

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