



HONOUR ROLL

49 SURVIVE BRUTAL ATTACKS & DISCRIMINATORY ASSAULTS

In Tanzania, official reports indicate that 139 persons with albinism (PWA) have been assaulted or brutally attacked; their hair and/or body parts violently removed and sold for witchcraft related rituals. Of the 139 attacks there are only 49 survivors; all are deeply traumatized and most are severely mutilated. Leaders in the albinism community believe that many of these atrocities remain undocumented and thus the numbers are likely much higher than indicated. While Tanzanian police first started documenting them in 2006, it is widely known that these witchcraft related assaults against PWA have been going on since time beyond memory.

Milembe Michael Mbiti, On December 15, 2013, at around 10:00



at night a 15 year old girl with albinism by the name of Milembe Michael Mbiti encountered three men in hoods and heavy coats who attempted to attack her. This incident took place in Simbaguji Village, Kasamwa Ward, Geita District. The girl was sleeping with her mother, Justina Katwale, at their home while the father was out drinking. The family dog continuously barked at the assailants as they stood



in front of the house. This attracted the attention of Milembe's mother as well as her great uncle, Katwale Kapunze, from a nearby house. When they approached the men, they fled. During the UTSS team visit to Milembe's home they realized that the house is not safe and is in a very remote area. Since then UTSS has moved Milembe to Lake View School as one of our education scholarship fund (ESF) students. She is safe there. (Source: Personal interview with victim and / or family in their home by UTSS team in December 2013)

Elisha Simon, On October 24, 2013, Elisha Simon, a 4 year old boy with albinism from Magenge Village, Kaseme Ward, Geita Rural District, Geita region, was approached by men with weapons while he played with some friends outside his grandmother's house. As they tried to grab him the frightened children screamed for help and neighbour's ran to the rescue. Elisha was saved. This is the fourth attempt on Elisha's young life. His mother took him to the police station for security. Since then, UTSS has taken Elisha into its ESF program and he is now safe. The source is UTSS interview with family – Nov 4, 2013



On May 9, 2013 the attempted murder of Yohana John, a ten month old baby boy with albinism occurred in Kasharunga Village, Muleba District, Kagera Region in the Lake Victria Zone. Yohana was asleep with his family when the attackers broke in. His mother heard the noises and hid Yohana in the bathroom. Before the assailants could find him, the family screamed for help and neighbours from five households came running to their rescue while the criminals disappeared into the darkness. On May 10th the family reported the matter to police who moved them to the town center and began guarding the house. (Source: Muleba Tanzania Albinism Society (TAS) Chairperson, Musebini Mahmoud & Mwanza TAS chairperson, Alfred Kapole)

On February 15, 2013 Mwigulu Matonange, a 10 year old boy with albinism, was attacked and his left arm chopped off above the elbow by two unidentified men in Msia Village, Sumbawanga Rural District of Rukwa Region in western Tanzania. Mwigulu asked his father to find another school; "a school where the bad men cannot find me and chop off my other arm". UTSS promised Mwigulu to find a good school for him where he would be safe. Three men have been arrested in connection with the attack.



On February 11, 2013 at 2:00 AM, Maria Chambanenje, a 38 year old woman with albinism narrowly escaped death after armed men chopped off her left arm at her home where she was sleeping. Rukwa Regional Crime Officer, Peter Maganga Ngusa, told UTSS that the incident occurred in Western Tanzania in Miangaluwa Village, Sumbawanga Rural District, Rukwa Region.

On February 5, 2013 just before 9:00 PM, a 7 month old baby boy, Makunga Baraka, narrowly escaped death as armed men attacked his home in Simiyu Region near Lamadi. Villagers chased the attackers and surrounded the house to protect him. Makunga and his mother Jane Daudi were taken to the police station the following morning and given temporary sanctuary.

On October 1, 2012 Sinzo Dereva, a 38 year old man with albinism was assaulted in Magamba Village, Songwe Ward, Chunya District, Mbeya region of south-western Tanzania. He is the father of 7 children without albinism. The neighbours heard the noise and caught the attackers before Sinzo could be harmed. Three men were arrested and 2 escaped. Sinzo informed UTSS that the assailants are his fellow Sukumas (tribe) who now live in the district. The attackers were sent by another Sukuma businessman who mines gold in Mozambique.

Biganike Sikitu, In September of 2012 there was an attempt on the lives of 2 girls with albinism, Biganike Sikitu (then 10yrs) and Mary Sikitu (then 4yrs), in Nyamitamila Village, just 5 kilometers away from Magenge village, Geita Region. The parents raised the alarm and villagers came to their rescue. Parents, Sikitu Kalikenye, (35 - father) and Shida Felician, (30 - mother) are afraid to send the two girls to school because of the atrocities. They have a 10 month old baby with albinism, Maryciana. We noticed that part of her hair and part of her forehead skin were removed. The parents could not give us a satisfactory answer. If the hair was removed and skin peeled a couple of months ago, then this is a second attack on the family. The source is UTSS interview with family – Nov 4, 2013



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On June 7, 2012, four suspects were arrested for allegedly planning to murder a man with albinism, identified as Harubu Nuru. According to Regional Police Commissioner Kalangi, one of the suspects was arrested in Geita Region as he was looking for a traditional medicine man who would buy the body parts. Police were also looking for the unnamed traditional doctor. (source: DailyNews Mobile Edition – June 12, 2012)

AGNETA DIONIZI: On May 12, 2012 at 3:00 AM, vicious intruders mistakenly took Leti Amonius Dionizi, a 3 year old boy without albinism as he slept in his darkened room next to Agneta, a 21 month old baby girl with albinism. The murders took Leti to a nearby bush, severed his arm, chopped off his nose and lips and ditched the body in a shallow pit. Agneta's father fears that the killers have recognizing their mistake and will be back for his daughter. This tragedy occurred in Nyamwala village, in the Kagera Region of north-western Tanzania.

BEATRICE SOSPETER - In March 2012, a 19 year old student with albinism, Beatrice Sospeter, narrowly escaped mutilation and / or death in Kishapu District, Shinyanga Region. The Form Two Busia Secondary School student was returning home on foot when she was stopped by two men on a motorbike. The men asked her to put her hands on the motorcycle's seat speaking among themselves on how they were going to chop of her hands. Beatrice screamed for help and ran for her life. Angry villagers chased them but they were unable to catch up with them. Acting Shinyanga Regional Police Commander (RPC), Onesmo, said that the two suspects were still at large.



On October 21, 2011 in Mbizi Village, Kahama District, Shinyanga Region, a 15 year old girl with albinism by the name of Kulwa was attacked at her home. UTSS spoke with Kulwa's mother, Mrs. Habi Lusana (48 yrs), who said her daughter had been attacked at around 1:00 AM by three masked men. Kulwa had been sleeping with another sibling in a shed near the main house. The three assailants managed to open the door without force and, knowing exactly where Kulwa was sleeping, used a machete to sever her arm above the elbow. In response to her screaming, the father came out of the main house but was immediately attacked by one of the masked men. The mother also tried to rescue Kulwa but it was too late. She saw the men disappearing with her daughter's arm wrapped in one of the men's coats. At the time of this report Kulwa was still in Kahama District Hospital with her father, Mr. Lusana (75 yrs).



On October 14, 2011 in Nyaruguguna Village, Geita Region, Tanzania, **Adam Robert**,



a 12 year old boy with albinism was attacked with a machete. He was left lying in front of his home with multiple wounds including three fingers which were severed from his right hand and stolen. Adam survived the brutal attack and told police that his father, stepmother, older brother, and another male relative were involved in this criminal act. His testimony was confirmed by neighbours and the perpetrators were arrested the following day.

Adam is currently in hospital suffering from severe wounds and trauma. He says he can never go home to his family.



On September 16th 2011 in a village within the Bariadi District of Shinyanga Region, Tanzania, three year old Lucas Masanja narrowly escaped an abduction by two men. The boy's life was saved by good Samaritans in the village who exposed the conspiracy to the village leaders. The latter worked with the traditional security guards and set a trap. The men were arrested and arraigned in court. They were found guilty of the offence and sentenced to a total of 24 years in jail (12 years each).

Majaliwa Ng'hoyelwa is 11 years old. UTSS first met him on Thursday, November 24th, 2011 in a village called Kasamwa, a 20 minute drive from Geita. This village is



one of the major gold mining towns in the Lake Zone in north-western Tanzania. Majaliwa originally comes from another village in rural Geita but fled when his life was threatened by 4 young men a few months ago. He now lives far away from his family and friends in Kasamwa where he attends school. For his security, a young lady by the name of Angel always escorts Majaliwa to and from his new school to ensure he is never left alone.

On April 28, 2011 UTSS was told about 2 attempted murders of a 12 monthold infantwith albinism by the name of **Meimosi** and her 22 year old pigmented mother Sabina. The attacks occurred on Ukerewe Island, Tanzania which is believed to be one of the safest places for PWA to live. Both times the mother was able to escape the hut with her infant through a back window and alert the neighbours. During the first attack in December of 2010,



it was past eight in the evening when Sabina heard men starting to force the door open, talking among themselves that it should not be a problem to get the baby's legs since the mother and child were all alone. During the second attack in February of 2011 male voices were heard outside the house discussing how to attack the baby without causing any commotion. They then called Sabina by name and said that she should accompany them to a safe place because her husband had sent them to ensure their safety. On both occasions the police told Sabina that they had no manpower to protect her and Meimosi. They advised her to sleep elsewhere when her husband goes out fishing. Villagers suspect that the husband is behind the murder attempts.

MARIAMU JUMA, a 29 year old woman with albinism, who had been shackled and locked up in a room for three years, has finally been released following intervention by Muheza district commissioner (DC) Mathew Nasei. Mariamu had her feet chained and was confined to a tiny room by her now-deceased father, Juma Ngwatu, in a misguided attempt to keep her off the streets following an escalation in albino murders in the country. (Source - IPP Media, March 10, 2011)



JUMA KAPELA , age 3, was abducted on Wednesday, February 9, 2011 while playing with a group of children. His recovery follows a four-day intensive search mounted jointly by the police, a team of Tanzania People's Defence Forces (TPDF) soldiers and villagers. The search team was combing the whole area along the shores of Lake Tanganyika in Mpanda District. He was found in a thick forest near Itunya village with



a case of malaria and some small cuts and taken to Mpanda District Hospital. For their safety, Juma and his sister Wande Kapela, age 5 and also a PWA, will now be accommodated at St Martin de Pores orphanage located at Katandala area in Sumbawanga Municipality.

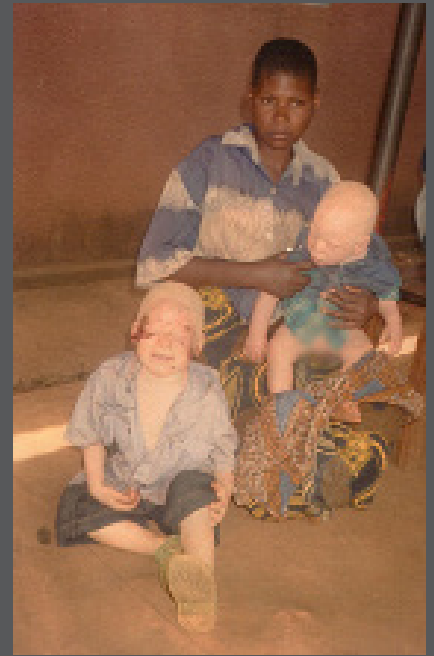
In January of 2011 in Kasemi Village, Geita Region, Tanzania, 4-year-old **Meriki** was



abducted or a few hours during which time the boy's hair was cut for witchcraft purposes. Meriki's grandmother noticed that part of his head had no hair and asked who cut it. He said it was their neighbour Robert Matage (40yrs). The matter was reported to the police. Robert Matage was questioned, and later released. On October 17, 2011 Tanzanian police told the media that the matter was dealt with between the neighbours and that the police could not interfere.

NAME WITHELD for undisclosed reasons - A girl with albinism was kept hidden for the past six years in her own home by family members. She was not allowed to go outside. The Tanzania Albino Association (TAS) was informed about this situation by some of the village members. TAS formed a delegation which was escorted by two policemen and officials of Plan International. They went to the house where the girl was being held captive and asked the head of the household to get the child out of the house. Her body was dilapidated after years of solitude in a room. Her hands were tied together with a rope. She breathed a sigh of relief as the ropes were finally unfastened from her thinning hands. This incident took place in Mbwawa village, in Kibaha Urban District and was brought to light on November 23, 2011. (Source - The Guardian: Albinos come up with shocking research data by LUCAS LUKUMBO, 23rd November 2011)

MAWAZO SIMON - 1st ASSAULT: Mawazo is a young boy with albinism born to Angelina Bunzair in Kagera Region in 2006. She is also the mother of a second son with albinism by the name of Elisha Simon (born in 2008). The boys' father has been shaving Mawazo's hair since birth against his wife's will. Angelina decided to move out of the home at which point Mr. Simon started sending people (most of them work in the mines) to his wife's home to shave the hair of Mawazo. Many times she had to flee her home. When she complained to the authorities about her husband's behaviour and intentions, her family disowned her. While the exact location of this family is now unknown, they live somewhere in Geita Region.



MAWAZO SIMON - 2nd ATTACK: UTSS staff met Mawazo on Thursday, November 24th, 2011 while visiting some of our ESF students at the Golden Valley School in Geita Region. This meeting occurred approximately a year after the first report by his mother Angelina. Mawazo now had a scar covering the full length of the hair line on his forehead due to an attempt to remove his face. After recovering from the attack, he was brought to the School in September of 2010 by the police in Geita. He is now separated from his mother and brother but in a more secure environment where he can work on his education.





KABULA recovering in hospital



KABULA (Center) - June 2010

KABULA NKALANGO, age 13, survived a wicked machete attack on April 26, 2010 when her entire right arm was brutally hacked off. Kabula is now attending a private boarding school under the sponsorship of our UTSS Education Scholarship Fund.

SAID ABDALLAH, age 41, survived a malicious machete attack on April 10, 2010 at which time his left forearm was brutally hacked off. UTSS has assisted in transferring Said from his village to Morogoro town while attending to his rent and liaising with organizations for new employment. He would like to do gardening as he was a farmer before the loss of his arm. There are organizations that promote tree planting with urban nurseries in his area.



SAID ABDALLAH

RUKIA KHALFAN, age 33, sustained head injuries from a cruel machete attack on February 8, 2010. She, with infant Fatma on her back, were attacked in cold blood just outside their hut. They are still in the same village but now live with her parents in a safer new house that the government required the village to build for Rukia.



RUKIA's head injury

FATMA MOHAMMED, age 12 months, sustained severe leg injuries from a heartless machete attack while being carried on her mothers back on February 8, 2010.



FATMA's injuries

ESTHER MICHAEL - On March 1, 2009 in Shinyanga Region four year old Esther Michael with albinism was abducted by two men. The attackers went to her home in Bulolambesi village, Bumela Ward in Bariadi District and took away the little girl away. When villagers noticed that the men were acting suspiciously they raised the alarm. The two men were chased and arrested by villagers (citizen arrest). Esther was saved. The men Mabula Liguliku (50), from Sheshani Village and Emanuel Ntemi (42) from Isanga Village were arraigned in court and charged with abduction.

MTOBA MALOSA, age 2, was attacked in January of 2009 surviving with head and arm injuries after an inhumane machete attack.



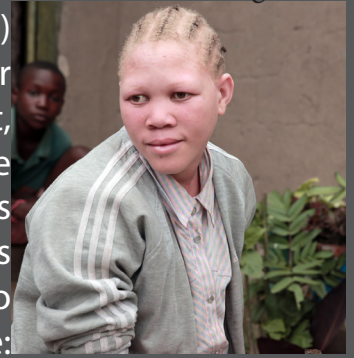
ANGELINA JONAS MADUKA (15), and her elder sister **MPELWA JONAS MADUKA** (17), both with albinism, were raped in Sogoso village by men they recognized on the night of January 22nd, 2009. The rape took place just a few hours after their father with albinism, Jonas Maduka, was murdered for his body parts. The men who raped the girls were part of the mourners at their father's wake, in their village in Sengerema District of Mwanza Region. They lured the two sisters into the darkness under the pretense of offering them economic support following the death of their father. Several men covered the girls' mouths, held them down and raped them at knife point while boasting that they will never again be protected by Mr. Maduka. The incident was later reported to the village leaders but the men were not arrested because of lack of concrete evidence that directly tied the accused to the crime. The local government moved the pregnant teenage girls to a safer place.

MPELWA JONAS MADUKA – See Angelina Jonas Maduka story above

AISHA YUSUPH - On 13th November 2008 an attempt was made to murder a woman with albinism, Aisha Yusuph in Dindira Village in Tanga Region. The attacker, Mohammed Athuman posed as a suitor interested in marrying Aisha. Athuman was beaten by the Dindira residents after the plan to kill Aisha was foiled. He was later arrested by the police force who took him to a Korogwe District Hospital for treatment because he was in a critical condition. Athuman named two more accomplices as Eliaza Seif and Shaaban Ramadhan from Dindira Village. They were arrested and arraigned in court. To date they are still in remand prison and the case continues. (The information was released to the media on 15th November 2008 by the Acting Tanga Regional Police Commander Anthony Rutta)

Fatuma Paul, In October of 2008, around midnight, a 9 year old girl with albinism by the name of Fatuma Paul (born Oct. 1999) escaped men armed with machetes who kicked in the front door of the home in which she was living in Katoro Village, Geita District, Mwanza Region, Tanzania. Her aunt, Helena Paul, hid Fatuma under the bed and then climbed out of the back window to disrupt the attackers and raise the alarm. Villagers came to their rescue and the men fled. This was the third attempt on Fatuma's life after which she slept at Katoro Police station for over a year before being moved to Geita town. (Source: Personal interview with victim and / or family in their home by UTSS team in December 2013)

Fatuma Paul - Age 14



MARIAMU STAFORD, age 28, survived a vicious machete attack on October 17, 2008. Both of her arms were hacked off. That day, Mariamu also lost the life of her unborn child and the ability to wrap her arms around her young son. She has since received prosthetic limbs in Washington,



D.C. and is now attending a vocational boarding school in Tanzania sponsored by the UTSS Education Scholarship Fund.

Fatuma Paul, In August of 2008 an 8 year old girl with albinism by the name of Fatuma Paul (born Oct. 1999) escaped 4 unidentified armed men in Katoro Village, Geita District, Mwanza Region, Tanzania. They attacked the family house while her aunt and guardian, Helena Paul, went out to buy medicine around eight in the evening. The children ran to the bedroom covering themselves with blankets while raising an alarm. The men got hold of Fatuma and were pulling her by the legs when neighbours heard the alarm and ran to the rescue. The assailants fled into the dark. This was the second attempt on Fatuma's life. (Source: Personal interview with victim and / or family in their home by UTSS team in December 2013)



Fatuma Paul - Age 14

Leticia Simon, 5 ATTACKS AGAINST THE SAME VICTIM: In 2008, a young girl with albinism by the name of Leticia Simon (born in 2001) managed to escape several armed men who broke into the family home in Ikulwa Village, Mkolani ward, Geita District. Leticia's aunt and guardian fled with her through a window and raised the alarm and the men ran away. She also managed to escape 4 other attempted abductions between the years of 2008 and 2009. These occurred when Leticia was initially lured into a car parked a few meters from her family home. After realizing their intent she screamed and the car sped away. A number of times after that the attackers would call her from her house to their car whenever the adults were away. She would raise the alarm by screaming and the car would speed away. The police were informed. They advised the family to keep her locked in the house. Leticia is an orphan who is now a student in Under The Same Sun's education scholarship fund (ESF) program where she is now safe. (Source: Personal interview with victim and / or family in their home by UTSS team in December 2013)



TAUSI MASSORO MANGIDU is the daughter of the late Zawadi Magindu a woman with albinism who was murdered on 11th March 2008 at around 02:00 am in Nyamarulu Village, Geita District. The legs and breast of the 22 year old woman were severed. In the process the attackers injured her daughter Tausi who was being breast-fed at the time of the assault. Tausi sustained hand and leg injuries. She was not yet two years of age when her mother was murdered. She was found still with blood stains lying by her mother's side. (The story was narrated to UTSS in September 2010 by Tausi's grandmother 65 year old Magdalena Mashimba)



BIBIANA MBUSHI, age 12, survived a cruel machete attack resulting in her right leg and 2 fingers of her right hand being hacked off on December 28, 2007. Bibiana and her younger sister Tindiyebwa (Tindi) have since been adopted by Honorable MP, Al Shaymaa Kwegyir and are now attending a private boarding school in Dar es Salaam sponsored by our UTSS Education Scholarship Fund.



PAULO SASA, a chairperson of Maswa District Tanzania Albinism Society, was attacked on 25th November 2007 by his neighbours and friends who, at one point, had shared meals at a dinner table. At around 02.00 am on the fateful day, they broke into his house with machetes with the aim of mutilating him. He managed to outsmart them by hiding behind one of the doors in the house. When one of the attackers tried to enter the room Paulo used his own machete to attack the man who dropped the torch and shouted to his accomplices that someone might have set a trap which meant that the person knew that about their plan. They aborted the attack and fled. Paulo reported the matter to the police and they assailants were arrested. They confessed that they were sent by a Kisanga Village witchdoctor in Bariadi District, Shinyanga Region to get a PWA arm in order to get wealthy. After three months in a remand prison Paulo pardoned them in front of the Maswa District Commissioner. He told the authorities that the main culprit, who remains at large, was the witchdoctor who lied to them. They were released and promised to protect him. The District Commissioner told them should anything happen to Paulo, they will be held responsible. Paulo told UTSS that he feels safe in Maswa and that he is not afraid of being attacked because he is being protected by the same people who wanted to kill him for his arm. (The story was narrated to UTSS by Paulo in May 2012)

EMMANUEL FESTO, age 7, survived a brutal machete attack by 4 people on November 12, 2007. His arm was hacked off above the elbow; the fingers of his remaining hand were chopped off and 4 of his teeth were knocked out. Emmanuel has been relocated to a safer place and is now attending a private boarding school sponsored by the UTSS Education Scholarship Fund.





Fatuma Paul - Age 14

Fatuma Paul, In 2007, a young girl with albinism by the name of Fatuma Paul (born Oct. 1999) was returning from school with her cousin Neema (born 1997) when two men lured her into a hair salon in Katoro Village, Geita District, Mwanza Region, Tanzania. They shaved her hair by force. The matter was reported to police; the men were arrested and then released. They were not arraigned in court. The salon has been shut down. Fatuma is now a student in the UTSS

education scholarship fund (ESF) program. She is also an orphan. (Source: Personal interview with victim and / or family in their home by UTSS team in December 2013)

THOMAS FROM MARA, age 35, survived a calloused machete attack in which his arm was chopped off. Our UTSS Office in Tanzania says: "We do not have Thomas's photo. I am trying to liaise with my contacts in the region to get in touch with him. His number is unreachable. I am worried. His case was in court. When I spoke to him last a couple of months ago, the businessman he was accusing of masterminding the attack, used Thomas's assailants against him. He told the police that Thomas was hurling insults at him and threatened to kill the businessman. So the case is neither here nor there! AAARRRRRRGH! CORRUPTION! CORRUPTION! CORRUPTION!"



Ndaro Magessa, In 2002, a 3 year old boy with albinism by the name of Ndaro Magessa (born in 1999) was abducted by a villager in Nkome Village, Geita District, Mwanza Region, Tanzania. The abduction was thwarted when the man was seen by other villagers who then made a citizen arrest. Unfortunately he later escaped from the remand prison. Police told the family that a witchdoctor was also arrested in Mwanza in connection with the abduction. (Source: Personal interview with family in their home by UTSS team in December 2013)

