



Reported Attacks of Persons with Albinism – Most Recent Attacks Included

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

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PWA = Person(s) with Albinism

PFI = Press Freedom Index for 2018 (180 countries surveyed)

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

(PFI for Canada = 18 of 180 & USA = 45 of 180)

Killings: 206

Attacks: 358 - Attacks include survivors of mutilations, violence, rape, attempted abductions, missing, grave violations, asylum (permanent residency) cases.

Total: 564

Total Countries: 29

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. These ritual attacks frequently find their roots in ancient ancestral beliefs, are a familiar concept to most Africans, and have been going on since time beyond memory.

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,

NOTE 3: UTSS gathers this data from its own field research and also from its partners on the ground. We record cases that have been thoroughly verified. However this is not always possible. In such cases, we record cases from partners, media and civil society that are reasonable and prima facie credible.

Benin, 14 reports: (PFI 84 of 180) 5 killings / 4 survivors / 5 missing

Most recent survivor: On August 4, 2017, a 13 year old girl with albinism by the name of Anna Gnanhwui narrowly escaped abduction and was found unhurt the following day in Dogbo in the south west of Benin. According to Anna’s cousin, Mr. Valentin GOSSA, she was just leaving the marketplace with one of her sisters and was in the neighbourhood of Dogbo Zaphi public primary school when the kidnappers approached frightening Anna’s sister away and abducting Anna in a black Ford Focus with the licence number AY 4078. The police were immediately alerted and launched a large patrol of the surrounding area. Under intense pressure, the kidnappers were forced to release Anna in a bush where she spent the night. The following morning she found help and was reunited with her family at the Dogbo’s Police station with the General Director of the National Police. All 3 suspects who committed the abduction are Beninese from Dogbo and have been arrested by Commander CIE APLAHOUE and his team and will



be presented to a public prosecutor. (Sources: UTSS was informed by the following 2 sources - Houetehou C. Franck HOUNSA; Founder and President; Connexion Worldwide NGO; O1 BP 4166 Cotonou; Tél +229 97895528; Benin Republic / Mr. AKPO Firmin; NGO: VALEUR ALBINOS; Contact:00229 95 54 75 13; Site internet: www.valeur-albinos.org; Republic of Benin)

Most recent killing: On July 13, 2013, a 20 year old man with albinism known as Francois (HOUANOU Mahouto François) was deceived, drugged, kidnapped, killed and mutilated in his homeland of Benin. François lived in the community of Lalo in south-western Benin, where he was learning to become a nurse in one of the hospitals at Lalo Centre. Francois had a cousin named Pascal (HLEKPE Pascal) who lived in Koudjon Centre, a small village near Lalo. Both boys had grown up together in the same hamlet of Ouinsouhoué. On that fateful day, Pascal approached his cousin with albinism in order to deceive him, saying that he'd found a high paying job for him in downtown Cotonou, and that the boss wanted to meet right away. François showed no hesitation and after a 3 hour ride, they went to wait for the so-called boss in a bar. Here Francois was drugged and kidnapped to Porto-Novo, the country's capital city, where he was killed, and parts of his body removed. When Pascal returned home to Lalo alone, everyone started asking for François. Pascal kept insisting that he had not traveled anywhere with François. Since many had seen them travelling together, people started threatening him to tell the truth. In an attempt to conceal the truth and silence the family, he decided to consult various witchdoctors to make him amulets. Finally he and his three accomplices went to consult one of the visionaries of the Celestial Churches of Christ. He told him the whole story and begged him to mystically silence everyone about the murder in exchange for a lot of money. The visionary left his house briefly and called the police, who arrived quickly. The criminals tried to escape but the police shot one of them and all four were arrested and placed in custody. Of the four, one was released when it was discovered that he was the younger brother to one of the criminals and had nothing to do with the murder. The other three were placed in the prison in Lokossa and are serving their sentences. (Source: Sent to UTSS March 7, 2018, by Mr. Firmin Akpo, NGO Valeur Albinos, Benin; Tel: +229 95 54 75 13/ 96 93 96 05; E-mail: valeuralbinos.org@gmail.com; Site: www.valeur-albinos.org)

Most recent missing: On January 27, 2018, a 19-year-old man with albinism by the name of Medard Bocovo, who lived in the vicinity of Doutin in the subdivision of Za-Tanta, in the community of Za-Kpota, in southwestern Benin, was kidnapped and is still missing. After carrying out unsuccessful searches to find Medard, the matter was referred to the police of Za-Kpota on February 3, 2018. Although there are two suspects, AHLOUMESSOU Aubin, and Judes GOÏ, neither has been arrested by police. The police keep promising to make a raid and arrest but have failed to do so at the time of this report. Furthermore, the police have told Medard's parents that the will be charged for the cost of the raid. In exasperation, Mr. Firmin Akpo of the Benin Albinism Association says: *"This evening again, against all the odds, we learned that Za-Kpota police commissioner has postponed the raid for the arrest and interrogation of GOÏ. A real deadlock... Help us! We are currently in touch with a cousin of the abducted young man and we keep calling the police commissioner."* In a follow up report, Firmin Akpo said; *"We are tirelessly phoning the police commissioner of Zapkota who is in charge of this case for more clarification. He can be contacted at: +229-66-86-69-22."* (Source: Sent to UTSS March 8, 2018, by Mr. Firmin Akpo; NGO Valeur Albinos, Benin; Tel: +229 95 54 75 13/ 96 93 96 05; E-mail: valeuralbinos.org@gmail.com; Site: www.valeur-albinos.org)

Botswana, 3 reports: (PFI 48 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...!” Seururubele’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 Jwanenge city for her safety. After that incident, Serrurubele 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 41 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 18th, 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 159 of 180) 21 killings, 13 survivors, 4 grave robbery.

Most recent killing: On March 24, 2016, a four year-old girl with albinism by the name of Devote Ntiharizwa was kidnapped from her home by unidentified men armed with machetes at around midnight, in colline Musemo, comune 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: Anonyms)

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 Rwaswa.



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)

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)

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; 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 129 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), 69 reports: (PFI 154 of 180) 17 killings / 35 survivors / 1 missing / 9 grave robberies / 7 asylums

Most recent killing: On July 17, 2017, an infant with albinism was thrown into a cesspit (often used as a toilet in rural Africa) by the husband of the child's mother who was absent at the time of this heinous act. The incident took place in Maazi, territory of Shabunda in the province of South-Kivu, in DRC. The baby died and the murderer has since enrolled in an armed group called Raiya Mutomboki. (Source: Report sent to UTSS on July 21, 2017, by an albinism group called Programme d'intégration pour la protection de l'humanité (Piph-ASBL); Coordinator: Mr. LUNGELE ITEBO Samuel; Email address : piphasblrdc@gmail.com; Tel. + 243-9749380000, + 243-974938002 + 243-993714382; Physical address: MWENGA, KALOLE in South-Kivu, DRC)

Most recent survivor: This report counts as 2 attacks: In 2017 and again in January of 2018 a 63 year old man with albinism by the name of Jean- Louis Gbangbi Ngbonza escaped 2 attempted kidnappings in his hometown of Alibuku located along the road of Buta about 37 KM from Kisangani in the province of Tshopo, DRC. In an interview with Dr. Gaylord Inena Wa Inena, Jean- Louis said; "I faced two attempted kidnappings. The first time was last year in 2017, some people plotted to kidnap me, but thankfully a local security company managed to rescue me. The second time was in January of this year (2018), a man who had newly settled in my hometown and worked as a traditional gun maker planned to abduct me. He got married to a local woman. His wife informed me that her husband was plotting to kidnap me at my workplace and take me somewhere. He didn't succeed. At that time, I worked as a teacher and director in a local school. The guy came here (Kisangani) from Kindu, province of Maniema. Apparently, he was sent by some people to kidnap PWAs in DRC and take them to Tanzania. I informed the police who investigated his suspicious activities. It was found that he was clandestinely making and supplying guns to a local gang of rebels called Nzambe Lumumba. He ran away when he noticed he was going to be arrested." The victim has since relocated for safety reasons. (Source: On July 30, 2018, UTSS received a video interview recorded and sent by Dr. Gaylord Inena Wa Inena, CEO and Founder of an NGO called CORBETTA in Kisangani, province of Tshopo, DRC; Email: gaylordinena@gmail.com; Cellphone/ WhatsApp: +243-824-155-808)

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.)



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 161 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 ; Hazem's lawyer Allen Little QSM,JP)

Ghana, 3 report: (PFI 23 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 / gapa4all@gmail.com / 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 / gapa4all@gmail.com / www.gapaghana.org)

2nd 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, 15 reports: (PFI 104 of 180) 5 killings / 6 survivors / 3 asylum / 1 permanent residency

2 Most recent killings: 1st 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. **2nd 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 May 17, 2017, a four year old girl with albinism by the name of Fatoumata Camara narrowly escaped a ritual tragedy after being rescued from 4 men who had abducted her in the country village of Damankania, in the Sinanya district of Yabara, Guinea. The suspected traffickers kidnapped little Fatoumata in front of her mother at their home. Her father Salif Camara explains: "a young man got out of a vehicle that was parked in front of my compound and snatched our daughter. My wife who was on the scene asked the kidnappers where they were taking her. Without answering they drove off with little Fatoumata. My wife shouted for a motorbike taxi to chase the kidnappers. I immediately alerted the Commander of the Gendarmerie (police) who deployed his team and managed to capture the vehicle. Of the 4 assailants, 2 succeeded in escaping and the other two were arrested." Accused of trafficking a person with albinism, a man by the name of Mohamed Conté and a woman named Aissata Bangoura were arrested on May 17, 2017, by the Services of the Territorial Gendarmerie (Police) of Kindia. When questioned, the abductor named Mohamed Conté admitted that he was a witchdoctor who came to visit another older witchdoctor known as Doubayadi who was also the father of his colleague Aissata Bangoura. (Source: GUINEENEWS.ORG - *Kindia: two suspected albino traffickers arrested by gendarmerie*; By Mamady Mara; May 24, 2017; <https://guineenews.org/kindia-deux-presumes-trafiquants-dalbinos-arretes-gendarmerie/>; UTSS partner in Guinea – Mr. Moussa Bangoura, the founder of the local PWA group Confédération nationale des albinos de Guinée (CNAG); Friday May 26, 2017)

Another 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)

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 , Ph: 485 103 145 or 497 550 634)

Ivory Coast, 30 reports: (PFI 82 of 180) 9 killings / 13 survivors / 4 missing / 2 asylums / 2 abandoned

Most recent killing: On June 30, 2017, the lifeless body of a 3-year-old boy with albinism by the name of Sidibe Oumarou was found in a 1 meter deep abandoned well situated behind the town hall of Kani, in the ward of Damasso, in the north west of Ivory Coast. According to first testimonies gathered by Mamidou Coulibaly, this case was not an accident and it appeared that the boy was tragically murdered for ritual purposes and his body thrown in the abandoned well. (Sources: On July 4, 2017, France's Major PWA group Genespoir published this case on their FaceBook page; <http://aip.ci/cote-divoire-le-corps-dun-petit-albinos-retrouve-dans-un-puits-a-kani/>; from Benedict Louyer, deputy chairperson, email address genespoir@wanadoo.fr; / also UTSS was in contact with Mamidou Coulibaly, founder and chairperson of the NGO BEDACI, Email: ongbedaci@gmail.com; ongbedaci@yahoo.fr; Phone:+225-05-42-07-39 / +225-07-67-43-26)

Most recent survivor: In late June of 2017, a woman with albinism had her 15 month old infant, who did not have albinism by the name of Collette Ama Koffi, kidnapped from their home in Ivory Coast by a pigmented woman from Benin. The police in Arrah, in the east of the country, found the Beninese woman named Nadège Dassia after she had stolen the child. After four years of trying to give birth to her own child, the abductor passed herself off as a soap seller which easily enabled her to enter the bedroom of the absent mother and snatch the baby. After fleeing the house with the infant in a taxi heading towards KOTOBI (in east-central of Cote d'ivoire, subprefecture of Arrah), the police were alerted and managed to catch the pair, arrest the kidnapper, rescue the infant and reunite the mother with her child. (Source: koaci.com - Cote d'Ivoire: *Beninese woman steals baby from Ivorian mother and gets arrested*; Thursday, June 22, 2017; <http://koaci.com/m/cote-divoire-dans-limpossibilite-denfanter-beninoise-vole-bebe-dune-maman-ivoirienne-fait-arreter-dans-fuite-110473-i.html>)

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://emiliennemalfatto.blog.lemonde.fr/2013/05/20/julienne-29-ans-refugiee-dermatologique/>)



Kenya, 13 reports: (PFI 96 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 68 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/>)

Madagascar, 1 report: (PFI 54 of 180) 1 killing

On October 17, 2016, in the early hours of the morning the lifeless body of an about 28-year-old woman with albinism was found in Bezaha in the district of Betsioky, South West Madagascar. She was the victim of a brutal attack leaving her naked body disfigured and her eyes stolen. According to locals, the robbery of PWA’s eyes has reportedly been on the increase as another way to make easy money, a practice that is gradually taking root among the bandits in the region. The residents do not know where to go at the moment. (Source: On January 23, 2017, UTSS discovered this article published by the Madagascar Matin Newspaper; <http://www.matin.mg/?p=42939>; The publication date is not clear in this article. Translation is provided by UTSS representative, Amadou Diallo.)



***Malawi, 44 reports: (PFI 64 of 180) 15 killings, 21 survivors, 3 missing, 5 grave robberies**
NOTE: (1 attack in 2018 to date / 9 attacks in 2017 / 14 attacks in 2016 / 13 attacks in 2015)

*In Malawi more cases have been reported. In 2017, 102 cases were reported by the UN Independent Expert on albinism in the report of her official visit to Malawi. See UN document number: [A/HRC/34/59/Add.1](#) (March 2017). A few months later, in October 2017, the association of persons with albinism in Malawi reported 122 cases (Source: Malawi News Agency (MANA); *Lack of finances stalls 122 cases of people with albinism*; Wednesday, Oct 25, 2017; <http://www.maravipost.com/lack-finances-stalls-122-cases-people-albinism/>). Under The Same Sun (UTSS) officially records cases after it has received sufficient detail: name of victim, location, etc. Without access to such detail, UTSS is unable to enter these cases into its records for now; but recognizes that these reports are probably credible due to their sources.

Most recent killing: On March 9, 2018, a 22 year old man with albinism by the name of Macdonald White Masambuka disappeared from Duwamakawa village, in the area of Traditional Authority Nkoola in the Machinga district of Malawi. His remains were later found with some body parts missing and laid to rest on Monday April 2, 2018. The funeral ceremony was attended by government officials, members of Association of Persons with Albinism, UN Women members and community members. To date police suspect the involvement of a friend who is still at large and have arrested several locals including a bartender, medical health worker, police officer and most recently a catholic priest. Their employers have condemned this activity and withdrawn employment and the Bishop of the Diocese of Zomba, Rt. Rev. George Desmond Tambala, issued an official statement on April 17, 2018. Eastern region police public relations officer, inspector Joseph Sauka, confirmed they recovered six bones of the deceased on April 3, 2018 saying: "The bones were recovered on Tuesday afternoon after the suspects confessed and led the officers to where they hid the bones. The recovered bones are currently being kept awaiting medical examinations". (Sources: Malawi24 - *Horror in Machinga: Person with albinism abducted*; BY MARTHA CHIKOTI; MARCH 13, 2018; <https://malawi24.com/2018/03/13/horror-in-machinga-person-with-albinism-abducted/>; Malawi News Hub - *POLICE RECOVER REMAINING 6 BONES FOR LATE MASAMBUKA*; <http://malawinewshub.com/police-recover-remaining-6-bones-for-late-masambuka/>; On April 2, 2018, this attack was confirmed to UTSS by Bonface Massah, a member of the Albinism Association of Malawi (APAM); email: albinismassociationmw@gmail.com & bonmassah@gmail.com; mobile: (265) 0881006474 & (265) 0 999399337; Malawi24 - *Masambuka murder: police recover remaining six bones*; BY BRIGHT MALENGA ON APR 05, 2018; <https://malawi24.com/2018/04/05/masambuka-murder-police-recover-remaining-six-bones/>; Malawi24 - *Health worker suspended over Masambuka murder*; BY BRIGHT MALENGA ON APR 06, 2018; <https://malawi24.com/2018/04/06/health-worker-suspended-over-masambuka-murder/>; Malawiana.net - *Catholic Priest arrested in connection with albino murders*; April 17, 2018; <http://malawiana.net/2018/04/17/catholic-priest-arrested-in-connection-with-albino-murders-malawi-24/>; Malawi Voice - *Catholic Church Shocked With Its Priest Father Thomas Muhosha For 'Killing' Albino In Malawi*; on April 17, 2018; <http://www.malawivoice.com/catholic-church-shocked-with-its-priest-father-thomas-muhosha-for-killing-albino-in-malawi/>)

Second most recent killing: On February 25, 2017, a 31 year old woman with albinism and mother of 3 young boys by the name of Zainabu Mercy Banda was killed for ritual purposes. She lived in area 36 of Lilongwe, the Capital city of Malawi, and went missing 2 days earlier (23rd) after leaving her home alone in the afternoon, having informed her mother and friends that she was going to town and would be back later. Her body was found lying in a maize field by some children who were picking vegetables at



Chadza village in the area of Kaphiri within the city. The children reported the matter to their parents, chief and the police. In cooperation with medical personnel, the police confirmed that Mercy had been brutally murdered; with a missing left arm and breast and her hair shaved off. Ropes were found around her neck and on her right hand. Due to the condition of her body, the burial was conducted at the place it was found but in a dignified manner with the parents consent. The police provided cement for the grave. At the writing of this report no arrest had been made and the police were still investigating the case. Two of Mercy's 3 children are now with their grandmother (61) who has no resources to support their needs. The youngest child is with Mercy's late husband since they had long since been separated. (Source: UTSS was informed on March 2, 2017, by Bonface Massah, Executive Director of Association of Persons with Albinism of Malawi (APAM); email: albinismassociationmw@gmail.com & bonmassah@gmail.com; mobile: (265) 0881006474 & (265) 0 999399337)

Most recent survivor: On March 31, 2017, a 38 year old man with albinism by the name of Gift Notisi survived a machete attack in Ngabu, Chikwawa District, Sothern Region, Malawi. The victim reported that attackers stormed the house he was sleeping in at around 10pm Friday night. He said "They came and put a piece of cloth around my neck to strangle me but I fought them off and managed to scream for help." The attackers injured his left hand with a machete as they ran off. Chikwawa police station officer Davie Chingwalu confirmed the attack and said they were looking for the unidentified criminals. (Source: Nyasa Times: *Criminals attack albino person: Malawi Police launches hunt for attackers*; By Owen Khamula; April 2, 2017; <http://www.nyasatimes.com/criminals-attack-albino-person-malawi-police-launches-hunt-attackers/>)

Second most recent survivor: On Wednesday, March 8, 2017, a woman with albinism by the name of Dailies Longwe survived an attack by 3 men at her home in Malawi. Police at Chintheche in the Nkhata Bay District, Norther Region on Friday arrested a 21-year-old man, Mphatso Phiri, for trying to strangle her to death. According to Nyasa Times, his two accomplices, who were still at large, were armed with knives, when they attacked Dailies. Nkhatabay Police spokesperson Ignatius Esau confirmed the incident and said: "They [the attackers] started threatening to stab her to death with a knife. Longwe shouted for help and was rescued by her husband who was chatting at a nearby house." The suspects managed to run away but police arrested Phiri the following day. Phiri, who hails from Chifya village in the are of Traditional Authority Mankhambira in Nkhatabay distirict, is expected to appear before the court soon to answer charges. (Source: News24: *Albino woman rescued by hubby as attackers try to 'strangle her to death'*; March 13, 2017; <http://m.news24.com/news24/Africa/News/albino-woman-rescued-by-hubby-as-attackers-try-to-strangle-her-to-death-20170312>; and Nyasa Times; *Malawi Police arrest man for trying to murder albino boy for his body parts*; March 11, 2017; <http://www.nyasatimes.com/malawi-police-arrest-man-trying-murder-albino-boy-body-parts/>)

Third most recent survivor: This report counts as 2 attacks: On March 3, 2017, two brothers with albinism by the names of Chitani Misoya (18) and Yohane Misoya (21) were severely injured following a brutal attack by unknown assailants in Laisani TA Masache in Nsanje, Malawi. The suspects ran away after the victims shouted for help. The brothers were transported to Queen Elizabeth Hospital in the city of Blantyre where they were left to battle for their lives. Chitani sustained multiple stab wounds while Yohane has a stab wound to his face and chest. They are now in stable condition. According to Nyasa Times, Chitani and Yohane were attacked in the wee hours of Friday morning while they slept in a house. Police confirmed the incident, adding that they had intensified their hunt for the attackers. (Source: News24: *Two albino brothers 'severely injured, battle for their lives' after attack*; March 5, 2017; <http://m.news24.com/news24/Africa/News/two-albino-brothers-severely-injured-battle-for-their-lives-after-attack-20170305>; UTSS was informed on March 6, 2017, by Bonface Massah, Executive Director of Association of Persons with Albinism of Malawi (APAM); email: albinismassociationmw@gmail.com & bonmassah@gmail.com; mobile: (265) 0881006474 & (265) 0 999399337)

Most recent missing: On November 21, 2017, a four-year-old boy with albinism by the name of Amadu Wazi was kidnapped from his home in Tumbwe village, Traditional Authority Namabvi, the lakeshore resorts district of Mangochi, in Malawi. Confirming the development to Nyasa Times, Whesty



Mputa who is Area Civic Education Coordinator for National Initiative for Civic Education (NICE) Trust, identified the victim and confirmed that criminals stormed the child's home in the early hours of Tuesday morning. Little Amadu was staying with his elderly grandmother while his mother was out of town for two days attending a funeral. Grandma was unable to protect her grandson due to her old age but did manage to shout for a help which unfortunately came too late. A nearby police unit has arrested Amadu's mother, suspecting that she may have played a significant role in the development during her extended absence. The deputy spokesperson for Mangochi police, Amin Daudi, said her office is yet to receive such a report but said she will link up with the concerned police unit. **UPDATE: On November 29, 2017**, it was confirmed that a 49 year old man by the name of Samson Allison was sentenced to 21 years in prison for kidnapping little Amadu Wazi who is still missing. (Source: Nyasa Times; *Albino boy, 4, kidnapped in Mangochi: Malawi Police arrest mum*; November 22, 2017; by Tiwonge Kumwenda; <https://www.nyasatimes.com/albino-boy-4-kidnapped-mangochi-malawi-police-arrest-mum/>; THE ZAMBIAN OBSERVER; *Malawian Who Abducted Albino Boy For Ritual Purposes Jailed For 21 Years*; November 29, 2017; <http://www.zambianobserver.com/malawian-who-abducted-albino-boy-for-ritual-purposes-jailed-for-21-years/>)

Most recent grave robbery: On July 15, 2017, it was discovered that the grave of an elderly woman with albinism by the name of Norwin Nkhonjera was tampered with in an attempt to exhume the body at Mbulunji in the Rumphi District of Malawi. Relatives of the deceased made the discovery on Saturday when they went to the graveyard for a memorial service and reported the matter to police. Rumphi Police Station spokesman Victor Khamisi said that Norwin Nkhonjera had died over 13 years ago on January 10, 2004, and that unknown criminals had recently disturbed the grave but failed to exhume the body. "We went to the grave and established that the body was not exhumed," said Kamisi and indicated that Police are investigating the matter. (Source: Nyasa Times - *Gang attempted to exhume body of albino grave in Rumphi*; July 19, 2017; by Judith Moyo: <https://www.nyasatimes.com/gang-attempted-exhume-body-albino-grave-rumphi/>)

Second most recent grave robbery: On May 22, 2017, the grave of a woman with albinism by the name of Stelia Bello who died in 1984 was robbed in Byson village in Thyolo district of Malawi. Police said that villagers living near the graveyard saw something unusual and informed the village Headman who investigated and found that the grave had been tampered with. He then informed the relatives who referred the matter to police. Accompanied by the Medical Officer from Khonjeni Health Centre, they went to the scene of the crime and found that some bones had been removed from the dead body. Police in Thyolo have launched a manhunt and are investigating the issue. No arrests have been made at the writing of this report. (Source: Malawi24: *Malawi albino attacks: Bones of person with albinism stolen from grave*; By Archangel Nzangaya; May 29, 2017: <https://malawi24.com/2017/05/29/malawi-albino-attacks-bones-person-albinism-stolen-grave/>; news24: *Unknown criminals 'dig up' bones of albino who died in 1984 – report*; May 29, 2017; <http://www.news24.com/Africa/News/unknown-criminals-dig-up-bones-of-albino-who-died-in-1984-report-20170529>)

Mali, 17 reports: (PFI 115 of 180) 5 killings / 3 survivors / 2 missing / 7 asylums

Most recent killing: On May 13, 2018, a five year old girl with albinism by the name of Djeneba Diarra was kidnapped from her home in the middle of the night and later found beheaded in the village of Fana, about 125 Km from Bamako, the capital of Mali. AFP reports that according to police, armed men abducted and beheaded the five-year-old girl with albinism in what was feared to be a ritual murder for supposedly magic body parts. Little Djeneba Diarra "was sleeping in the courtyard with her mother and her sister" when the men snatched her at around 2:00 am on Sunday. The girl's mother pursued the kidnappers, who scaled a wall with her child, but then turned back to protect her second daughter, also with albinism. "We searched for the little girl everywhere. We found her body beside a mosque, but she had no head," said a village teacher, Oumar Diakite. Sissoko, the general secretary of the Federation of Associations of Persons with Albinism in West Africa (FAPAO), pointed out the link between crimes against people with albinism and political events, ahead of Mali's presidential election on



July 29. "Every time there are elections, we become prey for people who want to make ritual sacrifices. This is not the first time this has happened in Fana," he said. "The state needs to take up its responsibilities." "We demand justice. Her head was taken. This is a ritual crime," activist Mamadou Sissoko told AFP after going to the scene. The governor of the region of **KOULIKORO**, Colonel Mamary CAMARA, the director general of the national gendarmerie, the Commander of the Legion of gendarmerie were on the crime scene, and went to the morgue to see the body of the beheaded little girl. Traditional authorities have been approached to help appease tensions. (Source: *AFP-Outcry in Mali after albino child beheaded in 'ritual' murder*; May 15, 2018; <https://www.yahoo.com/news/outcry-mali-albino-child-beheaded-ritual-murder-110618567.html>; and on May 13, 2018, UTSS was contacted by Mamadou Sissoko, the general secretary of the albinism association in Mali, who confirmed the attack; Email address: sissoko3000@yahoo.fr; Tel: +223-73396374/+223-99452599)

Most recent survivor: Early in August 2017 a 13 year old boy with albinism narrowly escaped abduction in Goloninia, located in the Bamako district of Mali. Fortunately for the child, the Salif Keita Foundation for people with albinism in Mali intervened and the perpetrator was arrested. Nantenin Keita, the daughter of Salif Keita, says; "He was released on bail awaiting a date of trial - we don't know yet. I fear we will never see him again. Our assistant in Bamako underwent a lot of pressure in order to withdraw the complaint, but we didn't give up. We feared the boy's family was scared and would withdraw the complaint, but they did not. It's truly a good step forward." (Source: Excerpts of an interview with Nantenin Keita (Salif Keita's daughter) to Françoise WASSERVOGEL, correspondent of the Malian paper "Le Reporter" in France. The article was posted by Genespoir on their Facebook page on November 19, 2017. The article was published on November 15, 2015: <http://maliactu.net/mali-ne-touchez-pas-aux-albinos-nantenin-keita-de-la-fondation-salif-keita-fait-le-point/>)

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, 45 reports: (PFI 99 of 180) 15 murders, 13 survivors, 5 grave robberies, 12 missing

NOTE: (1 attack in 2018 to date / 9 attacks in 2017 / 11 attacks in 2016 / 21 attacks in 2015)

Most recent murder: On Wednesday, September 13, 2017, a 17 year old teenage boy with albinism whose name has not been released was brutally mutilated and killed in the Benga area, Moatize district in the province of Tete (northwest), Mozambique. The murderers amputated the young man's arms and legs, removed his hair, and then smashed his skull and removed the brain. Lurdes Ferreira, a spokesman for the Tete Province police said "We launched an operation to arrest those responsible for this macabre crime." (Sources: France papers: <http://www.ledauphine.com/france-monde/2017/09/16/un-adolescent-albinos-tue-et-ampute-de-son-cerveau>; <https://www.24matins.fr/mozambique-adolescent-albinos-tue-mutile-niveau-de-bras-de-jambes-de-cerveau-602047>; <http://www.dna.fr/actualite/2017/09/16/un-adolescent-albinos-tue-et-ampute-de-son-cerveau>; Swiss papers: <http://www.arcinfo.ch/articles/monde/mozambique-un-jeune-albinos-de-17-ans-demembre-son-crane-fracasse-son-cerveau-emporte-70141>; <http://www.20min.ch/ro/news/monde/story/Un-ado-albinos-massacre--ses-membres-emport-s-26161517>; Belgium paper: <http://www.msn.com/fr-be/actualite/monde/mozambique-un-ado-albinos-de-17-ans-assassiné-son-cerveau-empporté/ar>



[AAs0Nni?li=BBqiQ9T](#); African paper: http://www.pressafrik.com/Mozambique-un-adolescent-albinos-assassine-son-cerveau-emporte_a170682.html; Malaysia paper: <https://www.nst.com.my/world/2017/09/280591/brain-harvested-murdered-mozambique-albino-boy>)

Second most recent murder: On the week end of July 21 – 23, 2017, a six year old boy with albinism was killed in central Mozambique's Mulumbo district. According to police commander Miguel Caetano, unidentified men used a hoe to beat the little boy to death. He added that they have not yet found the boy and that the child's brother-in-law, who is currently on the run, is wanted in connection with the killing. This incident is one of two children with albinism who were killed in separate attacks in Mozambique on the weekend, police have said. (Source: BBC Africa, Maputo - *Two children with albinism killed in Mozambique*; July 25, 2017; by Jose Tembe; <http://www.bbc.com/news/topics/2128c144-88d1-416e-86d1-3a72c1d27997/mozambique>)

Third most recent murder: On the week end of July 21 – 23, 2017, a 13-year-old girl with albinism was brutally killed with "blunt instruments" in the Manhewe area of northern Mozambique. According to a police spokesperson, the "unidentified criminals killed the child, threatened to kill the child's father, attacked his wife and abducted the three-year-old brother of the young girl". This incident is one of two children with albinism who were killed in separate attacks in Mozambique on the weekend, according to police. (Source: BBC Africa, Maputo - *Two children with albinism killed in Mozambique*; July 25, 2017; by Jose Tembe; <http://www.bbc.com/news/topics/2128c144-88d1-416e-86d1-3a72c1d27997/mozambique>)

Fourth most recent murder: Early in the first week of June, 2017, a 12 year old boy with albinism by the name of Mayeso Isaac was killed shortly after arriving in a former Portuguese colony in Mozambique. According to Association of People with Albinism in Malawi (APAM) president Overton Kondowe, little Mayeso was from Mabuka village, Mulanje District in the Southern Region of Malawi and had just arrived in Mozambique a day earlier when a gang of 10 people broke into the house where he was staying. The victim's parents have reported the matter to Thambi police unit with help from the APAM. Five of the suspects have so far been arrested by Mozambican police, according to Kondowe. (Source: Malawi24: *Malawian boy with albinism killed in Mozambique*; BY MARTHA CHIKOTI ON JUN 06, 2017; <https://malawi24.com/2017/06/06/malawian-boy-albinism-killed-mozambique/>)

Fifth most recent murder: On Saturday, April 8, 2017, the remains of an 8 year old Mozambiquan boy with albinism were exhumed by police at the remote Nkumanja Trading centre in Ngabu, Chikhwawa District, Southern Region, Malawi. Mozambican authorities were forced to seek a joint operation with their Malawian counterparts to recover the child's body after suspicion was raised by the neighbours when the child's parents returned home to Mozambique from a visit to Malawi without him. The police in Mozambique were alerted and arrested the parents. Demester Chigwenembe, commissioner of police for Malawi's Southern Region said the boy was killed by his own parents who poisoned his drink with termic because they wanted to sell his body parts. **"The parents and the boy came to this area of Malawi from Mozambique on March 22.** He said the parents buried the body here when it became clear there was no market for the body parts. He said the mother told the police how the boy was killed, why he was killed and where he was killed and buried. (Source: Nyasa Times: *Malawi, Mozambique police in joint operation to exhume murdered albino boy body*; April 8, 2017; By Owen Khamula; <https://www.nyasatimes.com/malawi-mozambique-police-joint-operation-exhume-murdered-albino-boy-body/>)

Most recent survivor: On January 15, 2018, Mozambican police announced that it had aborted an attempt to kidnap an 11 year child with albinism in the central province of Zambezia, near the border of Malawi, Mozambique. The child had been targeted by a gang of five traffickers in human body parts. By the time police were able to intervene and rescue the child; the gang had shaved his head and cut off his ears. "We are on the trail of the other members of this gang believed to be those who ordered this macabre crime", said Zambezia provincial police spokesperson Miguel Caetano at a Monday press conference in Quelimane, the provincial capital. (Source: CLUB OF MOZAMBIQUE: *Police rescue albino child from*



traffickers; Source: AIM; January 16, 2018; <http://clubofmozambique.com/news/police-rescue-albino-child-from-traffickers/>)

Second most recent survivor: On July 19, 2017, Club of Mozambique News reported the recent abduction of an infant boy with albinism in the Milange district of the Mozambican province of Zambezia. The child's 36-year-old father kidnapped his own son according to Milange administrator Mário Macassa by taking advantage of his polygamous domestic situation. Convinced by a friend who said he would act as an intermediary, the father took his youngest child who had albinism, for the purpose of handing him over for organ extraction to feed an organ trafficking business. The mother of the child, realising what her husband was about to do, reported the incident to police and her infant son was recovered," Macassa said. The father fled to Malawi but was arrested along with his intermediary friend on their way to deliver the infant to the organ trafficking criminals. Milange officials also said that in the past two months, two other children with albinism had been abducted and were still missing. (Source: Club of Mozambique - Zambezia: *Father abducts and tries to sell new born albino son*; July 19, 2017; <http://clubofmozambique.com/news/zambezia-father-abducts-and-tries-to-sell-new-born-albino-son/>)

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 Namutequiliua, 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-interfering-with-albino-grave.html>)

Most recent missing: On Friday, April 28, 2017, a three-year-old boy with albinism was abducted by unidentified assailants who broke into the child's home in the Makuangaul neighbourhood of the Angónia district in the northern part of Tete Province in the central region of Mozambique according to the General Command of the Police of the Republic of Mozambique. The victim's 26-year-old mother, Mrs. M. Antonio, reported the incident to police who say that enquiries with the aim of arresting the suspected kidnappers and rescuing the child are under way. At this time it is not known whether the boy was rescued or whether the kidnappers have been detained. (Source: CLUB OF MOZAMBIQUE: *Albino hunters kidnap 3-year old boy in Angonia, Tete province – Mozambique*; by Adrian Frey; May 3, 2017; <http://clubofmozambique.com/news/albino-hunters-kidnap-3-year-old-boy-in-angonia-tete-province-mozambique/>)

Second most recent missing: On February 7, 2017, Mozambique news sources reported that a six year old boy with albinism was abducted and is now missing from his home in Ngauma, Niassa province, Mozambique. The attack occurred when unknown kidnappers broke into the main door of the family home when they were asleep and abducted their child. This is the first attack against a person with albinism to be reported in 2017 in Mozambique. A spokesman for the Republic of Mozambique Police in Niassa, Alves Mathe, quoted by RM, said that at this moment, steps are being taken to capture the evildoers and that efforts are being made to rescue the child. (Source: Mozambiques Online MOZ NEWS: *Minor patient with albinism abducted in Ngauma*; February 7, 2017; <http://moznews.co.mz/2017/02/07/menor-portador-de-albinismo-raptado-em-ngauma/>; clubofmozambique.com news; *Albino child snatched from his bed in the dead of night – Niassa, Mozambique*; Feb 7, 2017; <http://clubofmozambique.com/news/albino-child-snatched-bed-dead-night-niassa-mozambique/>)

Namibia, 3 reports: (PFI 26 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 63 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)

Nigeria, 11 reports: (PFI 119 of 180) 4 killings / 1 missing / 4 asylums / 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: On February 13, 2017, a Judge in France recognizes refugee status to a Nigerian man with albinism who was stigmatized and a victim of persecutions in his homeland. (Source: COUR NATIONALE DU DROIT D'ASILE; 14 février 2017; <http://www.cnda.fr/Ressources-juridiques-et-geopolitiques/Actualite-jurisprudentielle/Selection-de-decisions-de-la-CNDA/Nigeria-le-juge-de-l-asile-reconnait-la-qualite-de-refugie-a-un-demandeur-d-asile-stigmatise-et-victime-de-persecutions-du-fait-de-son-appartenance-au-groupe-social-des-albinos>; Court's decision: <http://www.cnda.fr/content/download/91325/876093/version/1/file/CNDA%2013%20février%202017%20M.%20E.%20n°%2016017097%20C.pdf>)

Rwanda, 1 report: (PFI 156 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: Ceil 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 50 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. Provisionally 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)

South Africa, 9 reports: (PFI 28 of 180) 4 killings / 2 missing / 2 survivors / 1 grave robbery

Most recent killing: On January 28, 2018, a 14 year old girl with albinism by the name of Gabisile Simphiwe Shabani was abducted and later killed in Hlalanikahle Township -Witbank Mpumalanga, South Africa. The family woke up to the sound of commotion made by three men breaking a window and entering at gun point to abduct Gabisile. They also took her 15-month old nephew, Nkosikhona Ngwenya, who did not have albinism but was allegedly mistaken for another child from the same household who also has albinism. Gabisile’s young body was found 3 weeks later on February 21. The remains indicated that she had been decapitated, with her arms and private parts removed. The shallow grave was discovered in Cullinan Pretoria which is about 81 km way from her home. The infant was discovered on the N4 highway with exact location not disclosed. On February 20, 2018, Thokozani Msibi (32), a traditional healer from Swaziland living in South Africa, was arrested after police found a human head and other human body parts at his home. He confessed to the brutal killing of the two children and identified the location of the shallow grave. He appeared in Witbank Magistrate’s Court at which time he was also applying for bail which Magistrate Darleen Venter denied. The first court appearance was on February 21, 2018, where he was remanded in custody with the second court appearance on February 27, 2018. The next court date was on the 6th of March, 2018, with investigations still ongoing since the other two suspects have not been apprehended. (Source: Sent February 28, 2018 by Commissioner Nomasonto G. Mazibuko; National Director; 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; www.albinism.org.za; and; IOL; *Police find two bodies believed to be linked to albino abduction case*; February 22, 2018; <https://www.iol.co.za/news/south-africa/mpumalanga/police-find-two-bodies-believed-to-be-linked-to-albino-abduction-case-13412236>; and TheCitizen (ANA); *Family of murdered Mpumalanga children, one an albino, live in fear*; February 24, 2018; by Balise Mabona; <https://citizen.co.za/news/south-africa/1833571/family-of-murdered-mpumalanga-children-one-an-albino-live-in-fear/>; and IOL; *WATCH: Human head, body parts found at murder*; March 6, 2018; ANA Reporter; <https://www.iol.co.za/news/south-africa/mpumalanga/watch-human-head-body-parts-found-at-murder-accused-s-home-13626375>; TimesLIVE; *Horror as albino corpse's body parts stolen*; 15 March 2018; BY KGAUGELO MASWENENG; <https://www.timeslive.co.za/news/south-africa/2018-03-15-horror-as-albino-corpses-body-parts-stolen/>)

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>; ioINews: *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, Fax: +2711 492-0276, Mobile: +2782 755-3884, Email: mazibukong@gmail.com, 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, www.albinism.org.za)

Swaziland, 11 reports: (PFI 152 of 180) 3 killings / 7 survivors

Most recent killings: In May of 2016 in Nkoyoyo, Swaziland, a man with albinism by the name of Sipho Mahlalela 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 Mahlalela 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
2017 – 83 of 180
2018 – 93 of 180

Tanzania, 180 reports: (PFI 93 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

78 survivors; all are deeply traumatized and some severely mutilated

1 abduction

22 grave violations

3 asylums

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: On April 14, 2018, a 6 year old girl with albinism by the name of

Deborah Joseph Chiluba survived abduction at Magoweko Street, Magoweko Ward, Gairo Division, Gairo District in the Morogoro Region of Tanzania. The incident occurred at about 10:00 PM, when Mrs. Agnes Joseph Chiluba was alone at home and asleep with her 2 children Emmanuel and Deborah since her husband was still working at Gairo Centre some 4 km away. They were jolted from sleep by a man banging and shouting at the door but due to the heavy rain the neighbours could not hear this. He broke in and went straight to little Deborah who was now awake and sitting on her bed. He threatened to kill the mother if she interfered but Agnes immediately recognized the man as her neighbor, Sadiki Musa Salum. Taking little Deborah, he went directly back to his house and locked himself inside with her. Agnes immediately phoned her husband and together they contacted the Gairo Police Station and Village Executive Officer (VEO), Daud Jonas Mbena. Since the police response was not immediate, the VEO gave the villagers permission to break into the abductors house and rescue Deborah. They managed to arrest Sadiki and rescue the child at around 3:00 AM. Later the Police took the abductor to Morogoro Region Central Police Station where Police Commander, Ulrich Matei, confirmed that the incident had happened and that they were holding Sadiki Musa Salum for questioning. The police have opened case file: **RB NO: GAI/RB/498/2018**. Up to this point Deborah had been attending kindergarten but is now afraid to leave home and her parents don't know who they can trust. The UTSS First Response Mission (FRM) who met with them has since asked the Village Executive Officer to meet with the Village Security and Safety Committee and discuss the best way forward regarding Deborah's security. The FRM also recommend that the management of UTSS communicate with Deborah's parents to discuss the best way of helping the child continue her education. At the time of this report she was still staying home. (Source: On April 19 & 20, 2018, UTSS First Response Mission (FRM) visited the scene of the abduction and interviewed Morogoro Police Detective Inspector Z. Msusi (handling the case – mobile: 0713157262, 0784662847); Chiluba Joseph Ndunguru (father – mobile: 0713771270); Agnes Joseph (mother – mobile: 0714519379); Daud Jonas Mbena (Magoweko Village Executive Chairman – mobile: 0654773320); Ulrich Matei (Morogoro Regional Police Commander – mobile: 0715009946)

Second most recent survivor: On March 25, 2018, an 8 month old baby boy with albinism by the name of Ibrahim Mwita survived abduction in Kenyaitanja Sub-village, Kwanja Village, Kyemambo Ward, Ingwe Division, Tarime District, Mara Region, Tanzania, near the Kenya border. At around 10:00 that morning Sophia Elias (26) had left her baby boy Ibrahim with their eldest daughter Maria (7) and son Amos (5) to go to the market. When she returned at around 11:00 she found her baby with patches of hair missing on his head where it had been shaved. She also noticed Ibrahim's nails, which she claims had been long, were cut. Maria told her mother that their neighbors had come over and asked if they could take little Ibrahim to their place for a while and promised to return him later. Sophia reported the matter to the office of the Sub-village Chairperson, Mwita Mroni, who advised the family to be escorted to the police station where their statement was taken. Maria was interviewed by police officers at which point she repeated what she had told her mother. The police arrested two neighbours, Koiya Marwa Ngongo (female) and White Masicho (female) who have been released on bail awaiting trial. The suspects will be arraigned in court on



April 28, 2018 in Tarime, Mara region. The third alleged accomplice who fled the village was a witchdoctor whose name has not been disclosed. Ibrahim's father Jackson Mwita who was employed by one of the relatives of the suspects has been fired. The employer told him that he would be reinstated if and only if he withdrew the case from the court. Verbal threats are also used to intimidate the family according to the mother. (Source: A conversation between UTSS and journalist Sitta Tuma who reported the abduction in the Tanzania Daima Newspaper on March 30, 2018. This information led to further interviews with Baby Ibrahim's mother on March 30 and 31 and also April 20 and 21 and also with Sub-village Chairperson, Mwita Mroni (male), on March 30 and 31. Both parties confirmed the attack report.)

Most recent survivor of rape: On October 20, 2017, a thirty year old woman with albinism by the name of Zainabu Kulandeya survived an attempted rape by Bundala Luhende, age 20, at around 11:00 AM at her parents' house in Mhunze Village, Kishapu District, Shinyanga Region, northwestern Tanzania. That day Zainabu was home alone when the perpetrator, who was unknown to them and not from their neighbourhood, arrived at the door claiming to be hungry and in need of food. When Zainabu told him that there was no food in the house he proceeded to offer her money in exchange for sexual favours. She declined and asked him to leave, at which time the man started forcing himself on her. Zainabu began to scream and a neighbour came to her rescue. The criminal escaped but was chased down by villagers, captured and handed over to the police. The perpetrator is now in custody at Kishapu Police Station waiting to be arraigned in court on November 07, 2017. While Zainabu survived and is safe and in the care of her parents, she is frightened and psychologically affected by the whole ordeal! The UTSS First Response Team has asked the Kishapu District Commissioner to ensure that Zainabu gets proper counseling and sent to a Vocational Training Centre where she can do something that would generate income instead of staying at home in isolation. They also asked the Community Development Officer to link her with a women's self-help group. (Source: Initial report on October 25, 2017, from partners in the Kagera Region and the Tanzania Albinism Society (TAS) in Simiyu. On October 27 - 30, 2017, the UTSS First Response Team visited and interviewed the victim, her family, neighbours, police, social welfare department, community development department and the offices of the District Commissioner and District Executive Director after which an Understanding Albinism Seminar was also conducted for all.)

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-mising-albino-girl>; <http://www.ipmedia.com/frontend/index.php?l=76048>)

Most recent grave violation: On March 19, 2017, the grave of a man with albinism by the name of Nelson Msongole was violated in Nansama Village, Isansa Ward, Mbozi District, Songwe Region, Tanzania. Nelson had died on March 28, 2011, at the age of 50 and was buried the following day on March 29. At that time, the grave had been secured with concrete, iron rods and heavy metal mesh. Even so the grave robbers managed to steal all the bones while leaving the skull on the grave. Since then the Police, along with local government leaders and relatives, have reburied the skull and a Police investigation is under way. (Sources: On March 21, 2017, UTSS was notified via telephone by William Simwali, a grantee from our Education Program and Community Resource Person for Mbeya. The media also made reports on March 22, 2017.)

Second most recent grave violation: On January 3, 2017, there was an attempted grave



robbery at the burial site of a deceased woman with albinism by the name of Sister Sisala Simwali at Songambebe Subvillage, Mumba Village, Masoko Ward, Mbalizi Rural District, Mbeya Region in south-western Tanzania. Sister Simwali served as a nun who was born on November 11, 1970, died 37 years later of malaria on February 28, 2008, and was buried the following day (29th) near her home. Six people were involved in the failed grave robbery. The incident was seen by villagers and reported to the police who said not to approach the criminals because they could be armed. After waiting for a while the villagers decided to ambush the crooks. Four managed to escape, but two were surrounded. The one who was in the grave digging was beaten to death and thrown back into the pit. The second one was beaten and handed over to the police when they arrived. He is in custody and a manhunt is underway for the four criminals who managed to escape the villagers' wrath. The criminals had dug deep down and were about to reach the coffin when they were seen. Fortunately the sisters' remains were untouched because the coffin was buried more than 7ft deep and was covered with reinforced materials. (Source: Telephone conversation between UTSS and William Simwali, the brother of the late Sr. Sisala Simwali. William Simwali is also a grantee of our education program and serves as a mentors for CFLI trainees; and a Press Release from the Mbeya Regional Police Commander (Dhahiri Kidavashari); January 4, 2017; <http://www.mbeyayetu.co.tz/akamatwa-akifukua-kaburi-la-albino/>)

3 asylums:

On July 28, 2017, a man with albinism from Tanzania was granted refugee status in Vancouver, Canada.

On June 27, 2017, a man with albinism from Tanzania was granted asylum in Chicago, Illinois.

On July 27, 2016, two sisters with albinism from Tanzania who underwent brutal attack and profound discrimination due to their albinism were granted asylum in the state of California, USA.

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

Togo, 1 report: (PFI 86 of 180) 1 killing

Most recent killing: On September 23, 2017, a 2 year old boy with albinism by the name of Nanhladja Monnoble was reported missing between 8:00 and 9:00 PM in the city of Dapaong in the locality of Pana Bagou in northern Togo, West Africa. The little boy was later found dead and buried. It was reported that the victim's body was supposed to be exhumed on the third day following his burial and taken to the neighbouring country of Benin to serve in witchcraft practices for the purpose of bringing riches. Some of the 4 suspected murderers have been arrested and are currently in the hands of the local police. The Togo Albinism Association ANAT says "We have a video footage of the burial of the little boy. We firmly condemn this act and demand your support to say NO to these acts in our country." (Source: UTSS was contacted on September 28, 2017, by the Togo Albinism Association: Association nationale des albinos du Togo (ANAT); Chairperson: Mr. Souradji OURO-YONDOU; Secretary: Mr. Abdoul Karim Nassirou; Email address: albitogo@yahoo.fr)

Uganda, 8 reports: (PFI 117 of 180) 8 survivors

Most recent survivor: This report counts as 2 separate PWA attacks - On October 7, 2016, 2 boys with albinism were kidnapped in the village of Bujuko in Central Uganda. They are part of a family with many children among whom four have albinism. The mother is facing many challenges after separating from her husband who wanted to sacrifice one of the children with albinism. The kidnapping occurred while four of the siblings were on their way to school and the two older boys were blindfolded with handkerchiefs believed to have chemicals on them. Some people saw the boys in a taxi and telephoned their mother asking if she knew where the boys were going. Oblivious of the situation, she denied that they



were her children but the other person insisted on their identity. A one and a half day search began for the boys who were miraculously found alive and well in a medium income Kampala suburb looking for their way home. It was a long search using police, local radio stations and word of mouth. The case is still under investigation and a lot of information is not yet available. (Source: Olive Namutebi; October 17, 2016; African Albino Foundation Uganda - AAFU had been supporting the family for over 3 years prior to this attack; Email: albinofoundation.uganda@gmail.com; Website: <https://albinofoundationuganda.wordpress.com/>)

USA, 2 reports: (PFI 45 of 180) 2 survivors

This report counts as 2 separate PWA attacks - In 1899, at the turn of the 20th century, two young African-American brothers with albinism by the names of George (6) and Willie (9) Muse went missing in the Jim Crow South Town of Truevine, Virginia, USA. George and Willie were two little boys born to a sharecropper family on a sweltering tobacco farm. One day a white man by the name of James “candy” Shelton offered them a piece of candy, setting off events that would traffic them around the world and change their lives forever. From the time these two vulnerable boys were kidnapped, they were lied to by their Circus management captors and told that their mother was dead. As far as George and Willie were concerned, they were now totally on their own for the rest of their lives. Captured into the circus, the Muse brothers performed for royalty at Buckingham Palace and headlined over a dozen sold-out shows at New York’s Madison Square Garden. They were global “superstars” in a pre-broadcast era. But the very root of their “success” was in the color of their skin and in the outrageous caricatures they were forced to assume: supposed cannibals, sheep-headed freaks, even “Ambassadors from Mars.” The Muse brothers were victims of violence, for what else is peonage but violence? Back home, their mother Harriet Muse never accepted that they were “gone” and spent at least 13 years trying to get them back, never stopping the searching for her sons. Harriet placed missing-persons notices in Billboard and eventually found her sons. She helped them seize control over their lives, discovering that they were illiterate having never received an education. George and Willie returned to the circus in 1928 as paid employees. Love and kinship impelled Harriet’s family to try for a century to protect George and Willie from a world that saw them as objects for exploitation. The family always believed the boys were kidnapped, including Willie’s personal testimony as an adult. George died in 1972, and Willie in 2001, at 108. Willie did not die a bitter man. He repeated the words “God has been good to me” so many times that it is now etched on his tombstone in Truevine, Virginia. (Source: Book - *Truevine: Two Brothers, a Kidnapping, and a Mother’s Quest: A True Story of the Jim Crow South*; author Beth Macy; USA; Publisher: Little, Brown and Company; Date: 2016; ISBN: 0316337544; Onsite interviews in December 2016 by Peter Ash of UTSS in Truevine, Virginia, with family members, local residence including author Beth Macy; The New York Times - Book Review; *How Two Black Albino Brothers Became Unwilling Sideshow Stars*; by Edward E Baptist; October 21, 2016; https://www.nytimes.com/2016/10/23/books/review/truevine-beth-macy.html?_r=0)

Zambia, 12 reports: (PFI 113 of 180) 6 killings / 5 survivors / 1 grave robbery

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>)

Most recent survivor: On November 4, 2017, a 19 -year- old woman with albinism by the name of Miriam Kumwenda survived a brutal attack where her right hand was chopped off by unknown assailants in Buyoyo Village, Chief Chikwa’s chiefdom, Chama District, Muchinga Province, Zambia.



Narrating the ordeal from her bed in the Chama District Hospital, Miriam told Zambia News and Information Services (ZANIS) that she was attacked the previous Saturday night. Aroused from sleep by a knock at the door, she inquired who it was. A man who identified himself as a Mr. Nkhowani asked her to be let in but she ignored the request. The attacker then forced an entry, covered her mouth with a cloth to prevent screaming and carried her into the bush. Once in the bush other attackers appeared and started beating her up. When they started cutting her left arm one of them said that it is the right hand that was needed and her left arm was to remain intact. At this point she was hit on the head and lost consciousness. The assailants left her for dead. When she came too, Miriam started crying. Her parent found her later and rushed her to a nearby health center for medical attention. The Chama Police have been notified and said they are investigating the matter, referring all queries to Police Commissioner Godwin Phiri who could not be reached for a comment by broadcast time. Police sources said that two suspects are currently in custody while the other is on the run. (Source: Lusakatimes.com; *An unknown people attack an Albino adolescent girl in Chama District*; November 7, 2017;

<https://www.lusakatimes.com/2017/11/07/unknown-people-attack-albino-adolescent-girl-chama-district/>)

Grave Robbery: On Saturday, January 27, 2018, relatives of Mr. Leonard Kombelwa, a deceased person with albinism, noticed that the grave in Mutuwambwa village, Western Zambia, had been tampered with and reported the matter to the police. Investigations found that the casket, together with the body, was missing. Mr. Kombelwa died of skin cancer at the age of 75 and was buried in his home village on August 4, 2016. So far one suspect has been caught and Police are hunting for two others. (Source: bbc.com; *Grave robbers steal albino body in Zambia*; January 30, 2018; By Kennedy Gondwe; Lusaka; http://www.bbc.com/news/live/world-africa-42461098?ns_mchannel=social&ns_source=twitter&ns_campaign=bbc_live&ns_linkname=5a708f02281185064bc63fc8%26Grave+robbers+steal+albino+body+in+Zambia%26&ns_fee=0&ocid=socialflow_facebook#post_5a708f02281185064bc63fc8 and John Chiti, Executive Director of Albino Foundation of Zambia; February 3, 2018; email: johnchiti@ymail.com; Mobile: +260 977 977 026 and +260 954 095 428; Lusaka Zambia)

Zimbabwe, 2 report: (PFI 126 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)