



**AZAPO**  
AZANIAN PEOPLE'S ORGANISATION

**TO: ALL MEDIA HOUSES FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**FROM: AZAPO SECRETARY FOR PUBLICITY & INFORMATION**

**DATE: January 31, 2024**

**SUBJECT: STATEMENT ON THE BRUTAL MURDERS IN A BACK TO SCHOOL EVENT**

**AZAPO** has learned with absolute shock, the news of the brazen killing of a donor company executive, Rand Water, in a back to school event, at Zakariyya Park, south of Johannesburg on Monday.

It is even more shocking that the currently unnamed executive and second person were gunned down, in full view of school children, who would be beneficiaries of uniform donations from Rand Water.

This incident, once more, confirms the concerns and cautions of **AZAPO** on the shattering impression of the lawlessness and brazenness, with which criminal terrorize our residents, citizens and society every day, without condemnation and reproach.

**AZAPO** condemns and irrevocably states that the escalating number of crimes in our country, are as a result of the ANC government's failure to ensure the rule of law is functional – how government has deliberately opened gaps for criminality to manifest.

We are a nation that is on its knees, in our homes, streets, workplaces – today's incident is further confirmation, that our schools are a large stage for criminality.

Our senior citizens are not safe in their places of congregation, the professionals are in ambush while at work, their families are robbed in their homes, the women and children disappear from their neighbourhood.

They fall victim to rape and human trafficking every day and learners get killed and exposed to drugs, in their schools.

**AZAPO** believes that the exercise of democracy and freedom in any country is necessarily associated with the safety of person and property.

The high level of crime in South Africa inhibits the free exercise of our freedoms.

Driving one's car without fear of it being hijacked, leaving your home without being afraid that it will be broken into and walking down the road without concern of your personal safety; these are normal expectations that have long been forgotten by most South Africans.

Crime and fear thereof, has become a major influencer and shaper of how we live our

lives and which personal and public spaces we occupy.

**AZAPO** sends condolences to the families who have lost their loved ones, in this incident.

We extend wishes of full recovery, to those who were injured.

**AZAPO** further extends her wishes for the learners, who were exposed to this terrible tragedy, to receive the best attention and therapy to overcome their tragic experience.

**-Ends-**

Issued by AZAPO Department of Publicity and Information (DPI).

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