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Multiple postponements of Thembelihle Sokhela's case
Will justice finally be served?

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On Tuesday 13 January 2015 at 09h00, Thembelihle Sokhela's case returns to the Benoni Magistrate's Court, after being postponed on at least five occasions. The court is located at 29 Harpur Avenue, Benoni. Thembelihle, a 28-year old lesbian woman from Daveyton was murdered on 14 September 2014. She was found wrapped in a blanket and thrown behind her perpetrator's bed.

Iranti-org and LGBTI CBOs along with human rights groups in Johannesburg have planned a mass action outside the court, demanding a fair and speedy trial of this hate crime.

Iranti-org commends Judge Tshifiwa Maumela for sentencing Lekgoa Motleleng to 30 years in prison for the rape and murder of Duduzile Zozo, a young lesbian from Thokoza in 2014. In delivering his sentence, the Judge stated that 'no-one has been given the right to correct others when it comes to the right to love their own gender'.

Iranti-org alongside the Legal Resources Centre will closely monitor and report on this matter. We demand to live free of discrimination and violence. Sexual orientation is protected within South Africa's constitution. 'What we need is clear hate crimes legislation,' says Kokeletso Legoete, Iranti-org's Advocacy Officer.

About IRANTI-ORG

Iranti-Org is a lesbian and transgender visual media organisation established in 2012. It works within a human rights framework to raise issues of sexual orientation and gender identities. To date, Iranti-org has documented hate crimes and human rights violations across South Africa. www.iranti-org.co.za