

# HONOUR ROLL



UNDER THE  
SAME SUN

## 94 Survive Brutal Attacks & Discriminatory Assaults

In Tanzania, there have been 199 official reports indicating that persons with albinism (PWA) have been assaulted or brutally attacked; their hair and/or body parts violently removed and sold for witchcraft related rituals. Of the 199 attacks there are only 94 survivors; all are deeply traumatized, and many have been severely mutilated. Leaders in the albinism community believe that many of these atrocities remain undocumented and thus the numbers are likely much higher than indicated. While Tanzanian police first started documenting them in 2006, it is widely known that these witchcraft related assaults against PWA have been going on since time beyond memory. It is encouraging to note that in recent years things have begun to shift in Tanzanian society as they grow in understanding and acceptance of their fellow citizens with albinism. To date, there has not been an attack against a PWA in Tanzania resulting in death since February 17, 2015, and there has not been an attack resulting in physical mutilation or injury since October 2, 2017, and there has not been any reported attack since November of 2019.

**In January of 2016**, a 2-year-old boy with albinism by the name of Bilal Juma Ahmad was rescued during an abduction in the Charambe Community / Ward, Temeke District, Dar es Salaam Region, of Tanzania. At the time, little Bilal was playing with his sibling Amina, under the care of their maid (Maria) while their mother (Saumu) was at work. As the two children played, a man dressed as an Islamic woman tricked Amina and left with her little brother Bilal. Maria realized what had happened and immediately started searching. She found the woman and took her to the police station where they realized it was a man in disguise. Bilal's mother was called to the Nzasa police station for documentation and verification. Bilal was also taken to the hospital for the treatment of his finger that was injured during the attack. The investigation was ongoing until, finally, the criminal was sentenced to 30 years in jail. Sadly, Bilal's father



has rejected him, and his mother, and is not an active parent in his life. In his short life, Bilal has suffered other misfortunes and near abductions due to his albinism. Fortunately, UTSS was made aware of his situation and Bilal is now safe as a Nursery student in our education program. (Source: On February 25, 2021, UTSS staff in the Learning and Career Advancement program conducted an interview of Bilal and his family, documenting his story.)



Zabibu Abdallah, now a 24-year-old woman with albinism, recalls several terrifying events in her childhood **between the years of 2012 & 2015** when strangers assaulted their home with intent to do her harm in the Misungwi Township, Misungwi District, of Tanzania. Zabibu says it all began one-night in 2012 when strangers came to their home at around 03:00 AM and the family was startled awake by banging on the door. She says, “We peeked out through a crack and saw two strangers standing at a distance with heavy coats, torches and machetes while another was knocking on our door.” The family raised an alarm by yelling for the help from the neighbours. The assailants disappeared into the darkness leaving behind their shoes and a huge stone, probably for breaking the door. In secondary school, when Zabibu would return home during school holidays, she experienced similar threats. “These guys have been coming to our place, knocking on windows, and demanding that doors be opened, repeatedly.” Zabibu

recalls “frequently moving from the residence of one relative to another to avoid those people, but they kept following me.” “Neighbors tried hard to come to our rescue whenever we screamed for help but as these events kept recurring, they got tired of it and finally said to my mother: “Take your daughter out of here; we are afraid of being attacked.” Zabibu cannot recall exactly how many times the criminals visited her family, but it kept happening from the time she was in primary school until she finished secondary school. She remembers the last threat was in 2015 at around 07.00 PM when she was at home alone having a bath. Fortunately, someone saw the intruder trying to get in and chased him away. She finally decided to report the matter to the Village Executive Officer who advised them to report it to the police for further action. Her mother reported this matter to the police and their statement was taken. Unfortunately, she does not remember the RB Number given by the police saying, “I haven’t seen it and I don’t know what it is all about.” Late in 2017, when Under The Same Sun visited the government school Zabibu was attending, she had an opportunity to meet Peter Ash. Explaining her challenges, he offered her a position in their Learning and Career Advancement program. She is currently studying at Iringa University, where she finally feels safe and understood, and is pursuing a Diploma Course in Counselling and Psychology. (Source: In May of 2020, Zabibu Abdallah first reported this series of failed attacks in her past to Mahenda Kulwa, a UTSS Lake Zone staff person, and via email with Christine Lancing. A UTSS First Response Mission interview was initiated by Emmanuel Kwitema who, due to COVID-19 restrictions, conducted an extensive interview by telephone with Zabibu on May 19, 2020.)



**In November of 2019**, a 10-year-old girl with albinism by the name of Elizabeth Emmanuel Kazembe survived a potentially life-threatening encounter with strangers in Kirago Village, found in the Kahama District of the Shinyanga Region of Tanzania. Elizabeth's mother Agnes said that the family had only moved to Kirago village about a month earlier in search of more favourable work conditions for her husband, Emmanuel Kazembe. On that fateful day, Elizabeth was sent to buy some items from a nearby shop and on her way back she encountered strangers who tried to stop her. Fortunately, little Elizabeth managed to escape and ran home. When her father was informed of the incident, his reaction was to leave Kirago village immediately and move the family to Kahama Town where they believed she would be safer. Agnes went on to say that "On arrival at Kahama, we were still afraid to send her to school because we were not sure of her safety. She spent most of her time inside." She also said that Elizabeth was very intelligent and was the best Standard I pupil in the previous primary

school she attended before moving away for her husband's work. Elizabeth turned 11 in 2020 and fortunately, the family was able to enrol her at Buhangija Primary Boarding School. Because Elizabeth had missed so much school, she had to repeat Standard I which she began in January of 2020. When Under The Same Sun's (UTSS) team visited Elizabeth at her new school on February 26, 2020, they found her happy, sound and in good shape. When asked, Elizabeth did not seem to recall the near tragedy that happened to her before her family moved to Kahama. The Head Teacher of Buhangija, Mr. Selemani Kipanya, said Elizabeth is very intelligent and was scoring high marks compared to the rest in her class whenever they do tests. During their visit, UTSS's team went to buy Elizabeth school uniforms, shoes and socks, a backpack and other goods that she needed. They were accompanied by Elizabeth's caretaker and the Shinyanga Municipality Social Welfare Officer. Elizabeth was very happy and ended their visit by shyly saying ASANTE SANA. (Sources: UTSS First Response Mission Team made an investigative visit on February 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 regarding Elizabeth Emmanuel Kazembe. The team worked with both parents, father Emmanuel Kazembe and mother Agnes Charles Siabhanu, as well as the Kahama District Social Welfare Officer (SWO), Jonathan Aman Shayo – 0783780009, Tanzania Albinism Society (TAS) Chairman in Kahama District, Ngasa Mrisho – 0767071000, Mhangula Primary School teacher, Boke Hellen Machengo – 0744872480 and Shinyanga Social Welfare Officer, Lilian Kiyenze – 0753351198 and Reuben Jones James, Mhangula Ward Executive Officer (WEO) – 0786468582, Selemani Kipanya, Buhangija Head Teacher – 0767543056.)

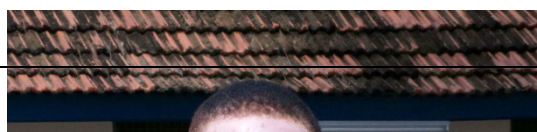


**In June and November of 2019**, a 6-year-old boy with albinism by the name of Junior John Japheth survived 2 dangerous attempts by strangers to access him at his home in Mhongolo Mashariki Subdivision, Mhongolo Ward, Kahama District in the Shinyanga Region of Tanzania. Junior's mother, Anastazia Nickson, said **the first attempt was in June of 2019** at around 1:00 AM when suspicious people knocked at their door demanding it to be opened. At first, she heard voices murmuring outside and when she peeped out the window, she saw 3 assailants with big coats and masks. "They were at our place for about a quarter of an hour. When we did not respond, the goons said in Kiswahili "Well, she does not open the door, let us come another day and show her." Anastazia said that was the first threats she had ever experienced. Unfortunately, her husband John was not at home until the following day.



When asked if she reported the matter to the village government leadership or police, Anastazia said "I didn't. I only told my husband when he came back from his trip."

**The second attempt was in November of 2019** when two people knocked on their door at around 3:00 AM saying "Open the door, you a woman with a child with albinism, open the door." Anastazia said she remained silent and calm until they decided to go away. Realizing that things were getting worse, Anastazia decided to involve one of her relatives, Ben Simon, who alerted Under The Same Sun (UTSS). Upon arrival, the UTSS team accompanied Anastazia to the Local Executive Office where the officer for Mhongolo Mashariki, Damas Katyuka said they had no information concerning the two incidences. When asked why they didn't report these attacks to the authorities, Anastazia had no strong reasons for deciding to keep silent. While Junior's parents remain concerned for his safety, he has just started his long journey of education by joining a day school at Majengo Primary School in Kahama. (Sources: On February 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>nd</sup>, 2020, Under The Same Sun's First Response Mission Team investigated the two attempted attacks of Junior John Japheth following an email request from Ben Simon: ben\_smn [[ben\\_smn@yahoo.com](mailto:ben_smn@yahoo.com)]). The people interviewed were John Japheth, the father to Junior – 0755511916, Anastazia Nickson, mother to Junior – 0755458203, Damas Katyuka, Village Executive Officer Mhongolo – 0768201127, Jonathan Amani Shayo, SWO Kahama District – 0783780009, Ngasa Mrisho, and TAS Chairman Kahama District – 0767071000)



**On July 30, 2019**, a 24-year-old male with albinism by the name of Crispo Vincent Ndewe survived an

unsuccessful attack at Wanging'ombe Secondary School in the community of Njombe, located in the Njombe Region of the Wanging'ombe District in Tanzania. He had only attended this school for 20 days when the attack occurred. Crispo said that unfortunately the school is isolated and surrounded by tall trees with no fence or lighting. It was about 9:00 in evening as he went to the washrooms, which included walking through the woods, that he was attacked. He said, "I heard them saying in Kiswahili – 'Yule, Yule' literally meaning 'he is the one, he is the one' and in no time I was cornered by three

unidentified people who called me 'Vincent'. They stabbed me with a sharp object at the waist before I called for a help. Seeing someone approaching, the criminals ran away talking on the phone saying that they have done it." He went on to say that "although I don't know the thugs, I am sure they are from my home village of Mbogela in Ndandalo Ward; Kyela District in Mbeya Region because no one at this School knew 'Vincent' was my name! They only call me Crispo. Whoever called me Vincent would know me and my family very well." Crispo was taken to Ilembula Mission Hospital to find out if he was poisoned and later transferred to Mbeya Referral Hospital on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 for the same. The results showed Crispo was fine and nothing was injected into his body. On August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 he was taken back to Wanging'ombe Secondary School to collect his belongings and be transferred to a safer school called Kazima Secondary School in the Tabora Region where he continues his studies. Speaking to Crispo's mother, Immaculate Ngailo, by mobile phone she said, "I understand this matter has been taken care of by the district authorities, unfortunately I don't have any supporting documents." At the time of this investigation, no RB Number from the police force in Wanging'ombe has been assigned to the case. When asked if he would go home during school holidays, Crispo said he's worried because the 'attackers' are still on the loose and he doesn't know their next move since the first mission failed! Crispo comes from a family of 5 children, 3 of whom have albinism. He says his parents are poor but try hard to raise them. His current school is good in terms of security and has a fence. It accommodates other students with disabilities and has special need teachers. (Sources: From January 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020, UTSS First Response Team investigated this attack report in partnership with the Tabora Municipal Social Welfare Officer (SWO), Samwel Elisante – 0769 018 235. Those interviewed are Crispo Vincent Ndewe (student with albinism) at Kazima Secondary School – 0757043646; Mrisho Kivuruga, Head Master Kazima Secondary School – 0785827927; Samwel Elisante, SWO Tabora Municipal – 0769018235; Wanging'ombe District Development Director (DED), Edes Lukoa - 0766050788 (Was interview December 20, 2019); Immaculate Ngailo, Crispo's mother – 0757366445)

**Late in 2007** an 8-year-old boy with albinism by the name of Newton John Maganga managed to escape a kidnapping attempt near his home in Mwamajila Village, Mwagi Ward, Kwimba District in the Mwanza Region, of Tanzania. Newton has been a student in Under The Same Suns education program since October of 2010 when it first began, but only reported his survival experience to us in 2019 at the age of 20. Newton realizes that this event took place a long time ago but wanted to do his best to recount what really happened that day saying: “I remember I was in Class One at Mwamajila Primary School and soon after lessons at around 10:00 AM I was called by my teacher who took me to her house before instructing me to go and



fetch water for her in the nearby pond within the school compounds.” The teacher gave him two buckets and he had no choice but to follow her instruction. On his way to the pond he came upon two men, one carrying a large bag and something like a fresh dismembered human head flowing with blood. Despite his low vision, Newton also remembers seeing the other one holding syringes and needles. He recalls one of the men wore black trousers and a white shirt and that they had a bicycle. In the Sukuma Language he asked them where he could find the pond, but instead of answering him the strangers started murmuring something he could not hear and began charging towards him. Newton ran for his life and to this day he says “I don’t understand how I escaped from those crooks! That was too close! I thank God who was with me.” It was just like a dream when he found himself back in the middle of the school compound. He informed his teacher about the two strangers and at first she was not convinced until when he told her about the two buckets that he lost while running for his life. He also told his mother (Margret) to be more alert because he was worried the attackers would come to their home and harm him. His mother reminded him to come home immediately after school. Commenting on this incident, his mother Margret first thanked UTSS for its support of her son Newton saying she does not know where he would be without it! She also said that since giving birth to Newton, the villagers and especially her husband family have isolated her and the discrimination she has faced since then is extreme and it has deeply affected her psychologically. (Source: After Newton reported his 2007 survival experience to UTSS in 2019 at summer camp, we followed up with a personal interview by our First Response Team on September 15 & 16, 2019 for further clarifying information out of which this summary report has been made. Also interviewed were his mother Margret Mipawa – mobile: 0717993044, and the Chairman of Subdivision Iyuki B in Mwabilanda Village, Richard Shija – mobile: 0714454110)

**On January 15, 2019**, there was a failed kidnapping attempt perpetrated against a 19 year old man with albinism by the name of Eliya Sambeke Mollel in Ndulele village, Naiyobi Ward, Ngorongoro District in the Arusha Region of Tanzania. At 4:00 PM on that day Eliya was grazing cattle under the scorching sun when 2 strangers gave chase with obvious intentions to harm him. Fortunately he was able to outrun them and hide. When he finally made his way home and inform his mother, she told him to prepare for a trip to Loliondo District to seek help. They woke early the following morning and walked over 50 kilometers to the village of Ngaraselo where they caught the nearest coach to Loliondo. Eliya is part of a Maasai family where



his father, Sambeke Mollel, has 19 children from 4 wives. Eliya is the only one with albinism. While his mother loves him, his father has rejected him and forbidden his mother to help in any way. In addition to the rejection, his father attempted to attack him with a machete and told his mother he would do the same to her if she got involved. While Eliya is not loved, welcome or safe in his own home, he is safer now that he has been brought to Loliondo Town Council by his mother to meet the Social Welfare Officer. He was given sanctuary by a Good Samaritan more than 300 kilometers from his home. Elia told UTSS that if he goes back to school he will make sure he passes all of his exams because he wants to become a doctor. He is ready to go back to school and hopes to attend a special program at a school in Kilimanjaro where older students like him are accommodated in completing their education prior to university. At the time of this report the two unknown criminals were still at large but the following people are aware of the attack and planning to investigate; OC CID Ngorongoro Superintendent of Police (SP) Mathayo – 0784912330/0768056462; Assistant Inspector of Police Samweli Kichambati Ngorongoro – 0689976325/0754801554; and Police Officer Daniel Shija Ngorongoro Conservation – 0758714671. (Source: On January 19, 2019, UTSS was notified about this attack by the Ngorongoro District Social Welfare Officer – SWO and the Police in Ngorongoro District. Our First Response Team visited the scene of the crime from January 23 – 26, 2019, and interviewed the SWO in Ngorongoro as well as the Police in Ngorongoro, the Ndulele Village Chairperson, and the Naiyobi Village Executive Officer – VEO and Ward Executive Officer - WEO)



**On January, 5, 2019**, there was a failed kidnapping attempt perpetrated against a 7 year old boy with albinism by the name of Alphonse Paul George in Kawekamo Village, Fukalo Ward, Subdivision of Mwambashimba in Kwimba District, in the Mwanza Region of Tanzania. Alphonse has been living with his grandmother, Mrs. Lejina Mayeka, since the age of three when his parents, Mrs. Neema Marko (25) and Mr. Paul George, moved away and left him in her care. She told UTSS that her little grandson has now miraculously escaped three kidnapping attempts, the first in 2015 at the age of 3, the second on August 16, 2018, at the age of 6 and now this most recent one at age 7. After the first attempt, the grandmother tried to get Alphonse enrolled at Mitindo Primary School, a special needs government school that also serves as a sanctuary for children with albinism who are at risk. They refused to accept Alphonse saying that he was too young. After the second kidnapping attempt in August of 2018, she reported the matter to the Village Executive Officer (VEO), Mr. Sanda Henry who immediately reported it to the Hungumalwa Police Post as well as the Kwimba District Commissioner (DC) and the office of Social Welfare Officer, requesting Alphonse be admitted into the Mitindo School. A prompt response from the DC's office ensured that he was admitted into Mitindo School on August 30, 2018. Grandmother went on to say that the third and most recent attempt, in January of 2019, occurred while Alphonse was at home on school break with only two days remaining before he was to return. Alphonse is once again safe at Mitindo Primary School in Mwanza where he has been enrolled as a kindergarten pupil for the 2019 academic year. UTSS First Response Team visited little Alphonse at Mitindo Special Need School and met with the school's Head Teacher, Madam Jane D. Kibungi who said Alphonse is very charming and intelligent. She is proud to have Alphonse in her school and hopes he will succeed in his long academic journey. Because the attackers are still at large, UTSS has advised both the grandmother and the Tanzania Albinism Society Chairman for Mwanza, Mr. Alfred Kapole, to follow up with this case to ensure they get the RB case number since it has been reported to the police. For more specific information about each of the 3 attacks, please contact UTSS at [info@underthesamesun.com](mailto:info@underthesamesun.com). (Source: On January 19, 2019, UTSS was notified about the attack by the Tanzania Albinism Society (TAS) Chairman for Mwanza, Mr. Alfred Kapole 0763831793. UTSS First Response Team visited the scene of the crime on January 28 – 29, 2019, and interviewed Alphonse's grandmother, Mrs. Lejina Mayeka – 0746213773; Kawekamo Village Executive Officer, Mr. Sanda Henry – 062951583; Sungusungu Secretary Kawekamo, Mr. Richard Makaji Lutema – 0763814259 and Mitindo Head teacher, Mrs. Jane Kabungi - 0764601106)





**In April and again on July 30, 2018,** a two year old boy with albinism by the name of Enos Dotto survived two abduction attempts at his home in Shinyanga suburb, Ugansa village, Usinge ward, Kaliua District in the Tabora Region of Tanzania. His mother, Maria Butemi (25), says they were asleep between 1:00 and 2:00 AM on July 30 when the mobile phone of her husband, Dotto Venus (28), started ringing. Anonymous callers who were standing just outside their house demanded they hand over their little boy Enos. The husband told Maria to hide their son under the bed. The

criminals then broke the outside door and one of them entered and began breaking down the door to their bedroom. Enos father fought so fiercely with his machete, while screaming for help from his neighbors, that the intruder yelled for backup from his colleagues outside, but they had ran away to avoid the approaching neighbors, leaving him alone. When the neighbors arrived, the cornered criminal was severely beaten. They then called the Village Chairman; Massanja Elias Magakila, to inform him of the incident but by then the criminal had died. Enos father, Dotto Venus, together with his three neighbors Nyagalu Joseph, Lazaro Joseph and Juma Cosmas were arrested by the police on murder charge. The four men were released a month later on September 3, 2018, with the understanding that they would be charged again for manslaughter instead of murder due to the circumstances. The case has been filed at Urambo District Court with REF No: MC/18/2018 under supervision of Police Constable (PC), Arifa. Enos mother was very upset as she recalled that the deceased criminal, Mohammed Maganga (commonly known as 'Muddy'), used to pass near their house and on the day of the attack she had witnessed Muddy calling Enos for the purpose of befriending him. Maria says this attack is the second attempted abduction of their son. Earlier in April of 2018 during the night, an unidentified person called her husband's cell phone and told him to open the door and give them their son Enos. Instead of complying, he called the neighbors who came to their assistance but the criminals disappeared into the dark. Maria wonders if these are the same ones who attacked them on July 30, and is worried that her son is still in danger. The Regional Police Commander for Tabora and Assistant Commissioner of Police, Emmanuel Nley confirmed knowing about the incident and promised to strengthen police patrols around the village. UTSS is looking into further security options for Enos. (Source: On Sunday, September 2, 2018, UTSS received a call from Focus Magwesela, our Community Resource Person in Tabora, informing us of the attack. On September 7, 2018, UTSS First Respond Team issued their report after verify the attack details on location. This included meetings with the parents and family members as well as Ugansa Village Chairman Mr. Masanja Elias; Ugansa Village Executive Officer (VEO) Mkukumbi Ferdinand; District Commissioner of Kaliua District Mr. Abel Busalama and Tabora Regional Police Commander, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Mr. Emmanuel Nley)

**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)





**On March 25, 2018**, an 8 month old baby boy with albinism by the name of Ibrahim Mwita survived abduction in Kenyaitanja Sub-village, Kewanja 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 lead 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.)





**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.)

**On October 2, 2017**, a 75 year old man with albinism by the name of Nassoro Mohammed Msingili survived a brutal machete attack in his home at Nyarutanga Village, Kusini sub-village, Kisaki Ward, Morogoro Rural District, Tanzania. His arm was hacked off at the elbow joint by unidentified men who broke into the house and attacked him while he was sleeping with his



wife. He does not remember how it happened and he did not see the assailants. He has low vision in his right eye and lost his left eye in 1977. What he remembers was being hit on the head with a hard object and someone cutting off his left arm while he was screaming. Neighbours, including his nephews, heard the screams and went to his rescue but the attackers had already fled with his arm. The family informed the Village Executive Officer who phoned the police. The elderly victim was taken to Dutumi Dispensary and later, on Thursday October 05 2017, was transferred to Morogoro Regional and Referral Hospital. Dr. Rita Lyamuya, the Morogoro Region Medical Officer In-charge told the UTSS First Response Team that Msingili's condition was now stable. The Morogoro Police say that an investigation is underway and that they have not arrested anyone yet in connection with the attack. (Source: On October 5, 2017, UTSS First Response Team submitted their report after interviews with the victim in hospital, as well as hospital staff, police and investigating the scene of the attack.)



**On August 23, 2017**, a five year old boy with albinism by the name of Julius Rajab Said survived an abduction in Jipe Village, Jipe Ward (bordering Kenya), Mwanga District, Kilimanjaro Region, Tanzania, which is located less than 10 minutes from the Kenya border by canoe. Two Kenyan men were arrested after kidnapping little Julius from his home. One of the men is a relative of Julius' mother, Consolatha Rajab (32), who is a Kenyan national married

to a Tanzanian. Earlier in the day the second Kenyan man had been introduced to Julius and his parents as a friend of the relative when the 2 had paid them an unexpected visit at their home. For some unknown reason Julius father, Rajab Said, did not go to work nor had Julius been sent to school that day as was the norm. At one point during the visit the parents had gone into the house to prepare some food while leaving little Julius with the guests. Consolatha told UTSS later that she had given her husband money to buy some drinks while she stayed home to prepare a meal. A few minutes after her husband left she went outside only to find that the guests and her son were no longer there. Seeing them disappearing into the bushes with her son on the shoulder of one, she shouted "Where are you taking my son?" The men did not even look back so Consolatha continued to shout until her screams reached other women in the village who started to give chase. At that point the kidnappers abandoned Julius in the bushes, split up and fled towards Lake Jipe. Villagers quickly informed Julius' father who ran to the village authorities for help. By the time he and the village officials led by the Jipe Ward Executive Officer arrived, the other villagers had already located the attackers, made citizen's arrest and were separately interrogated the attackers. One of the attackers told villagers that he wanted to secure a job with the newly elected top political executive member in Kenya and that witchdoctors told him to bring the hair of a person with albinism. The second man told the villagers that he was asked by his accomplice to accompany him to get the hair of a person with albinism and take it to the witchdoctor so that he could make a magic potion for his mining business. Angry villagers had begun to beat them up when the Ward Executive Officer arrived and rescued the attackers from mob justice and locked them up in the village office until the police arrived from Mwanga District Police Station at around 5:30pm. The Police took the two Kenyans to Mwanga Police Station to be held until the arraignment in court the following week. It is believed that a third attacker is involved and still at large; Benjamin Masumbuko aka Odori, a well-known and dangerous criminal from Kenya. This also confirms fears of cross-border trade since the Tanzanian boy was being transported to Kenya by Kenyans. (Sources: UTSS First Response Team visited the victim and his family at the scene of the attack between the dates of August 27 – 29, 2017. Their sources include interviews with Kilimanjaro Police, Ward Executive Officer, Jipe Village Chairperson, the victim and his parents, an aunt, Jipe Village residents (witnesses & rescuers) and the canoe owners on Jipe Lake. Also NEWS GHANA - Tanzanian police arrest two for kidnapping child with albinism; Aug 24, 2017; <https://www.newsghana.com.gh/tanzanian-police-arrest-two-for-kidnapping-child-with-albinism/>)

**In January of 2017** a baby girl with albinism by the name of Anna Charles Ally was born into threats against her young life and in the following 3 months has already survived several threats in Kangeme Lunyeta Village, Tumaini Sub-Village; Nsenda Ward, Tanzania. Anna, along with her mother Vailet Reuben Ndebhe Gaholi (18), had been rejected at birth and abandoned by her father Charles Salum Ally (shopkeeper). He had also threatened to kill Anna several times if the mother persisted



on asking for funds to care for the infant. In addition to this, right after her birth a neighbour by the name of Mzee Hungwi Maganga (Male) advised Anna's mother to kill her baby girl since there were no other people with albinism in the village and if allowed to live would bring disasters and bad luck on the village. When Vailet declined, the neighbour offered to kill Anna for her. Shocked, Vailet told her parents but before they could take any action the neighbour also approached little Anna's grandparents, Mzee Ndebhe Gaholi (Male) and Anna Michael (Female), and tried to persuade them to murder their granddaughter to avert the curse that might engulf the village if she were allowed to live. Again he offered to kill Anna if they were unable to do so. Anna's grandparents reported the matter to the village leadership. Sumbu Mazyanza, the chairperson of Ngho'longo Sub-Village, promised to take action but after a few days where nothing had happened, the family went back to follow and were told "Don't worry about it, babies like Anna are ghosts. So stay calm! She will one day disappear!" Since then Police arrested the father and village leader for a day and then released them on bail pending investigation. The neighbour, Mzee Hungwi Maganga, is still at large. (Source: Information relayed on March 13, 2017, to UTSS Community Resource Persons, Focus Magwesela, in Urambo District, Tabora Region, Tanzania, who in turn reported to the Tumaini Village Executive Officer, Ms. Maurisia, and to the police in the area.)





**On July 22, 2016**, a 20 month old baby girl with albinism by the name of Tatu Emmanuel survived the third abduction attempt within a 2 week span in the Ndamhi Village of Fukalo Ward, Kwimba district, Mwanza Region of Tanzania. (NOTE: On December 27, 2014, Tatu's four year old sister Pendo who also had albinism was abducted and has not been heard from since.) Tatu's mother Sophia Juma was staying with her mother, Maryciana Sahani, during the 3 attempted abductions of Tatu. Tatu's father Emmanuel, who was arrested on December 29, 2014, for the abduction of his daughter Pendo, was released on bail in April of 2016. He and seven others are on trial for kidnapping. While now living at home, on all the three occasions when someone attempted to abduct his baby girl Tatu, Emmanuel was away grazing the cows. When Sophia his wife explained to him what had happened he took Tatu to the police and local authorities and asked the government to protect his

daughter. The Misungwi District Commissioner instructed the Mitindo Head teacher to take Tatu into their residential school. This is one of 33 holding centers the Tanzanian government uses to provide security for children with albinism who are at risk. Tatu is now in Mitindo Primary School without her mother and at 20 months is the youngest child there. She is being cared for by older students with low vision and a matron. (Source: On July 26, 2016, the UTSS First Response Team issued a report after investigating the scene of the attempted abductions, and visiting Tatu's family, neighbours, Village Executive Officer, Police & Government officials.)

**TWO SISTERS SURVIVE 3 ATTACKS BETWEEN 2013 AND 2016:** On May 23, 2016, two sisters with albinism by the name of Kulwa Jawilu (5) and Tausi Jawilu (8) escaped abduction,

and likely ritual mutilation and death, after assailants raided their home as they slept with their family in Shilabela sub-village, Bulunde Village, Kalitu Ward of Nzega District in Tabora Region, north-western Tanzania. On that fateful night unidentified men kicked in the door and grabbed the first child they saw, which happened to be Kulwa's twin sister Doto who does not have albinism. Once outside they realized their mistake and threatened to kill Doto if the parents did not hand Kulwa over. Doto was screaming. Fortunately during all the chaos Tausi hid behind some bags of grain covering herself with a piece of cloth and little Kulwa was not even at home, having spent the night at her grandfather's house. As the attackers continued to search the house, they kept throwing clothes onto the grain bags. This gave Tausi further protection. In the end the criminals gave up and fled after stealing some valuables and locking the family into their home. The matter was reported to the police and Social Welfare Department of Nzega district and the government has relocated Tausi and Kulwa to a government-designated centre for persons with albinism in Tabora town. The girl's father said that this was the third attack. In 2013 and again in 2014 some men tried to abduct Tausi but failed when she screamed and the men ran away. During both times, he asked the local authorities to protect his daughters without success. "I am glad that they are now safe in Tabora even though I miss them," Jawilu concluded. The family has now relocated to another village. (Source: UTSS Tanzania staff was informed about these attacks between the dates of June 4 to 8, 2016, during their First Response Team investigation of another attack in Kagera.)

**On December 08, 2015**, a 70 year old woman with albinism by the name of Ester Togolai Maganga was attacked by five men in her home where they hacked off her left thumb in Mlalo Bongoi Village, Mlalo Ward of Lushoto District, Tanga Region, Northeastern Tanzania. Ester, a widow who lived alone, said that while she was preparing dinner the assailants charged into her kitchen, attacked her, held her legs, covered her eyes and mouth, chopped off her thumb and then fled. She managed to scream for help but while neighbours came to her rescue, the attackers had already vanished. Mlalo Bongoi Village Chairperson, Robert Bendera, attended the crime scene at which point he took Ester to the police station and from there she was taken to hospital. Bendera then joined a police team led by Inspector Joram Byamungu in search of the assailants. During the search the team met a stranger to the area who was held for questioning. The man, Hemed Abbas Hasan, admitted to police that he was one of the five attackers who cut off Ester's thumb.

Another man by the name Hamis Mohamed was also arrested. Police continued searching for the remaining three attackers. Ester has since been discharged from hospital and now lives with her daughter and son-in-law in a relatively safe area. She has five children without albinism and six



siblings, three of whom also have albinism. (Source: On December 20, 2015, UTSS First Response Team visits with Ester and interviews other related parties during their investigation of her attack.)

**On October 21, 2015**, a 35 year old man with albinism by the name of Mohammed Said was attacked at his home in Mkuranga town, about 42km from Dar es Salaam City Centre, Tanzania. He sustained injuries to his head and right ear and received treatment at the Mkuranga District Hospital on Thursday, October 22, 2015. In conversation from his sick bed with UTSS First Response Team, Mohamed recounts that “Three men wearing



balaclava broke into my home and attacked me with machete. I put up a fight but I was overpowered. They tied a piece of cloth around my neck and put another one into my mouth to stop me from raising alarm. They ran away with a piece of flesh from my head.” Said explained that the attackers were led by a third man who at first did not enter the room and was giving instructions from outside. They referred to him as ‘Boss!’ Mkuranga police (in the Coast Region) told the UTSS team that investigation is under way. (Source: On October 22, 2015, Under The Same Sun’s First Response Team visited the victim in Mkuranga District Hospital.)



**On June 16, 2015**, a 6 year old girl with albinism by the name of Margareth Khamis was rescued from abduction after she went missing several days earlier in Kona Nne Village, Ugembe Ward of Nzega District in the Tabora Region of western Tanzania. Margareth lives with her three siblings and her mother Joyce Mwandu, who also has albinism. After she went missing,

Margareth's mother raised the alarm and villagers started a search. Acting Tabora Regional Police Commander ACP John Bwire told the media that good Samaritans informed them of a man who was looking for a buyer willing to purchase Margareth. The police set a trap, rescued the little girl, reunited her with the family and arrested her 44-year old uncle, Masanja Mwinamila, who is now in custody. (Source: ITV News at 20:00 hrs, Tuesday, June 16, 2015; UTSS Phone Conversation with IPP Media Reporter, Kabendara Simon, in Tabora)



**On May 14, 2015**, a 30 year old woman with albinism and mother of 4 by the name of Limi Luchoma lost her right arm just below the elbow in a witchcraft-related machete attack by 2 unidentified men. The incident occurred in Kabunde Village, Mamba Ward, Mawiti 'A' suburb, Mlele District in the Katavi Region of Tanzania where she lives with her father. Limi was asleep with her children when the attack occurred at around midnight. The assailants locked her father's door from the outside to prevent him from helping. Limi is recovering in Mpanda District Hospital in Katavi while her father cares for the children. To help identify suspects, a secret ballot of the villagers was

held and then reported to police. Several suspects are now in custody including family members of a witchdoctor (Mayigu Sadima – now missing) who lives 1 kilometer from Limi's home and another witchdoctor (Goga Silanga) who lives 1.5 kilometers from her house. One of Limi's brothers may also be involved. (Source: On May 16 – 18, 2015, a UTSS team inspected the scene of the attack, visited Limi in hospital and interviewed her, her family, neighbours, Village Executive Officer, Police & Government officials.



**On March 07, 2015**, a six year old boy with albinism by the name of Baraka Cosmas Rusambo lost his right hand in a witchcraft-related attack in Kipeta Village, Kipeta Ward of Sumbawanga Rural District in Rukwa Region, western Tanzania. His mother, Ms. Prisca Shaaban, also sustained serious machete injuries to her head. Both mother and child were sent for extensive treatment at Mbeya Referral Hospital in south-western Tanzania. The youngest child with albinism, Lucia (3), was also sent to the hospital. Police moved Baraka's elder sibling with albinism (8) from the village to a safer place. According to Rukwa police, 17 suspects were arrested in connection with the mutilation including Cosmas Rusambo (Baraka's father) and his younger brother. (Source: UTSS interviews on March 9 & 10, 2015, with Police, Community Development Officer, Social Welfare Officer, Office of the Director of Public Prosecution, Kipeta Ward Executive Officer, Baraka's mother, family and neighbours.)



**On January 6, 2015**, a 4 year old boy with albinism by the name of Karim Khasim narrowly escaped abduction in the Nyakato area, a suburb of Mwanza Town in the Mwanza Region of Tanzania. At around 10:00 AM, two men on a motorcycle drove around the house where Karim lived. They returned again at around noon at which time the neighbours warned the boy's mother who promptly told Karim to stay at home. The men came back again at around 4:00 PM and called on Karim to come and get some treats. His mother screamed, alerting the neighbours, and the assailants sped away. The matter was reported to the police. (Source: UTSS investigation)

**On August 16, 2014**, a 30 year old man with albinism by the name of Samwel Masaga narrowly escaped an attack on his own life in Buhekela village, Igunga District in the Tabora Region of Tanzania. Several hours later his 35 year old sister, also a woman with albinism and mother of 7 children by the name of Munghu Masaga, was brutally attacked at her home. During the attack her husband was killed and two of their children, ages 8 and 10, sustained injuries. None of them had albinism. Police said that one suspect has been arrested in connection with the attacks and the investigation will continue. (Source: Personal interviews conducted by UTSS on August 18, 2014 with the victim, family, police and other witnesses.)



**On August 16, 2014**, a 35 year old woman with albinism and mother of 7 children by the name of Munghu Masaga was brutally attacked at her home in Buhekela village, Igunga District in the Tabora Region of Tanzania. Two unidentified attackers cut off her left arm below the elbow before fleeing. She was treated at Nkinga Mission Hospital. During the attack her husband Mapambo Mashiri (50) was beaten to death in an attempt to save her life and two of their children, Masaga (8) and Mahona (10), sustained injuries and were treated at another hospital. None of them have albinism. Earlier that day Munghu's brother Samwel Masaga (30), who also has albinism, narrowly escaped an attack on his own life. Police said that one suspect has been arrested in connection with the attacks and the investigation will continue. (Source: Personal interviews conducted by UTSS on August 18, 2014 with the victim, family, police and other witnesses.)



**On August 14, 2014**, a 26 year old man with albinism by the name of Simon Sengerema narrowly escaped an attempt on his life as he walked to his father's village in the Tabora Region of Tanzania. While being chased by two men with machetes he heard them shouting, "Let's cut him! Let's cut him now!" Simon ran as fast as he could, using shortcuts that he hoped were not familiar to the assailants and fortunately escaped the brutal attack. He specified that they were the same gang that had hacked off the right arm of his niece, Pendo Sengerema (age 15) on August 5, 2014. Simon refuses to leave his father's home, fearing he is not safe from attack anywhere. UTSS reported the matter to police after discovering he had not informed them. Tabora police said that they advised him to go and live in a more populated area because the force does not have enough manpower to protect every PWA in the country. (Source: Personal interviews conducted by UTSS on August 18, 2014 with the victim, family, police and other witnesses.)



**On August 5, 2014**, at around nine PM, a 15 year old girl with albinism by the name of Pendo Sengerema survived a gruesome attack at her home while having supper with her siblings and visually impaired mother. The attack occurred in Usinge Village, Uganza Ward, Kaliua District of Tabora Region in northwestern Tanzania. As Sengerema was taking the dishes into the house three men attacked her, one held her down while the second used a machete to hack off her arm and the third stood guard to prevent any rescue attempt. She recalls that it was the second machete strike that

separated her right arm just below the elbow. Her injuries were treated at the Urambo District Hospital, 100 kilometers from her village. From her hospital bed the teenager said that her family was not allowed to call for help because the attackers had threatened to kill them if they did. Sengerema went on to say; “I am asking the police to move me to a safer place and protect me because bad men might come back to kill me”. She has asked to be sent “to a far way boarding school with a fence and security guards where the attackers would not reach me!” She is eager to continue with her studies and asked whether she could be assisted to get a functioning prosthetic arm. Police have arrested a neighbouring witchdoctor by the name of John Fumbuka and a manhunt is underway for two other attackers who have not yet been identified. According to Tanzania Albinism Society’s district coordinator, John Fumbuka’s accomplices told him that they were sent by a senior witchdoctor to ask him to get the arm of a person with albinism for a price of TZS. 900,000. “The men gave him an advance of TZS. 200,000, promising to pay the balance after the organ is delivered to the senior witchdoctor.” As Tanzania approaches local government elections in October of 2014, their citizens with albinism become increasingly fearful for life and limb. (Source: Personal interview conducted by UTSS on August 9, 2014 with the victim and her family at the hospital.)





**In May of 2014**, it was discovered that Miriam Lukaka, born in 2008 and now a six year old girl with albinism, had been confined to her home since birth. This occurred in Mara Region, Bunda District, Mugeta Village, Tanzania. Abandoned at birth by her father due to her albinism, Miriam was born at the peak of the killings of PWA in Tanzania. Her family was too scared to let her out of their home since it was on a main road near the village shopping center where big trucks and commuter buses pass regularly. The village is also on the road to a Kenyan border. Miriam plays at home with her cousins and other close relatives. She can understand a few things when spoken to but cannot answer back.

Her mother, Furaha Lukaka, does not live with Miriam (her only child) and has placed her in the care of the maternal grandmother, Mrs. Lukaka and her uncle Emmanuel Lukaka. While the mother is still very much involved in Miriam's life, she is in a relationship with another man who is not ready to accept Miriam because she has albinism. (Source: UTSS interview with the family at their home on July 9, 2014)

**On May 2, 2014**, the report of five-year-old Musa Saigara, a boy with albinism from a Maasai tribe in a village about two hours from Arusha, Tanzania, revealed that his father had frequently and brutally beat him since birth with the intention of killing him. His plan was to sell Musa's body parts for up to \$5,000 each to villagers who value them in the practice of witchcraft. Musa's mother and brother were also frequently beaten because they rejected this plan and tried to protect him from this fate. Multiple interventions by Musa's family sheltered him from certain death but in desperation they finally decided to give him and his mother into the care of Martha Mganga. Martha is a 50 year old woman with albinism in Tanzania who had suffered similar violations as a child. As an adult, she became an activist for people with albinism who established and now leads an organization called Albino Peacemakers in Arusha. Today Musa is safe and lives with Sister Martha Mganga along with his mother and older brother. Police have arrested the father and banished him from further contact. (Sources: Lancasteronline; May 2, 2014; Lancaster Alliance Church Helps Reach Out to Albinos in Tanzania; [http://lancasteronline.com/lifestyle/faith\\_and\\_values/lancaster-alliance-church-helps-reach-out-to-albinos-in-tanzania/article\\_83dbc0b2-d22a-11e3-a0af-0017a43b2370.html](http://lancasteronline.com/lifestyle/faith_and_values/lancaster-alliance-church-helps-reach-out-to-albinos-in-tanzania/article_83dbc0b2-d22a-11e3-a0af-0017a43b2370.html); UTSS interview with Musa, his family, villagers & village government on July 15 & 16, 2014)







**In February of 2014** a 17 year old woman with albinism by the name of Masalu Masanja was gang-raped by five men on her family farm in Gasuma Village, Bariadi District of Simiyu, Region, in north-western Tanzania. She contracted 2 STDs and became pregnant from the rape. Government officials brought Masalu and her three brothers with albinism to Buhangija Center for displaced PWA in Shinyanga where she was treated for the STD's and in November

of 2014 gave birth to a baby girl without albinism. She does not know who the father of her child is and suffers from deep physical and psychological trauma as a result of the attack. Her ordeal was made worse by the fact that Masalu is also speech impaired, with minimum ability to make audible sounds, rendering her unable to cry for help. (Source: On June 6, 2014, UTSS staff first met and conducted a personal interview with Masalu during a routine visit to Buhangija, a key government center housing displaced persons with albinism in Shinyanga Town, Shinyanga Region, Northwest Tanzania.)



**It began in 2000** - Maryamu is a 14 year old girl with albinism who was born in 2000 to her mother Aisha Salum (32) and her father Salum Masanja (37) in Selela Village three hours from the city of Arusha in the Manyara region of Northern Tanzania. Maryamu's mother said: "My husband Salum was told by his parents that he should divorce me because I had given birth to what they called a "European" baby. They chased me from our home when my husband was away but Salum was very protective of Maryamu and me and he loves his daughter very much. My own father wanted to kill Maryam and suggested that I feed her with cow urine instead of breast milk. When I refused he became very angry with me. My husband and I severed our relationship with our parents for a while until Maryam was a bit

older. Now when we visit our parents for a family gathering we do not stay for the night and we make sure she does not spend a minute alone with them. Maryamu has been in a boarding school in Arusha since 2011. Her father works in the city and pays her regular visits. I am happy that Maryam is now safe and in school. I also visit her sometimes but have to look after her 2 younger siblings here in Selela." (Source: UTSS team interviewed Maryamu's family at their home in Selela Village on July 16th, 2014.)



**On December 15, 2013**, at around 10:00 at night a 15 year old girl with albinism by the name of Milembe Michael Mbiti encountered three men in hoods and heavy coats who attempted to attack her. This incident took place in Simbaguji Village, Kasamwa Ward, Geita District. The girl was sleeping with her mother, Justina Katwale, at their home while the father was out drinking. The family dog continuously barked at the assailants as they stood in front of the house. This attracted the attention of Milembe's mother as well as her

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



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



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



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

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



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

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





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

UTSS interview with family – Nov 4, 2013

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





**Maryciana Sikitu** - In September of 2012, there was an attempt on the lives of 2 girls with albinism, Biganike Sikitu (then 10yrs) and Mary Sikitu (then 4yrs), in Nyamitamila Village, just 5 kilometers away from Magenge village, Geita Region. The parents raised the alarm and villagers came to their rescue. Parents, Sikitu Kalikenye, (35 - father) and Shida Felician, (30 - mother) are afraid to send the two girls to school because of the atrocities. They have a 10 month old baby with albinism,



Maryciana. We noticed that part of her hair and part of her forehead skin were removed. The parents could not give us a satisfactory answer. If the hair was removed and skin peeled a couple of months ago, then this is a second attack on the family. The source is UTSS interview with family – Nov 4, 2013

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

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

**In March 2012**, a 19 year old student with albinism, Beatrice Leme, narrowly escaped mutilation and / or death in Kishapu District, Shinyanga Region. The Form Two Busia Secondary School student was returning home on foot when she was stopped by two men on a motorbike. The men asked her to put her hands on the motorcycle's seat speaking among themselves on how they were going to chop of her hands. Beatrice screamed for help and ran for her life.



Angry villagers chased them but they were unable to catch up with them. Acting Shinyanga Regional Police Commander (RPC), Onesmo, said that the two suspects were still at large.



**In 2012**, Yassin Hashim, then a 7 year old boy with albinism, was discovered housebound since birth due to his albinism in Mkamba Village, Mkuranga Ward, Mkuranga District, Coast region, Tanzania. Yassin, now 9 says: “What I remember is that when I was living with my parents in my home village they used to hide me inside our house as a way of protecting me from bad people...I was not supposed to get out until they asked me to do so...I hated that kind of life”. At the point of his discovery, Yassin was handed over by

his parents to the family of Ashura Sultan Mwago, the Mkuranga Ward Councilor and her husband. His new guardians said that when the boy was discovered his health was deteriorated due to his living conditions; “His skin was full of lesions and scars and he was very weak”. Yassin is now a standard one pupil with albinism at Mkuranga Primary School. Speaking about his interactions with fellow students in school, Yassin says that he feels very happy because his peers and the community in general like him and share with him. Living with his new family does not mean taking away his right to see his biological parents who visit him regularly and whenever they feel it. “I love both my parents as I do love my teachers, friends and all people around me,” the boy says. He promises to study hard in order to accomplish his dream of becoming a doctor when he gets older. (Source: IPPmedia; Child With Albinism Freed After Years In Solitude; July 8, 2014; <http://www.ippmedia.com/frontend/index.php?l=69741>)

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



arrested  
hospital  
trauma.  
family.



**October 14, 2011** in Nyaruguguna Village, Geita Region, Tanzania, Adam Robert, a 12 year old boy with albinism was attacked with a machete. He was left lying in front of his home with multiple wounds including three fingers which were severed from his right hand and stolen. Adam survived the brutal attack and told police that his father, stepmother, older brother, and another male relative were involved in this criminal act. His testimony was confirmed by neighbours and the perpetrators were the following day. Adam is currently in suffering from severe wounds and He says he can never go home to his

**On September 16th 2011** in a village within the Bariadi District of Shinyanga Region, Tanzania, three year old Lucas Masanja narrowly escaped an abduction by two men. The boy's life was saved by good Samaritans in the village who exposed the conspiracy to the village leaders. The latter worked with the traditional security guards and set a trap. The men were arrested and arraigned in

court. They were found guilty of the offence and sentenced to a total of 24 years in jail (12 years each).



**Majaliwa Ng'hoyelwa** is 11 years old. UTSS first met him on Thursday, November 24th, 2011 in a village called Kasamwa, a 20 minute drive from Geita. This village is one of the major gold mining towns in the Lake Zone in north-western Tanzania. Majaliwa originally comes from another village in rural Geita but fled when his life was threatened by 4 young men a few months ago. He now lives far away from his family and friends in Kasamwa where he attends school. For his security, a

young lady by the name of Angel always escorts Majaliwa to and from his new school to ensure he is never left alone.

## **MEIMOSE– 2 ATTACKS AGAINST THE SAME VICTIM - On April 28, 2011**

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



attack in December of 2010, it was past eight in the evening when Sabina heard men starting to force the door open, talking among themselves that it should not be a problem to get the baby's legs since the mother and child were all alone. During the second attack in February of 2011 male voices were heard outside the house discussing how to attack the baby without causing any commotion. They then called Sabina by name and said that she should accompany them to a safe place because her husband had sent them to ensure their safety. On both occasions the police told Sabina that they had no manpower to protect her and Meimosi. They advised her to sleep elsewhere when her husband goes out fishing. Villagers suspect that the husband is behind the murder attempts.





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

escalation in albino murders in the country. (Source - IPP Media, March 10, 2011)

**JUMA KAPELA** , age 3, was abducted on Wednesday, February 9, 2011 while playing with a group of children. His recovery follows a four-day intensive search mounted jointly by the police, a team of Tanzania People's Defence Forces (TPDF) soldiers and villagers. The search team was combing the whole area along the shores of Lake Tanganyika in Mpanda District. He was found in a thick forest near Itunya village with a case of malaria and some small cuts and taken to Mpanda District Hospital. For their safety, Juma and his sister Wande Kapela, age 5 and also a PWA, will now be accommodated at St Martin de Pores orphanage located at Katandala area in Sumbawanga Municipality.



**In January of 2011** in Kasemi Village, Geita Region, Tanzania, 4-year-old Meriki was abducted or a few hours during which time the boy's hair was cut for witchcraft purposes. Meriki's grandmother noticed that part of his head had no hair and asked who cut it. He said it was their neighbour Robert Matage (40yrs). The matter was reported to the police. Robert Matage was questioned, and later released. On October 17,

2011 Tanzanian police told the media that the matter was dealt with between the neighbours and that the police could not interfere.



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

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





**Kabula Nkalango**, age 13, survived a wicked machete attack on April 26, 2010, when her entire right arm was brutally hacked off. After the attack, Kabula was placed in a secure and inclusive high quality private boarding school sponsored by UTSS education program.



**RUKIA KHALFAN**, age 33, sustained head injuries from a cruel machete attack on February 8, 2010. She, with infant Fatma on her back, were attacked in cold blood just outside their hut. They are still in the same village but now live with her parents in a

safer new house that the government required the village to build for Rukia.

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







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

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

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



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



**MPELWA JONAS MADUKA** – See Angelina Jonas Maduka story above

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



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

**MARIAMU STAFORD**, age 25, survived a vicious machete attack on October 17, 2008. Both of her arms were hacked off. That day, Mariamu also lost the life of her unborn child and the ability to wrap her arms around her 2 year old son Elisha. She has since received prosthetic limbs in Washington, D.C. and is now attending a vocational boarding



school in Tanzania sponsored by the UTSS Education Scholarship Fund.



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



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

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



**PAULO SASA**, a chairperson of Maswa District Tanzania Albinism Society, was attacked on 25th November 2007 by his neighbours and friends who, at one point, had



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

**Emmanuel Festo**, age 7, survived a brutal machete attack on November 12, 2007. He was attacked by 4 people at his home where his left arm was hacked off above the elbow, the fingers of his right hand were chopped off and 4 teeth were hammered out of his mouth. Emma has since been relocated to a safe place and is now attending a secure and





inclusive high quality private boarding school sponsored by UTSS education program. He is a brilliant student and a budding artist.



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

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

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

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





