

Boy murdered over his HIV status buried

By FAITH MUIRURI

A 15-year-old boy who was brutally murdered by his uncle a week ago for being HIV-positive was yesterday given an emotional send off at Wandumbi village in Nyeri District.

The boy, Isaiah Gakuyo, formerly a pupil at Wandumbi Primary School, was buried as the Kenya Network of Women With AIDS (KENWA) gave police a 14-day ultimatum to arrest the culprit failure to which they would organise demonstrations to demand for justice on the matter.

Speaking at the funeral, KENWA executive director Asuntra Wagura said her organisation would use all available resources and liaise with other human rights organisations to ensure that the culprit was brought to book.

She accused the police of taking too long to act on similar cases previously reported to them by her organisation.

On the material day, the deceased had just woken up to take his daily prescription of anti-retroviral drugs when his uncle, identified as Isaiah Kiboi, accosted him and bludgeoned him to death using a forked jembe.

He was rushed to the nearby Wandumbi Dispensary where he was pronounced dead on arrival.

The deceased was born HIV-positive and had been living with his grandmother before she died of HIV-related complications last year. Her grandmother was allegedly infected by Gakuyo's mother while she was taking care of her before she died in 1997.

He was left under the care of his uncle who killed him in cold blood. The boy had initially been rescued by community health

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workers of the Greenbelt Movement after they discovered that he was being discriminated against and mistreated by his uncle who had also labelled the utensils he had been using.

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