



Mathare Social Justice Centre (MSJC)
MATHARE YOUTH DIALOGUE ON EXTRA JUDICIAL KILLINGS:
Post-Event Report

On the 26th of June, the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, Mathare Social Justice Centre (MSJC) with the support of Bunge la Mwananchi, Bunge Mashinani and other community activists organized the “*Mathare Youth Dialogue on Extra Judicial Killings*” in Kinatco Social Hall, Bondeni, Mathare.

MSJC is an initiative by young members of the community to promote social justice in Mathare. For years Mathare has been a place where structural violence has been allowed to go on without any redress for residents. These forms of violence include, but are not limited to, police abuse and extra judicial killings, political impunity, illegal evictions and other economic, social and psychological transgressions. This event is part of our campaign to stop extra judicial killings in Mathare, and it is coordinated by our two interlinked pillars; working for legal advocacy and documenting extra judicial killings and other related violations in the constituency.

This event focusing on extra judicial killings, a rare occurrence, had over 100 community members come together to collectively envision the way forward to stopping these violations in Mathare. These killings, despite the social and institutional silence about them, “are not in our imagination.”

Many of those who came shared stories of illegal detentions, the killing of children, husbands, sisters and brothers. We talked about the fear of communities, the lack of knowledge about rights and the killing of hopes, talent and generations. This is due to the existence of a very sinister

police state where one police *bonoko* has been used to frame, atleast, 22 young men, and where families are forced to pay for the bullets that kill them.



Many connections were made between these killings, crime, economic uncertainty, the branding of Mathare youth as “thugs” and grave situations that are left principally for women to deal with. It was also important for us during this process to collectively chart the way(s) forward. We invite you to keep informed and participate in our various activities as we work towards stopping these killings, and, above all, for justice in Mathare and beyond.

Much appreciation to Katiba Institute who provided us with constitution booklets, and to Joan of SID, Marie-Emmanuelle of IFRA and all the members of Peace Brigades International (PBI) who were present and in solidarity with us on this day.

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