

Zimbabwean activist killed

Written by Administrator
Sunday, 14 July 2013 18:30 -

Press Release from the Zimbabwe Vigil – 14th July 2013

With elections due in Zimbabwe in a few weeks, a human rights activist has been killed a day before a planned protest by the organisation Restoration of Human Rights in Zimbabwe (ROHR) against election rigging.

The activist, Elliot Dhlwayo, was in a car with a senior ROHR official travelling near Chivhu on the Harare-Masvingo road when two vehicles took turns to sideswipe their car and did not stop when it crashed. Both victims and witnesses believed this was an assassination attempt.

Mr Dhlwayo died of his injuries. He was 38 and leaves a wife and three children. His companion is recovering in hospital.

The incident took place on 3rd July. The protest was postponed and took place on Friday 12th July. More than a hundred ROHR activists delivered petitions to the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission and the Home Affairs Ministry demanding free and fair elections (for full report see: <http://www.zimvigil.co.uk/vigil-news/campaign-news/504-rohr-zimbabwe-demonstrates-in-harare-for-the-right-to-vote>).

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The ROHR President, Ephraim Tapa, described the death of Mr Dhliwayo as an assassination and said that the Mugabe regime would stop at nothing to suppress opposition and win the elections on 31st July. He added that being a human rights defender was currently the most dangerous job in Zimbabwe.

ROHR was started by the Zimbabwe Vigil, which has been protesting outside the Zimbabwe Embassy in London every Saturday for the past eleven years against human rights abuses and in support of free and fair elections.

For further information, contact: Ephraim Tapa 07940 793 090 or Dennis Benton 07932 193 467.