

## Political intolerance on the rise ahead of 2018 elections

Zimbabwe Peace Project (ZPP) is alarmed by increasing cases of attacks on MDC-T members after a bar belonging to MDC-T Vice President, Elias Mudzuri, was burnt and the home of MDC-T Kuwadzana ward 38 Councillor, Wilton Janjazi, was damaged yesterday .

ZPP visited the bar which was torched by unknown assailants. Valuable property was lost to the fire. In another incident, ward 38 Kuwadzana MDC-T councillor, Janjazi's home was attacked by unknown assailants but he suspects the incident is politically motivated. The assailants destroyed the perimeter wall, forced entry into the yard and broke windows. The councillor reported the matter to the police under RRB number 3220779.



*(Left) Duriro bar owned by Mudzuri was set ablaze while the home of Janjazi (right) was destroyed by suspected Zanu PF youths [picture by ZPP]*

The incidents come a few days after an MDC-T vehicle was burnt at a Kuwadzana car park. Home Affairs Minister, Ignatius Chombo, dismissed the incident as an inside job and these pronouncements may have emboldened perpetrators as witnessed by an increase in attacks on properties of MDC-T members.

ZPP calls upon the police to attend to these matters with the urgency they deserve which if not addressed could pose risk for many citizens. These attacks come against the back drop of Jim Kunaka pronouncing that Zanu PF could use violence against MDC-T supporters and Tajamuka activists.

ZPP therefore calls on all political parties to rein in their supporters and avoid inflammatory statements that may escalate violations and political violence. The Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission should institute urgent investigations into these incidents in order to ensure a conducive environment exists for the polls next year. The country is already in election mode and violations such as these intimidate the electorate.

ZPP is a Non Governmental Organization that was founded in 2000 by a group of faith based and human rights NGOs working and interested in human rights and peace-building initiatives. ZPP has become a vehicle for civic interventions in times of political crises. In particular, ZPP seeks to monitor and document incidents of human rights violations and breaches of peace.

**If you are concerned about acts of violence in your community, ZPP encourages you to get in touch with us on  
Hotline and WhatsApp numbers +263 774 883 406 and +263 774 883 417  
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