

Africa: Persons with Albinism are Facing Real Threat to Life

OPINION

By Phitalis Were Masakhwe

Unless far-reaching, concerted and urgent measures are taken, persons with albinism in Africa face real threat to their very survive as a people. The killing of a six-years-old girl with albinism in Tanzania recently best epitomizes the cruelty and danger directed at this group of people by society, in this era and age! The treatment this group of people has received from fellow men and women best depicts intolerance to diversity in its vilest form!

Merely on account of their skin color that makes them easily differentiated, persons with albinism have been shunned, ridiculed, tormented, tortured and killed in cold blood in Tanzania, Burundi, Malawi, Mozambique and DRC Congo. Going by media reports, the trend, manner and reasons behind their sad state of affairs in those countries, persons with albinism in Kenya, Rwanda, Lesotho, Ghana, Sudan or any other African state have every reason to be really worried.

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