

# MOZAMBIQUE News reports & clippings

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## Police attack Azagaia's funeral cortege & marches to pay homage to the rapper

Police attacked young people across the country as they marked the death of popular rapper Azagaia. His funeral at the Maputo city hall conducted by Emeritus Anglican Bishop Dinis Sengulane took place without incident on Tuesday morning (14 July) but several thousand young people gathered at Praça de Independência in front of the city hall to join the funeral cortege to Michafutene cemetery in Marracuene. Police, including armoured cars and a heavily armed contingent of riot police, fired teargas to try to disperse the growing crowd and beat and arrested some young people, and forced a change of route. But the growing crowd followed the casket to the cemetery.

Azagaia criticised elites of all parties and became the voice of youth. Peaceful marches to pay homage to the popular rapper were scheduled for Saturday (18 March) in cities across the country. In Maputo the March was officially approved by mayor Eneas Comiche but was violently attacked by the police with dogs, teargas and rubber bullets. Teargas was used in streets surrounding the Eduardo Mondlane statue where the march was to start, to stop young people from arriving. Young people were arrested and beaten; in Maputo there were 22 arrested and 19 people admitted to the central hospital, including one man who lost an eye when he was hit by a rubber bullet fired at close range.

The photo shows a marcher being thrown into a police van and being hit by a baton by the policeman in the centre. The photo comes from a [video taken from an upstairs window](#) which shows him being hit repeatedly.



On 17 March, the day before the homage marches, the US embassy issued a "March 18, 2023 Security Alert: Avoid Large Gatherings in Maputo". Did the embassy know or suspect what the police were planning?

An attempt to have a protest march in front of the Ministry of Interior in Maputo today (20 March), was repelled by tear gas, [as shown in this video](#).

In several cities the Saturday marches were banned; in Vilankulo the mayor said in writing he was [banning the march on orders](#) "from above" (*orientação superior*). (CDD 19 Mar, also good pictures of police actions.) Marches were attacked by police in Beira where 12 people were arrested including the municipal assembly speaker Ricardo Lang, Nampula where a march organiser Gamito dos Santos Carlos was arrested and had not been released after 24 hours, Xai Xai and elsewhere.

Only in Quelimane were there no clashes. Mayor Manuel de Araujo, led the march and a contingent of the municipal police was present, but it did its normal job of escorting and protecting

the marchers. State news agency AIM (20 March) noted that "the peaceful nature of the event showed that the young fans of Azagaia do not want to start riots, but merely to honour the man they regard as their hero." (Perhaps the police in Quelimane were more nervous because they had shot and killed a local musician, Ed Azevedo, during a parade celebrating Araujo's re-election as mayor on November 2013. An attack on the march would have stirred bad memories and resentment.)

Several publications noted that for some years the police have enforced a general, and totally unconstitutional, ban on all marches that are not in support of Frelimo.

The police attacks were widely reported by global media and harshly criticized by international and local organisations. "The violent repression, of nationwide peaceful protests to remember the fallen musician Azagaia, by the Mozambican police, including beating up of protesters, teargassing and targeting organizers for their role in organizing the rallies ... is a violation of the right of freedom of assembly [and shows] a disturbing pattern of reckless and unlawful tactics against people during protests" said Amnesty International.

The Mozambican Bar Association (Ordem dos Advogados) "expresses its indignation at the denial of the right to demonstrate by the Mozambican police" when the marches were peaceful and represented no public threat. "The right to freedom of assembly is one of the pillars of democracy and must be respected by the authorities." Bar association spokesperson Victor da Fonseca called for a halt of what he called a trend of wanting to normalise a dictatorship, where there is no space for public demonstrations.

Azagaia had suffered from epilepsy and died at age 38 on 9 March. His family issued a brief statement confirming that he had an epileptic seizure and was alone in his room, so there was nobody to rescue him when he collapsed.

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## **Elections**

**CIP Mozambique Elections Bulletin** is published by Centro de Integridade Pública (CIP) <https://www.cipmoz.org>; <https://cipeleicoes.org/eng/cip@cipmoz.org>.

To subscribe or unsubscribe: <https://bit.ly/MozBul-sub> Past election newsletters are on <https://bit.ly/CIP-EI>

**Election study collaboration:** We have detailed election data from 1999 through 2014 and are inviting scholars to use this data collaboratively. <http://bit.ly/MozEIData> Election data: <http://bit.ly/MozEIData>

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## **Important external links**

**Books by Joseph Hanlon can be downloaded, free:** <https://bit.ly/HanlonBooks>

**Flood, cyclone and weather:** weather <https://www.inam.gov.mz/>

rainfall [https://www.inam.gov.mz/images/DAPT\\_Previsoes/Manha/Previsao\\_Manha.pdf](https://www.inam.gov.mz/images/DAPT_Previsoes/Manha/Previsao_Manha.pdf)

**Daily flood and monthly dry season reports** - <https://bit.ly/Moz-Flood-2023>

**Cyclone trackers,** <https://bit.ly/Reunion-cyclone>, <https://www.metoc.navy.mil/jtwc/jtwc.html>

(which uses z time which is UCT - Coordinated Universal Time) and <https://www.cyclocane.com/>

**Two LSE working papers - World Bank questions its Mozambique 'success'** where oligarchs brought high inequality, poverty and corruption - <https://bit.ly/Moz-LSE-208c> and **How the IMF and World Bank caused a resource curse and civil war in Mozambique** - <https://bit.ly/Moz-LSE-209>

**Minimum wage & exchange rate charts, tables 1996-2022** <https://bit.ly/MozMinWage2022>

Previous editions of this newsletter: <https://bit.ly/MozNews2023> and <https://bit.ly/MozNews2022>

My Mozambique archive: <http://bit.ly/Mozamb>

TSU\_Tabela-Salarial-Unica - law, decrees, points system (2 Mb) <https://bit.ly/Moz-TSU>

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## **Cabo Delgado**

**Cabo Ligado** weekly report on civil war <https://www.caboligado.com/>  
Archive with reports, detailed maps, and census data <https://bit.ly/Moz-CDg>

### Special reports on the war

Evolution of the war: global vs local. 27 Feb 2020 <http://bit.ly/CDelgadoOrigins>  
Religion is shaping Cabo Delgado civil war. 30 April 2020 <https://bit.ly/CDelgadoReligion>  
Intensifying argument over roots of war. 28 June 2020 <https://bit.ly/Moz-492>  
Are the drums of war silencing any hope of peace? 26 July 2020 <http://bit.ly/Moz-496>  
A history of violence presages the insurgency. 13 August 2020 <http://bit.ly/Moz-498>  
Military & economic intervention. 3 Sept 2020 <https://bit.ly/CDelgadoIntervene>  
Cabo-Delgado-Free-for-all. 20 Apr 2022. <https://bit.ly/Moz-593>

### Mozambique heroin transit trade

English - LSE - 2018 - <http://bit.ly/Moz-heroin>  
Portuguese - CIP- 2018 - <http://bit.ly/HeroinaPT>  
2001 first article- *Metical* - English and Portuguese <https://bit.ly/MozHeroin2001>

### Gas for development?

Gas\_for\_development\_or\_just\_for\_money?\_2015 <bit.ly/MozGasEng>  
Gás\_para\_desenvolvimento\_ou\_apenas\_dinheiro?\_2015 <bit.ly/MozGasPt>

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## Background reading

### Special reports

Social protection report - 2017 Mozambique - <http://bit.ly/MozSocPro>  
Special report on four poverty surveys: <bit.ly/MozPoverty>

### \$2bn secret debt - in English

Secret debt trial (Aug-Oct 2021) press reports <https://bit.ly/Moz-secret-debt>  
Kroll - Full report on \$2bn debt - <http://bit.ly/Kroll-Moz>  
Kroll report summary - <http://bit.ly/Kroll-sum>  
Key points of Mozambique parliament report - Nov 2016 - <http://bit.ly/MozAR-debt-En>  
Following the donor-designed path to Mozambique's \$2.2 bn debt - <http://bit.ly/3WQ-hanlon>

### In Portuguese:

Parliamentary Report on the Secret Debt (complete) <bit.ly/MozAR-debt>  
**2018 Constitution** - <http://bit.ly/2KF588T>

### Eleven books by Joseph Hanlon can be downloaded, free: <https://bit.ly/HanlonBooks>

Zimbabwe takes back its land (2013) <https://bit.ly/Zim-takes-land>  
Bangladesh confronts climate change (2016)  
Chickens and beer: A recipe for agricultural growth in Mozambique (2014) is on <https://bit.ly/Chickens-Beer>  
Há Mais Bicicletas – mas há desenvolvimento? (2008)  
Civil War Civil Peace (2006): <https://bit.ly/Civil-War-Civil-Peace>  
Moçambique e as grandes cheias de 2000 (2001)  
Mozambique and the Great Flood of 2000 (2001)  
Paz Sem Benefício: Como o FMI Bloqueia a Reconstrução (1997)  
Peace Without Profit: How the IMF Blocks Rebuilding (1996) <https://bit.ly/Peace-wo-Profit>  
Mozambique: Who Calls the Shots (1991) <https://bit.ly/Shots-Moz>  
Mozambique: The Revolution Under Fire (1984)

### These are still available for sale:

Galinhas e cerveja: uma receita para o crescimento (2014) (free in English)  
Just Give Money to the Poor: The Development Revolution from the Global South (2010)  
Do bicycles equal development in Mozambique? (2008) (free in Portuguese)  
Beggar Your Neighbours: Apartheid Power in Southern Africa (1986)

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### Mozambique media websites, English:

Club of Mozambique (free): <http://clubofmozambique.com/>  
Zitamar (paywall): <http://zitamar.com/>

### Mozambique media websites, Portuguese (all with partial paywall):

Notícias: [www.jornalnoticias.co.mz](http://www.jornalnoticias.co.mz)  
O País: [www.opais.co.mz](http://www.opais.co.mz)  
@Verdade: <http://www.verdade.co.mz>  
Carta de Moçambique <https://cartamz.com>

**Mozambique think tanks and pressure groups, Portuguese:**

Centro de Integridade Pública: CIP <https://cipmoz.org/>

Observatório do Meio Rural: OMR <https://omrmz.org/>

Instituto de Estudos Sociais e Económicos: IESE <https://www.iese.ac.mz/>

Centro Para Democracia e Desenvolvimento CDD <https://cddmoz.org/> (some CDD in English)

Also CDD now controls Fórum de Monitoria do Orçamento - FMO (main debt group) <http://www.fmo.org.mz>  
and RMDDH - Rede Moçambicana dos Defensores dos Direitos Humanos (a human rights group).

To subscribe to all CDD publications: <http://eepurl.com/qO9l6v> (English or Portuguese).

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