

ACTIVITY: Swimming

CASE: GSAF 2012.12.25

DATE: Tuesday December 25, 2012

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Indian Ocean at Second Beach, Port St. Johns, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa.

NAME: Liya Sibili

DESCRIPTION: He was a 20-year-old male from Gauteng.

BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: Waxing Gibbous, 92% of the Moon was illuminated. Full Moon, December 28, 2012.

TIME: 14h30



John Costello

A busy Second Beach in Port St Johns shows bathers in the water on December 26, 2012, the day after Liya Sibili was killed there by a shark.

NARRATIVE: Lifesavers tried to clear the water when a shark fin was seen close to hundreds of bathers but the people were in a festive mood and noisy, and they were unable to get everyone out fast enough. Liya Sibili was swimming ahead of other boys when he was attacked by the shark.

Border surfer Avuyile Ndamase – who relocated to East London soon after watching helplessly as his younger brother Zama was killed by a shark in the bay last year – said he was playing volleyball on the crowded beach when he spotted the shark swim between bathers. “People were trying to get out the water after the lifeguards spotted something in the water. I saw the tail of something really big grab the boy, the water started boiling and later it went red. After all the attacks we have had here over the years, people are crazy to even go in the water.”

Second Beach lodge owner Mike Gatke said under-equipped lifeguards were extremely nervous to go into the water after witnessing the latest attack. “They are very scared. There is no way they will go into the water if someone is attacked.”

INJURY: Fatal. Captain Mduduzi Godlwana reported that Sibili’s trousers were found after the attack, but his body had not been recovered.

SPECIES: The incident reportedly involved a tiger shark.