

TANZANIA HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS COALITION (THRDC)



NEWS UPDATES ON A JOURNALIST EMMANUEL KIBIKI WHO WAS ARRESTED IN FEBRUARY 2018

Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC) has continued to make a close follow up on the arrest and subsequent release on bail of a journalist Mr. Emmanuel John Kibiki. Mr. Kibiki who was reporting for a weekly newspaper Raia Mwema (which has now been banned for 90 days) was arrested on the night of 22nd February 2018 based on allegations from the Tanzania Electric Supply Company (TANESCO) that the journalist published false news about illegal electric connections. He was later released on Police bail with conditions that he was supposed to report at the Makambako Police Post every Monday and Friday.

According to the information from his wife, when he reported at the Makambako Police post last Friday on 18th May 2018, he was ordered to appear at Njombe District Court today for the mention of his case. Surprisingly, today the Journalist was informed by the Police that his charge sheet which was presented to the Court was defective and therefore he was ordered to remain under the police custody until tomorrow on the 22nd May 2018. The suspect is expected to be brought to Court tomorrow for mention.

More updates will follow.

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