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MAPUTO

Moments leading to Daniel Chapo's inauguration marred by police violence, leaving four dead



The hours preceding today's inauguration of Daniel Chapo as President of the Republic of Mozambique, on January 15, 2025, were tragically marked by police violence, further tarnishing the nation's history. Four young individuals were brutally killed by the Rapid Intervention Unit (UIR), a subdivision of the Mozambican Police (PRM). Three were murdered in Machava Socimol, while another lost their life near the third roundabout leading to Matola-Gare in the municipality of Matola. Several injuries were also reported as a result of police actions. The three young victims

in Machava Socimol were leaving a local bar when they encountered an undercover police officer. After a brief exchange, perceived as playful, the officer summoned reinforcements. Upon arrival, the reinforcements opened fire indiscriminately, killing three young men on the spot and injuring two others, one of whom was rushed to the hospital in critical condition. The circumstances surrounding the killing of the young person near the third roundabout remain unclear. These events are part of a broader wave of brutal crackdowns by the police over the past week, particularly in the city's

outskirts. The repression has involved deploying undercover officers to identify and target groups of young people under suspicion of organizing protests against Daniel Chapo's inauguration. Since the beginning of these protests, 517 individuals have reportedly been killed nationwide by police forces. This tragic tally adds yet another dark chapter to Mozambique's history, highlighting the increasing state violence against its own youth.



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