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Author
Ahmed, A-Razaque

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A MOTHER RAPED TWICE*

by A-Razaque Ahmed

Her prophets are light and treacherous persons: her priests have polluted the sanctuary, they have done violence to the law.

Zephaniah 3:4

The boys never meant any harm against the girls. They just wanted to rape.

Deputy Principal Joyce Kithira

He truly is a shame
For Mother, never will you be the same
yet Kenya shall remain your name.

He surely is your son by fate
But you and your daughters he did rape
with no remorse and his mouth agape
oblivious to the silent rage.

He clearly is a goon
Him and his crooked band
their bestiality grandiosely graphic
their code of governance, greed
their concept of nationhood, ghastly.

He certainly is an ugly sight
His actions evoke a cringe
which from my heart takes a painful bite
turning the tear from my eye into bile
the thought in my mind into a garbled blind
the gush in my gut into a gale.
He absolutely must be stopped
For injustice at such a rate
    nourished by a heinous wont
    woven of malicious web
          is warped to glorify hate.

So mother, your pride to redeem
    your beauty to restore
    your bounty to reap
    your hope to realize
    your warmth to treasure
          collectively we shall strive
          if only one more time.

August 8, 1991.

*The poem is dedicated to the 71 raped and 19 dead girls at a secondary school in Meru, Kenya in July 1991.