

term.

Senfuka's three wives, says she was

living a "happy" life before her husband was arrested.

staying in the same house with her father-in-law, but has nothing to do.

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School under probe for stripping students

ALEBTONG. Alebtong District leaders have started investigating an incident in which the administration of Fatima Girls Comprehensive School in Aloj allegedly stripped female students in search of phones.

The Resident District Commissioner, Mr Andrew Awany, ordered the probe last week.

The district education officer, Mr Denis Kisa, confirmed he summoned the school head teacher and the deputy for questioning.

"It is a serious human rights abuse to strip somebody naked and more so these young girls. I have summoned them to immediately explain to me why that was done," Mr Kisa told *Daily Monitor* on phone at the weekend.

According to Mr Kisa, the school could have asked student leaders, senior woman teacher or matrons to investigate the matter instead of stripping students 'worst of all in the presence of male teachers.'

Mr Johnson Okello, a human rights activist in Lira District, said

once established, the teachers should be dismissed since their action and presence at the school will traumatise the students.

"Infringing on one's privacy, worst of all children who are not even above 18 years, is a gross violation of that person's rights and the DEO's office and the Ministry of Education and Sports must act immediately and ensure that punitive measures are taken against the teachers," Mr Okello said.

Mr Sam Kuloba, the commissioner for Secondary Education, in a telephone interview, expressed shock over the decision by the school to 'dehumanise' the students.

"In most cases when our schools commit such crimes we don't get the reports but I am already in touch with the school administration to find out," Mr Kuloba said.

What happened?

Two male and six other female teachers of the Catholic-founded

STUDENT CLAIMS

Although three phones and a phone battery were recovered, one of the students claimed the teachers photographed them and joked about their nude photos.

government school, allegedly locked up the students in the laboratory on November 1.

The teachers are said to have ordered the girls to remove their uniforms and remain naked before asking them to frog jump as they marched out.

Sister Judith Adilo, the deputy head teacher, and the director of studies, only identified as Mr Ekwam, said they were searching for mobile phones.

"Our operation was successful and our mission was accomplished. We subjected them to the exercise because we realised many of them possess mobile phones contrary to our rules and regulations and were always hiding them," he said.

One of the students, who spoke to this newspaper, claimed the teachers photographed them using smartphones.

"It was very distressing and humiliating and I now fear attending my classes since my class teacher (a male) was involved in the exercise," said a Senior Three student.

According to the student, who asked not to be named, the teachers joked about the nude pictures shortly after the incident.

"After removing our clothes, each one of us was told to squat and jump a few metres while getting out of the room. Up to now, I have failed to understand why they did this to us while they took pictures in turns," she noted.

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