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## PRESS RELEASE

**MURDEROUS ASSAULT AT SCHINOUDI (DEREKÖY), IMVROS (GÖKÇEADA)****Appeal to respect the family of the victims  
and support the return of the Imvrian Community to its native island****08/06/2013**

The Greek Orthodox Community of Imvros around the world is stunned by the murderous assault of a Muslim woman against two Greek women that took place at the village of Schinoudi (Dereköy), Imvros (Gökçeada) on Friday, 7 June 2013 and ended up with the instant death of the Greek mother and the serious injury of her daughter.

Although the police inquiry is still under way, the information available so far implies that it was a crime of passion. It should be noted that the local authorities responded immediately by putting the author under custody immediately and by transferring the injured woman by helicopter to Çanakkale hospital where she was operated and now seems to be out of danger.

Imvrian Association (Athens) and Imvrian Association of Macedonia-Thrace wish to express their warmest condolences and support to the family of the unjustly lost mother and appeal to everyone to respect the anguish of the family of the victims and help our fellow Imvriote who survived the assault overcome the shock and get on with her life.

They further believe that this isolated incident should not affect the efforts for reestablishing the links of the Imvrian Community with its native island and the return of as many Imvriotes to the island as possible. Nevertheless, it is evident that during this process the authorities will need to consecrate further efforts for ensuring the harmonious co-existence of the different communities on the island. It is known that the existing diversities the problems observed in the current social structure was not the outcome of a normal process on Imvros.

Those, therefore, who encourage the Greek Orthodox Christians, who also happen to be Turkish nationals, to return to their ancestral land will have to respond efficiently to their responsibilities and remedy without further delay the numerous social and cultural traumas and legal injustices accumulated over the years as a result of state policies applied on our island.

**On Behalf Of****The Imvrian Association****Paris Asanakis****President****The Imvrian Union of Macedonia-Thrace****Pavlos Stamatidis****President**