

Billionaire addresses abduction ordeal

Tanzanian billionaire Mohammed Dewji said that he asked his kidnapper to shoot him while he was being held captive. His abduction outside a Dar es Salaam made sparked a huge manhunt and made headlines around the world. Speaking to the media for the first time about his ordeal, Dewji told the [BBC](#) that he was blindfolded and disorientated when he made the plea. **‘There were times they kept on threatening me with guns to my head and five days. Six days into it, I was thinking I was losing my eye sight,’** Dewji said. Ten days after his abduction in October 2018, his company, MeTL, announced that he had ‘returned home safely’ after his kidnappers abandoned him in a field. The authorities have not established a clear motive for the abduction. A Tanzanian taxi driver, Mousa Twaleb, has been arrested and is awaiting trial. Dewji believes there were around three or four foreigners from Mozambique and SA involved. [Legalbrief](#) reports that Dewji has an estimated net worth of \$1.9bn, positioning him as the 17th richest person in Africa and the continent's youngest billionaire. He is also the only Tanzanian to have made the cover of *Forbes* magazine.