

back to Tororo without our son. As days

friends and even traditional healers

particularly severe. She struggled to

the boy immediately recognised them,

family, saying it is unbelievable.

BY JULIET KIGONGO
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KAMPALA. Three court assessors have recommended that the High Court convict Christopher Okello Onyum, the prime suspect in the gruesome killing of four toddlers at Ggaba Early Childhood Development Programme, saying the prosecution had sufficiently proved its case beyond reasonable doubt by squarely placing Okello at the scene of the crime.

In their joint layman's opinion delivered on Monday night, the assessors urged presiding Judge Alice Komuhangi Khaukha to find Okello guilty on all four counts of murder, setting the stage for a pivotal ruling tomorrow (Thursday) in one of the country's most shocking recent criminal trials.

Below is the joint assessors' opinion as read out to the court by Mr John Musana:

"Below are the ingredients to prove death. That death was unlawful, malice aforethought, and participation.

On ingredients one, two, and three

'This is why Okello should be convicted'

from the evidence of Prosecution Witness (PW)1, Dr Katongole Abdu, who examined the four juveniles, prepared post-mortem reports, which were tendered in this honourable court...

To this honorable court, he examined the bodies of Gideon Eteku, whose cause of death was a deep cut injury on the neck; Keisha Agenorwoth Otim, whose cause of death was a hyperbolic shock following a deep cut wound on the neck; Ignatius Sseruyange, whose cause of death was a deep cut injury on the neck; and Ryan Odeke, who died of hyperbolic shock following a deep cut injury on the right side of the neck.

His evidence was collaborated with that of PW2, PW3, PW4, PW5, PW6, PW7, PW11, and PW14. We are, therefore, convinced that the prosecution has laid overwhelming evidence which is beyond reasonable doubt on the first three ingredients of murder.

As pertains to participation, ingredi-



He is guilty.

The accused person brought two witnesses to defend him, but according to us, their evidence was not concrete

enough to water down the prosecution's evidence.

- Mr John Musana, assessor

ent four, we relied on the evidence of PW6, PW7, PW11, and PW15, AIP Odonogo Emmanuel, who authored the CCTV analysis report, which was subsequently tendered in this honourable court and marked PEX9A.

He concentrated on the images of the accused person (Okello) captured on April 2, 2026, in the CCTV analysis report. The images are on pages 50 and 51; the flash disk of CCTV footage marked as PEX9B contains a video of the accused person captured on the day prior to the incident in the parking lot

at Renewal Sacco.

This prompted us to believe that this act was premeditated.

The evidence of PW17 also implicates the accused person, most especially in the forensic report, which was tendered in this honourable court and marked as PEX 16.

On pages 19 to 28 of the report, in paragraph 18, putting the accused person at the scene of the crime by virtue of the DNA examinations made on his sunglasses, shirt, black trousers, knife, vis-à-vis the DNA examinations done on the bodies and clothes of the four deceased juveniles.

With the above, we are convinced that the prosecution has proved the ingredient beyond reasonable doubt.

My lord, the accused person says he did not intentionally cause the death of the four children, and that he was coerced into accepting the charges.

Furthermore, he requested this hon-

ourable court not to honour the prosecution's prayer to convict him on the four counts of murder because he contends that there are circumstances that forced him to act the way he acted on April 2, 2026. He didn't present any evidence to support his claim.

The evidence of PW 11, Dr Nuwamanya, who examined the accused person on Police Form 24, which was tendered in this court as PEX 7, he was absolutely cleared that based on his psychiatric interview and personal mental state examination, he established that Mr Onyum Christopher Okello had no established mental disorder.

This collaborates with evidence of Dr Rogers Agenda in his sanity assessment report, which was tendered in court as PEX 8A. We are, therefore, convinced that the accused person is mentally stable as opposed to the evidence in his defence. In conclusion, we are convinced that the prosecution has proved all the ingredients in the four counts beyond reasonable doubt. We advise this court to convict the accused person in the four counts as charged."