

The court read the charges to the suspects in Lugbara after they requested interpretation in a language they understood.

BY DAN WANDERA

The prime suspect in the February 23 shooting at Kiboga Prison that left four people dead has been charged and remanded to prison. Moses Anguyo, a prison warder (No. 13544), yesterday appeared before Kiboga Grade One Magistrate Jonard Tusasirwe amid tight security, where he was jointly charged with three others over the deadly incident.

Anguyo, who was brought to court at about 2:20pm, appeared calm as he stood in the dock alongside his co-accused — Peter Anziku, also known as Dickson Okuonzu, and Hellen Anviko.

It was the prosecution's case that Anguyo, on February 23 at Kiboga Government Prison, with malice aforethought, unlawfully caused the death of ASP Catherine Hope, PO1 Bright Akishuri, Sarah Ayebare, and Salson Niwagaba.

Under count five, Anguyo was charged with aggravated robbery.

Case details

Anguyo is also accused of robbing Grace Katusiime of her black Jean trousers on the same day, and or immediately before or immediately after the said robbery, shot her with a gun.

Prosecution also alleges that he robbed Mary Nabayiga of an Arsenal jersey, and immediately after or before the alleged robbery, used a deadly weapon against her.

Under count seven of threatening violence, it was the prosecution's case that on the same day, the suspect with to intimidate or annoy SP Ivan Niwagaba, threatened to injure or kill him.

His co-accused were charged separately with a lesser offence of being an accessory after the fact to a felony contrary to Section 366 of the Penal Code Act.

Kiboga prison shooting: Key suspect charged, remanded



Moses Anguyo (centre) on arrival at Kiboga Chief Magistrate's Court yesterday. PHOTO/ DAN WANDERA

ordained and assisted him to escape from being charged with murder to the prejudice of all those he allegedly shot dead.

Court proceedings

Back at court, proceedings were conducted with the help of a Lugbara interpreter after the accused persons requested that the charges and statements be read to them in a language they understood.

Prosecution, led by Senior State Attorney Stephen Ariong and Joan Gasswa, informed court that investigations

They also noted that the magistrate's court lacks jurisdiction to try the capital offences, which are triable only by the High Court.

After the charges were read to the accused, Magistrate Tusasirwe explained the rights of the accused but did not allow them enter plea, in line with procedure for capital offences.

During the session, Anguyo raised several concerns before court, including questioning why he was jointly charged with the co-accused.

He asked why he appears on the same file with others, yet he claims re-

arrest.

Anguyo also alleged that upon his arrest in the Democratic Republic of Congo, one of the arresting officers stole gold weighing about 500 grams from him.

He further claimed that Shs700,000 recovered from his wife, Ms Anviko, belonged to her savings group (Sacco) and not to him.

He additionally asked the court to allow his transfer to a prison facility in Kampala together with his two children, whom he said were left stranded in Kiboga following his arrest.

BACKGROUND

Security operatives arrested Anguyo on Saturday last week in Aru Town in the Democratic Republic of Congo during a joint operation involving Ugandan and Congolese security forces after having fled following the alleged shooting.

Authorities then extradited him to Uganda through Arua District (Vurra), where police and prison officers took him into custody.

a primary school teacher attached to Masindi District Local Government, told court he had not been allowed to communicate with his employer regarding his arrest.

"I need to officially inform my employer about my arrest. I also do not understand how I am charged on the same file with a prison warder involved in a shooting," he said.

Prosecution's argument

In response, the prosecution maintained that some of the items recovered during the arrest, including mobile phones, are part of the exhibits in the case.

Magistrate Tusasirwe directed that the Directorate of Public Prosecutions (DPP) to liaise with police to address concerns raised by the accused persons.

The suspects were subsequently remanded to Kitalya and Luzira prison, and the case was adjourned to April 24, for mention.

Preliminary investigations indicate the shooting may have stemmed from a dispute after the suspect was cautioned against using WhatsApp while on duty, contrary to prison regulations.

Authorities have also pointed to possible frustration linked to career progres-