Bunyoro mourns LC5 boss killed in car crash

At the time of his death, Banura was awaiting swearing-in following his re-election as Kikuube chairperson.

BY JOSEPH KASUMBA & ALEX ASHABA

Leaders from Bunyoro Sub-region are mourning the death of Kikuube District chairperson Peter Banura, who was killed in a road crash on Saturday evening.

Banura, 51, died at around 8:20pm after he was knocked by a speeding taxi on Butyamba Village on the Hoima–Fort Portal Road.

At the time of his death, he was awaiting swearing-in following his re-election as district chairperson. He is the son of Maj Gen Matayo Kyaligonza.

Several leaders across the sub-region and country have paid tribute to Banura, describing him as a dedicated and humble public servant.

Prime Minister Robinah Nabbanja, who hails from the sub-region and also serves as Woman MP for Kakumiro District, expressed her condolences on X.

"I am saddened to hear of the passing of Araali Peter Banura, the Kikuube District chairman. His death is a huge loss to Kikuube and Uganda at large. He was a young man deeply committed to leadership and service," she said.

She described him as a pioneer leader who worked tirelessly for the progress of the district and the well-being of its people.

Local Government Minister Raphael Magyezi described the deceased as a humble and dedicated leader whose service will be remembered.

Masindi District chairperson Cosmas Byaruhanga said Kikuube and the wider Bunyoro Sub-region have lost a committed and visionary leader.

Tribute.
He was an asset to the system. He understood security matters and was committed to service delivery. As government, we have lost a valuable leader.
– Godwin Angalia, Kikuube Resident District Commissioner

"He worked tirelessly for the people of Kikuube. I call upon road users to be more careful and follow traffic rules to avoid similar accidents," he said.

Kikuube Resident District Commissioner Godwin Angalia described Banura as a peaceful and service-oriented leader.

"He was an asset to the system. He understood security matters and was committed to service delivery. As government, we have lost a valuable leader," he said.

Development-focused leadership

Leaders and officials in Kikuube District highlighted Banura's development-oriented leadership and close connection with the community.

Ms Kyomugisa Tedy, the female district councillor for Kizirafumbi Sub-county, said the deceased chairperson was a people-centred leader.

"He was a loving person who worked closely with all people, especially the *wananchi*. He championed development and encouraged hard work," she said.

Ms Edith Karungi, the district councillor representing persons with disabilities (PWDs), described him as a strong advocate for vulnerable groups.



Peter Banura

"He supported many students, especially those with disabilities, some of whom have reached university level. He attended our functions and addressed our concerns," she said.

The district vice chairperson, Mr Vincent Opio Alphur, said Mr Banura will be remembered for his efforts to establish a permanent home for the district administration.

Before the construction of the headquarters, the district operated from old structures belonging to Kikuube Town Council.

Under his leadership, a new administration block was constructed at a cost of Shs2.3 billion under the Development Response to Displacement Impacts Project (DRDIP).

"The late Banura enabled the district to obtain its own home by constructing a new administration block. Before this, we were using old structures of Kikuube Town Council," Mr Opio said.

He added that Mr Banura had already initiated plans to expand the facility by adding more floors under DRDIP Phase Two funding.

Passion

Mr Opio further revealed that the late chairperson was passionate about tourism development and envisioned Kikuube as a key destination.

He said Mr Banura had initiated a proposal to have the Bugoma Central Forest Reserve managed by the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) to boost conservation and tourism.

In addition, Mr Opio credited him with promoting food security through initiatives aimed at improving household livelihoods.

The district communications officer, Ms Faridah Ndagano, described Banura's death as a great loss.

"We have lost a lot as a district. He was a generous person who lobbied several projects for the well-being of the people," she said.

Education support

Mr Amon Zondera, the district inspector of schools, said Banura also served as Secretary for Education and played a key role in improving education standards.

"At times, he would join us during school inspections, which greatly motivated our team," he said.

According to the tentative burial programme, a requiem mass is to be held today at 12pm at Christ the King Church in Kampala, followed by a vigil at the family home in Kitiko Village, Kigo.

On Wednesday, April 8, the body will be taken to Kikuube District Council headquarters at 10am for a special council sitting, before a second vigil at his ancestral home in Buhimba, Kigaya, Kikuube District.

Police in Kikuube District have launched investigations into the fatal crash.

According to the Albertine South and North Police spokesperson Julius Allan Hakiza, a Toyota Hiace taxi, travelling from Fort Portal to Hoima, lost control due to speeding and rammed into a parked Toyota Hilux.

"The probable cause of the crash is speeding. We're hunting for the driver of a Toyota Hiace to tell us what happened," he said.

BACKGROUND

According to the 2025 Police Annual Crime Report, a total of 26,044 road crashes were recorded, including 4,602 fatal, 13,563 serious, and 7,879 minor crashes. Road traffic crashes increased by 3.7 percent compared to 2024. Fatal crashes rose by 3.8 percent, while serious and minor crashes increased by 3.3 percent and 4.5 percent, respectively.

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