

THE DRIVER AND PEOPLE ON THE LORRY FLED AFTER THE ACCIDENT

4-year-old boy loses hand to sugarcane lorry

By Tom Gwebayanga

A four-year-old boy from Nakifuma in Mukono district is nursing an amputated right hand in Kamuli Mission Hospital, Kamuli district after the tyre of a sugarcane-laden lorry ran over it in a nasty accident recently.

Ali Ngobi lost his hand as he was running to dodge the approaching lorry that was jostling for space with a bodaboda on a narrow road in Kiswa village, Mbulamuti sub-county recently. Eye-witnesses said one of the tyres crushed Ngobi's arm.

Ngobi met his fate last Sunday, a day after he arrived for his first visit to his grandmother, Esereda Kafuko, 60.

His parents, Grace Isabirye and Monica Nakirya, are residents of Nakifuma.

Ngobi escaped death because after his hand was crushed, the driver reversed, but, fortunately, it got stuck in a pothole.

The residents ganged up in protest, forcing the driver and the cane cutters who were on board to flee.

According to Nakirya, they were coming from the garden when the accident occurred.

"When he saw the lorry and the bodaboda fighting for space, he panicked and dashed in a zigzag manner, ending up beneath the tyres of the lorry," Nakirya said.

He was rushed to Kamuli Mission Hospital writhing and screaming in pain, where the hand was amputated.

"We saw death descending on him



Ngobi is nursing an amputated arm. His dad has asked for help



BETWEEN THE LINES:

■ Ali Ngobi escaped death because after his hand was crushed, the driver reversed, but fortunately, the truck got stuck in a big pothole.

and shouted. Shortly after, we saw him panting, in the middle of the road," Nakirya said. "Thank God that he is still alive!" she sighed.

The lorry was towed to Kamuli Central Police Station pending investigations.

Michael Kasadha, the Police

spokesperson for Busoga North, confirmed the accident, but urged parents to ensure the safety of their children, given the increased traffic in both the urban and rural areas.

"Extra care should be taken, especially during the approaching holidays," Kasadha said recently.

Ngobi's father, Isabirye, said: "Although he is now disabled, I am happy he is still alive, only that he is still traumatised and cries all the time."

Isabirye called on well-wishers to render assistance towards the clearing of the medical bills. The amount is still unknown as he is still in hospital

By **Mzuri Art**

NO CHARGES