Car kills six family members

BY CHARLES KAKAMWA
AND CHARLES OKALEBO

Six children from the same family died on Sunday evening after a speeding vehicle swerved off the road and hit them in their home in Waitambogwe village in Mayuge district on the Iganga-Jinja highway.

The tragedy happened at about 7:00pm when a Toyota Mark II that was heading to Kampala from Iganga rammed into the children who were playing in their home, killing six of them.

The Mayuge district Police commander, Martin Okoyo, identified the dead as Isa Shamira, a P.6 pupil at Musita Muslim Primary School, Halima Mutesi in P.4, Abdu Naminya, P.2, Siliman Waiswa, P.1 and one-year-old Lwanga Wambuzi.

The sixth child only identified as Sofia, aged two, died as she was being rushed to hospital.

Another child only identified as Swabulu and their grandmother, Hadijia Naminya, are admitted at Iganga Hospital in critical condition.

The children belonged to Siliman Waiswa and Juliet Nankwanga.

Okoyo said preliminary investigations point to reckless and drunken driving.

Legislators disagree on laws

BY FRANCIS EMORUT

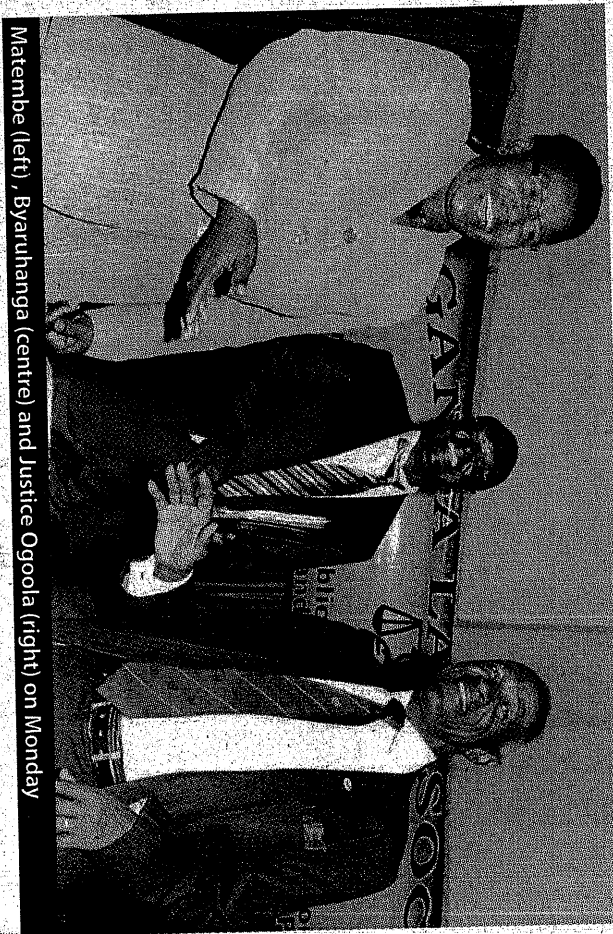Three Legislators have clashed over failure by State agents to respect the rule of law.

Retired Justice James Ogoola, the former Principal Judge, Miria Matembe, former ethics minister and Moses Byaruhanga, the presidential advisor on political affairs, disagreed on the behaviour of State agents towards the rule of law.

The three were at Imperial Royale Hotel on Monday where Ogoola was making an address on the rule of law in Uganda since independence.

Ogoola cited the invasion of the High Court by security operatives known as Black Mambas in 2005 and the crackdown on walk-to-work protestors by the Police last year.

"We witnessed a bloody scene when the Police used excessive force on the walk-to-freedom demonstrators. The Police used tear gas and some people suffocated," Ogoola said.

Ogoola, who is also the chairperson of the Judicial Service Commission, described the period as a rule of tear gas rather than the rule of law.

The event was organised by

Matembe (left), Byaruhanga (centre) and Justice Ogoola (right) on Monday
PICTURE BY FRANCIS EMORUT

Uganda Law Society to mark its fifth annual Rule of Law day which was sponsored by Konrad Adenaur Stiftung.

Matembe argued that the leader of opposition, Kizza Besigye, was not allowed to leave his home during the jubilee celebrations: "What rule of law is that?" Matembe asked.

Byaruhanga disagreed with Ogoola and Matembe, saying the Government cannot allow anarchy in the country.

"I don't agree with Justice Ogoola that this is

the rule of tear gas. The Government has to protect the business community because whenever there is a demonstration, business people make losses. In fact, some businessmen have called me asking why I don't buy special tear gas for Besigye," Byaruhanga said.

He described the 50 years of independence as far as

the rule of law is concerned, as a period of interference by the Executive and other State agencies and called it a cancer to the rule of law.

"Every President that has ruled this country has sworn to protect and defend the Constitution, but what has the reality been?" Ogoola asked.

The president of the Uganda Law Society, James Mukasa Sebugenyi, pledged that the body will ensure that the rule of law in the country is upheld.

Boy drives nail into friend's head

BY MOSES BIKALA

The Police in Bugiri are holding a 23-year-old student who allegedly murdered his colleague after drilling a six-inch nail into his head.

According to Tony Wabwire, an eyewitness, the accused, Vincent Ojuku of Bright Star Secondary School, got Emmanuel Sifuna with a girl in a disco show to commemorate 50 years of Uganda's independence.

The two picked a quarrel over the girl and Ojuku, on it and hit Sifuna on the head after onlookers tried to separate the two in vain. Sifuna died instantly and the girl reportedly fled during the chaos.

The Bugiri DPC chairman, Fred Isiko, said the youth had earlier been cautioned against holding the disco following earlier complaints of hooliganism exhibited by them.

The officer in charge of crime at Bugiri Police Station, David Otim, said investigations into the matter had begun and added that Ojuku would appear in court to answer to murder charges.