
Man convicted of sword murder in Hainault Rampage



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A man has been found guilty of murdering 14-year-old schoolboy Daniel Anjorin with a samurai sword during a brutal attack in Hainault, northeast London, on April 30, 2024.

Marcus Monzo, 37, was convicted at the Old Bailey of Daniel's murder, three counts of attempted murder, wounding with intent, and possessing an offensive weapon. He showed no emotion as the verdicts were read. Sentencing is set for Friday, with the judge indicating a life term.

Daniel, described by police as a bright and gentle boy, was killed while walking to school in his PE kit. Witnesses reported Monzo smiling and shouting “in delight” during the rampage. In just 20 minutes, he attacked Daniel, a pedestrian, two officers, and a couple in their home before being arrested.

Monzo, a dual Spanish-Brazilian national from Newham, had entered a cannabis-induced psychosis and displayed disturbing behavior before the attack, including killing his pet cat. He later referenced The Hunger Games, claimed to be a “professional assassin,” and told jurors he remembered nothing. He argued diminished responsibility, but prosecutors said self-induced psychosis was no defense.

Online, Monzo had engaged with extremist content, liking posts praising Hitler and sharing antisemitic, conspiratorial, and misogynistic material.

Chief Superintendent Stuart Bell of the Met Police called Daniel a “much-loved son and brother” whose life was taken senselessly. He praised the victims’ courage and emergency responders for preventing further tragedy.

Kirsty O’Connor of the CPS also expressed sympathy to victims, commending police and emergency services whose bravery, she said, “undoubtedly prevented further loss of life.”