

Teen Accused in Southport Child Murders Now Faces Terrorism and Ricin Charges

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— Categories: Crime

A British teenager accused of killing three young girls at a children's dance event in Southport is now facing new and serious charges. Axel Rudakubana, 18, has been charged with producing the deadly poison ricin and possessing a terrorist training manual linked to al-Qaeda.

Rudakubana is already charged with three counts of murder and multiple attempted murders after the July knife attack at a Taylor Swift-themed dance party. The victims were between six and nine years old. He appeared by video from Belmarsh Prison at Westminster Magistrates' Court on Wednesday, wearing a prison-issued grey tracksuit with his face partially covered. He did not speak during the hearing and has not yet entered any pleas.

Police say the new charges are not connected to the stabbings themselves. Chief Constable Serena Kennedy of Merseyside Police confirmed that no ricin was found at the crime scene. Investigators discovered evidence of ricin production and extremist material during the wider investigation, leading to the new charges.

The case has caused national outrage and unrest. After the attack, false reports spread on social media claiming the suspect was a Muslim migrant. This led to riots, attacks on mosques, and violence against asylum seekers. Police later confirmed Rudakubana was born in the UK, but tensions remained high.

Now, with terrorism charges officially filed, Prime Minister Keir Starmer's government is under pressure. Conservative Party leadership candidate Robert Jenrick has questioned

whether the government tried to hide the full details. “Any suggestion of a cover-up will permanently damage public trust,” he said.

Rudakubana is scheduled to appear at Liverpool Crown Court on November 13, when he may be asked to enter his pleas. Legal experts say the new charges, especially involving ricin could make the case even more serious and complex.

As the Southport community continues to grieve, this case is becoming one of the most disturbing and high-profile trials in recent UK history. The nation now waits for answers, justice, and clarity.