

<https://www.polity.org.za/article/judge-furious-over-delays-in-timol-murder-case-of-former-apartheid-cop-joao-roderigues-2019-08-02>

# Judge furious over delays in Timol murder case of former apartheid cop Joao Roderigues

2ND AUGUST 2019 BY: [NEWS24WIRE](#)



The judge presiding over the criminal case of apartheid-era cop **Joao "Jan" Roderigues** is furious over the delays that are halting proceedings.

This as a date is yet to be set for Roderigues' defence to argue its leave to appeal application.

The former cop is appealing a judgment by the Gauteng High Court in Johannesburg which dismissed his application for a permanent stay of prosecution in June.

Roderigues appeared in the Gauteng High Court sitting in the Palm Ridge Magistrate's Court on Friday, where Judge **Ramarumo Monama** said it was unacceptable that orders were being handed down that appeared to be meaningless.

He said he would be approaching the judge president responsible for the case to ask that a date for arguments be expedited for the case to progress.

### 'We can't allow lawfare tactics'

"There are people who have walked a long way to have come where we are today in order to get some kind of finality. We can't allow lawfare tactics.

"Hence, I have said I may in due course, during the course of this case management, subpoena or order that the State attorney becomes involved because he is the one instructing this matter," Monama said.

The former cop has applied for leave to appeal a Gauteng High Court judgment that dismissed his application for a permanent stay of prosecution in June.

Roderigues made a brief appearance in the High Court sitting in the Palm Ridge Magistrate's Court on Friday.

He is seeking leave to appeal the judgment in the Supreme Court of Appeal, or alternatively in front of a full bench of the High Court.

News24 previously reported that Roderigues' legal team had given 11 reasons why they believed the court had misdirected itself when handing down the unanimous historic ruling earlier this month.

The apartheid cop is accused of involvement in the murder of anti-apartheid activist and teacher **Ahmed Timol**.

Timol died in 1971 after he "fell" from the 10th floor of John Vorster Square, now called the Johannesburg Central Police Station.

Timol was arrested in 1971 at the age of 29. The police who interrogated him at the time, including Roderigues, claimed that he had thrown himself out of a window. In 2017, Timol's family disputed this, insisting that he had been thrown out of the window by the police.

The National Prosecuting Authority then opened an inquest, which rejected the 1972 report that Timol had committed suicide.

Timol's nephew, **Imtiaaz Cajee**, who had initiated the reopening of the inquest has joined the NPA and two other government departments in opposing Roderigues' leave to appeal application.

Monama postponed the matter to September 25 in the Gauteng High Court in Johannesburg, where a way forward is to be announced.

Roderigues' bail was extended. 

---

Phone: +27 (0)11 622 3744

Fax: +27 (0)11 622 9350

Email: [newsdesk@polity.org.za](mailto:newsdesk@polity.org.za)

Website: [www.polity.org.za](http://www.polity.org.za)

To subscribe email [subscriptions@creamermmedia.co.za](mailto:subscriptions@creamermmedia.co.za) or [click here](#)

To advertise email [advertising@creamermmedia.co.za](mailto:advertising@creamermmedia.co.za) or [click here](#)

# Judge seething in delay in Timol matter

📅 February 16, 2021    📌 [News](#)

**PRESS RELEASE: 16 February 2021**



*João 'Jan' Anastacio Rodrigues: Courtesy of [www.ahmedtimol.co.za](http://www.ahmedtimol.co.za)*

João 'Jan' Anastacio Rodrigues made another appearance for his role in the murder of anti-apartheid activist Ahmed Timol at the Palmridge High Court earlier today.

## Recent Posts

[Apartheid cop sentenced for Caiphus Nyoka murder](#)  
July 10, 2025

[UPDATE: Cradock Four Inquest, Nyoka and Mxenxe](#)  
June 14, 2025

[UPDATES: Cradock Four, Luthuli and Nyoka](#)  
June 8, 2025

[TRC COI RESPONSES, CRADOCK FOUR & LUTHULI INQUESTS](#)  
May 31, 2025

[UPDATES: Justice Committee PR, Nyoka, Simelane & Luthuli](#)  
May 25, 2025

## Search

 🔍

## Archives

 ▼

## Categories

 ▼

Judge Monama P could hardly contain his frustration regarding the fact that the outcome of Roderigues' appeal to the the Supreme Court of Appeal (SCA) in Bloemfontein is still pending. Legal counsel for Rodrigues petitioned the SCA lodging an appeal against the 342 A decision of the Full Bench of the South Gauteng High Court which was dismissed on 31 May 2019. The Full Bench judgment was scathing on the conduct of the National Prosecution Authority. ([Read judgment here](#)). The appeal to the SCA was heard virtually on 6 November 2020.

The Judge bemoaned the fact that apart from the lengthy delay in finalization of the matter, justice could hardly be said to be done.

In acknowledging that 2021 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Mr. Ahmed Timol, the judge remarked, "it pains me to look the families in the eye as they are desperately seeking justice". I have run out of commentary", explain the exasperated judge.

The Judge enquired if a full disclosure had been made on the total costs incurred by the legal representation of Rodrigues's legal counsel. The counsel for the State responded, that to the best of her knowledge, a Promotion of Access to Information Act (PAIA) Application was submitted by Timol's nephew, Imtiaz Ahmed Cajee in May 2019 to the Department of Justice & Correctional Services (DOJ&CD) requesting the total financial costs incurred by the State for the legal costs of Joao Antonio Rodrigues. The attorney for Rodrigues, Mr Ben Minnaar refused to consent to such disclosure citing the right to privacy. ([Read his response here](#)).

Rodrigues's bail was extended and his next court appearance is scheduled for 08 April 2021.

....Ends

CURRENTLY ON AIR ⇒



((( Listen Live )))



((( Listen Live )))



# Judge in Ahmed Timol Murder Case Questions Why State Continues to Pay for João Rodrigues Legal Costs

May 06, 2021

News South Africa



***Faizel Patel - 06/11/2020***

***(Twitter: @FaizelPatel143)***

The judge in the trial of João Rodrigues accused of murdering anti-apartheid activist Ahmed Timol has questioned why the State Attorney's office is continuing to pay the former apartheid cops legal costs.

Rodrigues made his 18th court appearance on Thursday at the Palm Ridge High Court in Germiston for his role in the murder of Timol in October 1971.

Lawyers for the State and Defence, informed Judge Ramarumo Monama that the decision from the Supreme Court of Appeal is still pending.

Roderigues' appeal to the SCA was heard on 6 November 2020.

Speaking to Radio Islam, Timol's nephew Imtiaz Cajee says Judge Monama who sounded frustrated at the lack of progress extended of Roderigues bail

“The Judge Monama highlighted his concerns that the State Attorney’s office refused to cover the legal costs of former President Jacob Zuma and former Crime Intelligence boss, Richard Mdluli, and yet they continue footing the bill for Roderigues. A visible and angry Judge Monama also commented that they he had run out of commentary stating that the prolonged delays was also a painful exercise for the accused João Rodrigues.”

The 82-year-old Rodrigues is charged with Timol’s murder following an inquiry in 2017 where the High Court in Pretoria ruled that the apartheid struggle stalwart did not commit suicide but was rather pushed to his death, while in police detention at the than John Vorster Square in Johannesburg back in 1971.

Roderigues is expected to be back at the South Gauteng High Court on 12 July.

[News](#) | [South Africa](#)

**ADVERTISE HERE**

*Prime Spot!!!*

**Contact:**

advertisingadmin@radioislam.co.za

← [PREVIOUS POST](#)

[NEXT POST](#) →

---

# Related Articles



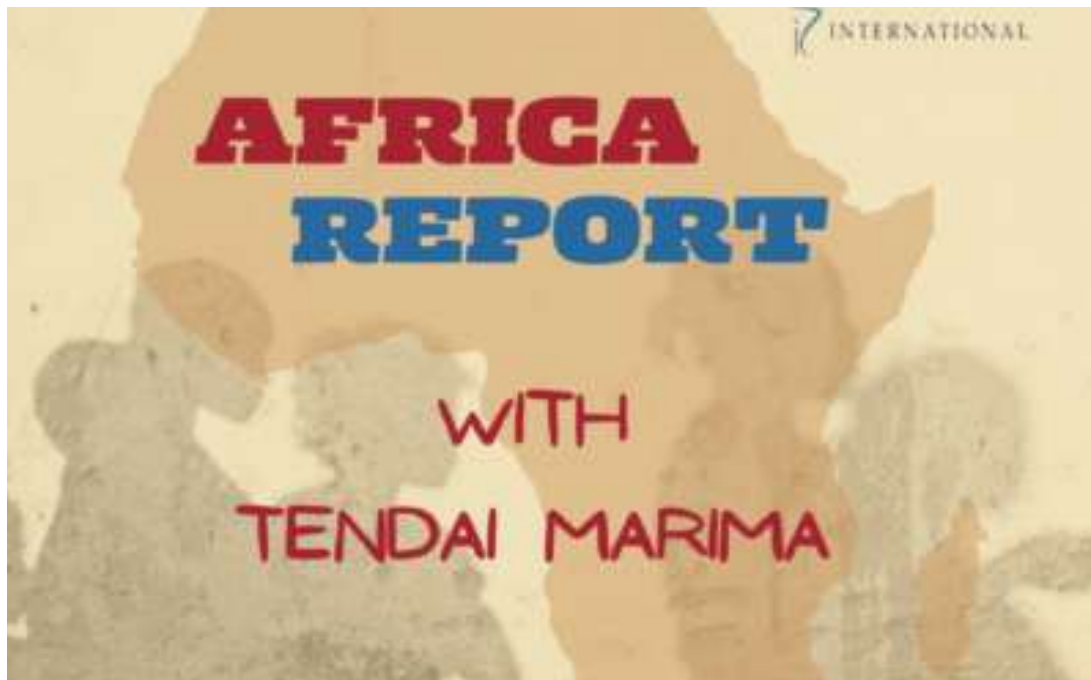
## Sinan Ogun backs Erdogan

[READ MORE](#)



## Uncertainty and fear persist as the one-week Sudan truce begins

[READ MORE](#)



## The Africa Report with Tendai Marima

[READ MORE](#)



### Gift of the Givers delivers thousands of litres of drinking water to cholera-stricken Hammanskraal

[READ MORE](#)



## **JOSHCO to launch the Lufhereng Social Housing Project in Soweto Region D**

[READ MORE](#)



## French authorities begin demolition of vast Mayotte shantytown

[READ MORE](#)

Subscribe to our Newsletter

[Subscribe](#)

# 0 Comments

- [Programme Schedule](#)
- [Satellite Decoders](#)
- [Podcasts](#)
- [Labour Law](#)
- [Kiddies](#)
- [Gardening](#)
- [Handy Hints](#)
- [Radio Islam Shop](#)
- [Donate](#)
- [Latest News](#)
- [Funerals](#)
- [Marriages](#)
- [Newsletters](#)
- [Classifieds](#)
- [Muslim Names](#)
- [Library](#)
- [Recipes](#)

- [Da'wah, Muslim Reverts](#)
- [Listen Live](#)
- [Hijri Date Converter](#)

## News

[ym@radioislam.co.za](mailto:ym@radioislam.co.za)

[mbham@radioislam.co.za](mailto:mbham@radioislam.co.za)

## CONTACT DETAILS

35 Cuckoo Ave, Lenasia, 1827

Gauteng, South Africa

[support@radioislam.org.za](mailto:support@radioislam.org.za)

**Telephone:** +27118547022

**P O Box:** 2580, Lenasia, 1820

Gauteng, South Africa

## Advertising

[advertisingadmin@radioislam.co.za](mailto:advertisingadmin@radioislam.co.za)

© Radio Islam – All rights Reserved

[About](#) | [Disclaimer](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)