

Muslim inmate tried to kill five prison officers and shouted 'Allahu Akbar', court hears

From the [Telegraph](#)

A Muslim inmate allegedly tried to kill five "kuffar" prison officers and shouted "Allahu Akbar" before one of the attacks, a court heard.



Aklakur Rahman, 38, is accused of repeatedly attacking staff at HMP Swaleside in Kent and Belmarsh, a high-security prison in south London, between September and October 2022.

He has been charged with 20 offences, including five of attempted murder and six attempted assaults on an emergency worker.

Rahman, who is originally from Ipswich, used homemade weapons for the attack, including a sharpened plastic spoon, the court heard.

Alistair Richardson, prosecuting, told jurors that Rahman viewed the prison officers as “kuffar” – a derogatory term for non-Muslims.

Mr Richardson said: “This highly dangerous man does not leave it to anybody else to work out what he is doing. He has repeatedly said that he wants to kill prison officers. Both before the attacks, at the time he attacks, and afterwards.”

At the time of the alleged offences, the defendant was serving a life sentence for three earlier attempted murders in the summer of 2017, the jury heard.

On September 23 2022, Rahman was being detained in the high-security segregation unit at HMP Swaleside over concerns he was trying to radicalise other inmates to “extreme versions of Islam”, the court was told.

He was being escorted to a shower when he allegedly punched officer Lee Lassman in the face, shouting “Allahu Akbar” before stabbing officer Ludovic Barbier in the forehead with a pen.

The following day, Mr Lassman carried out a welfare check and found Rahman standing naked in his cell holding a three inch piece of sharpened plastic, jurors heard. During an attempt to retrieve the weapon, the defendant tried to stab Simon Lowman, another officer, in the neck, it was alleged.

It is alleged that the next day Rahman made a throat-cutting motion with an improvised weapon and shouted: “I’m going to put this in your eye.”

Rahman was then moved to Belmarsh prison where he allegedly tried to kill prison officers Elizabeth Franklin, John Clark

and Robert Salter on October 23 2022, the court was told. The officers had gone to his cell to escort him to get his lunch when the defendant threw his bin at two of them and ran towards Ms Franklin shouting "death to kuffar" and stabbing at her head and neck. The defendant also cut the other two officers' necks during attempts to restrain him, jurors were told.

The defendant has denied the charges against him. . . he did not intend to kill anyone . . . his mental health was deteriorating.

The trial continues