

LACK OF REMORSE EARNS EXTRA 4 YEARS

Student jail term raised

By EDWARD RIHNAA
THE High Court yesterday increased to 10 years a six-year jail imposed by a lower court on Nairobi University student Peter Nicholas Ogego.

The increase of jail-term followed an application by the State for the enhancement of sentence.

Ogego, a third-year student of political science, was jailed for six years by chief magistrate Abdul Rauf for taking part in a demonstration against the Government during the August 1 coup attempt.

Enhancing the sentence, Mr. Justice Matthew Muli said: "The community generally was

alarmed and aggrieved by the events of August 1. They would not like to see it again.

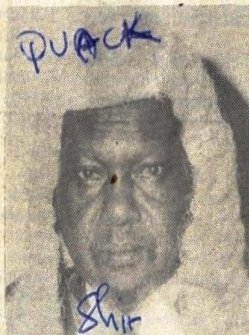
The judge said the attitude of Ogego was worse than that of other students who had been jailed for taking part in a similar demonstration. He said the others, unlike Ogego, had at least "elected to say very little to conceal their minds".

In view of that, the judge said, Ogego deserved a stiffer sentence than that imposed on the other accused students.

Ogego was convicted on his own plea of "Guilty" on October 7.

In his application for enhancement of sentence, Deputy Public Prosecutor Sharad Rao said Ogego showed no remorse and would not admit he had been misled.

Mr. Rao further said Ogego did not regret the damage and loss of life and property and injury to innocent persons as a result of the mutiny and to damage caused to the name of Kenya.



MR. Justice Muli. "Community was alarmed."



OGEGO...attitude worse than other students.

Mr. Rao said if Ogego had showed remorse, the application for the enhancement of sentence would perhaps have been unnecessary. He said the majority of Kenyans felt revulsion to the events of August 1 and he asked the court to pass a sentence which would reflect this.

Mr. Rao said Ogego was lucky he had not been charged with the more serious charge of treason or concealment of treason which carry the death sentence and life imprisonment, respectively.

Mr. Justice Muli, in his ruling, said he had considered the application anxiously. He said he

was aggrieved by the attitude of Ogego who would have had a bright future had he continued his studies.

But he said he had no option but to consider "appropriate sentence which will meet the grave charge which the respondent stands convicted".

After increasing Ogego's sentence to 10 years, the judge gave him 14 days to appeal.