

No bail for Chinese linked to rhino horns

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A CHINESE, who police believe to be the 'kingpin' in one of Namibia's biggest rhino horn smuggling cases, was denied bail by the Windhoek Magistrate's Court in Katutura yesterday.

Wang Hui (40), who was remanded in custody at the Windhoek Correctional Facility, had his case transferred to the Regional Court where he is expected to appear on 25 June.

He will appear alongside three other Chinese men – Li Xiaoliang (30), Li Zhibing (53), and 49-year-old Pu Xuexin – who were arrested at the Hosea Kutako International Airport in 2014. They had 14 rhino horns worth more than N\$2,3 million, and a leopard skin valued at N\$50 000 stashed in their luggage.

The Namibian Sun reported earlier that Wang was arrested last month at a Windhoek hotel. Wang is also being investigated in connection with other poaching cases in Namibia.

Windhoek-based defence lawyer Orben Sibeya appeared on behalf of Wang while Public Prosecutor Anthony Wilson appeared for the State. – Nampa