

News

June 12, 2026 by [Osagie Otabor, Benin](#)

Five to die by hanging for killing lawyer in Edo



An Edo State High Court sitting in **Benin City** has sentenced five persons over the 2020 kidnapping and killing of a lawyer, Iyoha Osobase Omon.

One of the accused persons, Solomon Esuiké, was, however, discharged and acquitted.

The late Osobase, was reportedly abducted on May 9, 2020, at Aduwawa, Ikpoba-Okha Local Government Area and

was beaten to death by his abductors.

He was buried in a shallow grave. His body was recovered after the suspects were arrested.

The defendants, besides Solomon Esuiké, were Valentine Dibie, Solomon Enobun, Ambrose Amadi, Enoma Okuonghae and Saturday Imagbe.

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Other suspects escaped from jail during the 2020 #EndSARS protest.

Those arrested were charged with kidnapping, conspiracy to commit murder.

Justice Efe Ikponmwonba convicted five of the defendants by hanging and 14 years' imprisonment for conspiracy.

Esuike was discharged and acquitted.

His defence team led by Douglas Ogbankwa filed a no-case submission and argued that there was no evidence linking him to the alleged offences and that the evidence against him was weak, and insufficient to require him to enter a defence.