

Delta: Court sentences man to death for killing mother

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A Delta State High Court sitting in Kwale has sentenced a 44-year-old man, Lucky Edozien, to death by hanging for the murder of his mother, Mrs Janeth Odinuwe.

His accomplice in the crime, 33-year-old Amaechi Enuebuka, a motorcyclist and part-time DJ, also received a death sentence.

Edozien had allegedly claimed that a ring worn by his 70-year-old mother was responsible for the difficulties he was experiencing in life, and he decided to get rid of her.

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Justice D.C. Maidoh, in his judgment on the case, HCK/54C/2023 – State vs. Lucky Edozien & Amaechi Enuebuka, found the duo guilty of killing the woman at her home in Umudike Quarters, Ossissa, Ndokwa West Local Government Area, on April 13, 2023, after the Prosecution proved its case.

According to the prosecution led by Assistant Director of the Delta State Ministry of

Justice, Mrs. Catherine Onoberhie-Oberuomo, Edozien conspired with Enuebuka to kill the woman, an action which violated Section 319 of the Criminal Code Law of Delta State, 2006.

Edozien had promised Enuebuka musical instruments in exchange if only he could cooperate with him to murder the mother.

The court heard that on the day of the crime, the accomplice distracted the deceased's sister, Mrs. Paulinah Okonji, by pretending to negotiate the purchase of scrap metal located behind the house.

The plan allegedly allowed Edozien to enter his mother's room unchallenged, where he strangled her to death.

Despite the absence of an eyewitness and the refusal of Mrs. Okonji to testify, the prosecution relied on the "Doctrine of Last Seen" and police investigative testimonies to establish the guilt of both men.