

Woman beats step daughter to death over N5

From Isa Umar Gusau, Maiduguri

THIRTY-YEAR-OLD Amina Abubakar of Kwanan Yobe in Landan Ciki Ward of Jere Local Government Area of Borno State allegedly used a police baton to beat to death, her 11-year-old step daughter, Aisha Abubakar. Aisha is the daughter of her husband who is a policeman.

Amina who was arraigned before Justice Patum Haruna Ngadda at a state High Court in Maiduguri was said to have repeatedly hit Aisha on November 16, 2006 with the baton after she was unable to account for the N5 from her kerosene sales that day. The assault was said to have resulted in severe headache that sent Aisha to hospital for two days and subsequent death. The accused pleaded not guilty to the

charge of culpable homicide not punishable with death as provided in Section 224 of the Penal Code.

In her statement to the police at the State Criminal Investigative Department (SCID) Amina confessed that late Aisha hawked kerosene for her but was always coming home late despite several warnings. She also confessed beating her, but not with a police baton.

According to court papers, one Hafsatu said she saw the accused beating the deceased with the police baton, and pleaded with her to stop and allow her to be dealt with by her father but Amina refused. She added that the accused boasted that she could beat the deceased and if she died, she should be taken to prison. The case is to continue on September 30, 2010.