

Court remands 3 over murder

From Usman A. Bello, Lokoja

A Lokoja Chief Magistrate's Court yesterday remanded three persons in prison custody for allegedly killing one Alhaji Yakubu Shaibu of Igah-Ikeje in Olamaboro Local Government Area of Kogi State over a N300 fine.

The accused persons, Sunday Omale, 23, Danjuma Ojile, 20 and Monday Adem, 20, were charged with criminal conspiracy and culpable homicide, offences that are contrary to Sections 97(1) and 221 of the Penal Code.

According to the First Information Report (FIR), the accused persons, on June 15, allegedly conspired and went to the house of the deceased, Shaibu, and demanded N300 fine from his daughter, one Safiya Shaibu, who was alleged to have refused to participate in the cleaning of the secondary school in the area.

The FIR further stated that the deceased gave the accused persons N1000 and that when one of his daughters demanded for the change of N700, the accused became violent and attacked the family, beating the deceased into a state of coma.

Police prosecutor, Samuel Ikutanwa, told the court that investigation into the case was on-going, urging the court not to grant the accused bail.

But counsel to the accused, Joseph Usman, told the court that he intends to apply for his clients bail formally.

In his ruling, Chief Magistrate Levi Nda Animoku said the offence of culpable homicide is a grave offence in the country's laws and therefore ordered that the accused persons should be remanded at the Federal Prisons, Koton-Karfe.

He said granting bail to the accused is beyond the capacity of his court and adjourned the case to July 1.