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General

Cult leader jailed 21 years for rape

By Chris Eze, Yenagoa | Publish Date: Oct 10 2015 8:54PM | Updated Date: Oct 10 2015 11:48PM

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A cult leader in Bayelsa State, Super Ojo, popularly known as Bestman, was on Friday sentenced to 21 years in prison by a High Court sitting in Yenagoa for raping a lady (name withheld).

Ojo, said to be the leader of a cult group, Bobos, and nine other members of his gang, allegedly raped the lady at Akaba in Yenagoa Local Government Area of Bayelsa State in 2011.

He was consequently arraigned in the court in May 2014 on a four-count of conspiracy, rape, murder and membership of an unlawful group.

The accused was alleged to have gone to the lady's house with four other persons, dragged her out and forcibly took her to a bush where five other persons were waiting and raped her, one after the other.

The lady was said to have been blindfolded as she was being gang-raped and after the assault, was given a machete cuts on her back as part of initiation into their cult.

After the violent sexual assault, the lady was said to be abandoned in the bush, where someone met and rushed her to the Federal Medical Centre, Yenagoa.

At the FMC, the lady was reportedly rejected and had to be taken to

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the National Hospital in Abuja.

It was also gathered that the victim's brother was murdered by members of the gang when he allegedly failed to heed their instruction to facilitate the release of the gang member who was arrested by the police.

Delivering judgment on the matter, the presiding judge, Justice Margaret Akpomiemie, said she was convinced that the allegations against the accused have been proved beyond reasonable doubt by the prosecution with the exception of count 3.

In sentencing the accused, Akpomiemie said Ojo was guilty of conspiracy as he conspired with others to rape the victim, and sentenced him to five years in jail without an option of fine.

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