

# 3 church members allegedly poison pastor, steal car, others

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A High Court sitting in Jos on Monday remanded two men and a woman who allegedly poisoned and killed their pastor, in a custodial centre.

The police charged Princess Yakubu, John Terna and Jeremiah Gwande with criminal conspiracy, armed robbery, criminal misappropriation of property possessed by a deceased person and culpable homicide.

Justice S.P Gang ordered that the defendants be remanded after they pleaded not guilty to the crime.

Earlier, the police prosecutor, Insp. S.O. Emmanuel, alleged that they committed the crime when they all conspired to poison their pastor, Pastor Andrew Ekuas, of Christ Assembly Church Risau, and stole his car, N400,

000 and other belongings.

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Emmanuel said that the defendants on June 13, served the deceased pastor food which contained poison that led to his eventual death after he ate it.

He stated that after carrying out the act, the second accused took his ATM cards and withdrew N400,000.

The prosecutor also said that the defendants armed themselves with a pistol and attacked one Bright Ekuas, a younger brother to the deceased at the late Pastor's house and dispossessed him of his phone and a car with its original particulars which belonged to the deceased.

He added that the accused persons also took away iron rods and a stabilizer belonging to the late pastor all valued at N252, 000. (NAN