

Man gets life imprisonment for murder

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A BAUCHI State High Court presided over by Justice Abdulkadir Suleiman has sentenced 32-year-old Usman Abubakar to life imprisonment for killing a 60-year-old woman.

Abubakar, a staff of General Hospital Kirfin Local Government Area in Bauchi State was charged with a three-count charge by the State Counsel, Barrister MM Adamu.

He was charged with culpable Homicide punishable with death, attempt to commit culpable homicide and criminal intimidation contrary to sections 221, 230, and 397 of the Penal Code Laws Cap 108 laws of Bauchi State Vol 3 (2007).

Prosecution counsel, Barrister Adamu had earlier told the court that the suspect was arrested by the Village Head of Kirfin Kasa, Alhaji Umaru Mohammed and taken to Kirfin Police Division, when Abubakar killed the woman, Maman Saleh Mahmud, with a hoe at Kirfin Kasa, saying the accused hit her with the hoe and

subsequently cut her legs as a result of which she died.

He added that the suspect also attacked one blind man called Chindo Makaho of the same address and also threatened to kill another woman called Bakuwa Madaki.

He said preliminary investigations showed that the suspect committed the act under the influence of intoxicants which he had voluntarily taken before committing the acts. He presented nine different witnesses that testified against the accused.

Counsel to the accused, Barrister Jonathan Adams, asked the court to discharge the accused for the offence, saying that when the accused acted, he was not of sound mind to understand that what he did was against the law.

In his Judgement, Justice Abdulkadir Suleiman said from all the evidence before the court, there was no eye-witness that saw the accused when he was committing the act, except the confessional

statement he made.

Justice Abdulkadir said the prosecution had established that the death of a human being occurred beyond reasonable doubts and the prosecution had proved their case on confessional statement of the accused saying "the death of the accused could likely be to the act of the accused, so he cannot be punished with death under section 221 of the Penal Code, but he can be punished under section 224 of the Penal Code and 108 laws of Bauchi State Vol. 3, 2007.

He said the accused has no defence at all because he had voluntarily taken Indian Hemp, Valium Five, Suck And Die and other assorted substances and killed the old woman.

"I hold that the accused has no defence, I hereby found the accused guilty of culpable homicide not punishable with death under section 224 which sentenced him to life imprisonment", the Judge said.