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Four arraigned for kidnapping murder of medical doctor

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 By **Jude Eheba** – *Ekpoma*

Four persons recently arrested in connection with the kidnap and murder of a medical doctor with the Irrua Specialist Teaching Hospital (ISTH), Irrua-Edo State, Dr. Sunday Eruzegbua, have been arraigned before a magistrate court in Ekpoma, Esan West Local Government Area of the State.

The four suspects, which include Saviour Archibong, Monday Samson, Nyakno Ekanem Effiong and Emmanuel Effiong, are also accused of kidnapping several other victims and collecting ransom amounting to over N9 million, as well as promoting a secret cult known as Aiye.

The accused persons, according to the charges had on November 29, 2013 at No. 1 Erabor Street, Off NEPA Line, Ebhoakhoala-Ekpoma, armed with offensive weapons, kidnapped and killed the medical doctor.

They equally robbed the slain doctor of his Honda Acura SUV, valued at N2 million.

The murder of the doctor according to the charges is an offence punishable under section 319(1) of the Criminal Code Cap.48 Vol.11 Laws of Bendel State of Nigeria 1976, applicable in Edo State.

The suspects are been tried for murder, kidnapping, hostage taking, armed robbery, and unlawful possession of firearms.

Three other cases preferred against them, included kidnapping of one Collins Anane and one Dr. Julius Akahomen, and promoting of secret cult called Aiye.

They allegedly released Anane and Dr. Akahomen after collecting N1.4 million and N8 million respectively.

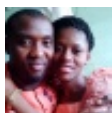
When the charges were read to the accused persons, they pleaded not guilty, hence the trial magistrate, Mrs. Margaret Iluobe consequently adjourned the case to April 24, 2014 for mention.

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