Phone Ownership: Two Herders In Court Over Death Of Colleague

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An Ilorin Magistrates' Court on Wednesday remanded two herdsmen, Shehu Abubakar and Abdulkareem Maikudi, for allegedly killing their colleague, Musa Kareem, following a misunderstanding over ownership of a cell phone.

The magistrate, Mrs. Moji Adebosin, ordered that the accused persons should be remanded at Okekura Prisons, Ilorin, and adjourned the case until July 12 for further mention.

The accused persons are facing a two-count charge of criminal conspiracy and culpable homicide.

The charges were a violation of Sections 97 and 221 of Penal Code.

The accused were arrested following a complaint by one Yusuf Kareem on June 10 at the Divisional Police Headquarters, Fufu, Kwara, that the duo allegedly killed his son, Musa Kareem.

According to the complainant, on June 6, the deceased led his cattle for grazing from his camp, but it was only the cattle that returned home later in the day.

He said that after searching for the deceased for two days, his corpse was discovered under a tree in a bush close to the area where he herded his cattle for grazing.

The First Information Report (FIR) said that during interrogation at the Criminal Investigation and Intelligence Department (CIID), Ilorin the accused admitted to having killed the deceased during a misunderstanding over a cell phone.

The FIR added that after the accused had beaten with sticks fell down unconsciously and died in the process.

The prosecutor, Sgt. Innocent Owoola who informed the court that investigation into the case was ongoing pleaded with the court to adjourn the case until another date to enable the police to complete their investigation.

The prosecutor, however, objected to the bail for the accused on the ground that the alleged offence was capital in nature and was not ordinarily bailable.

He pleaded with the court to remand the defendants in prison pending the outcome of the investigation.