

Court remands suspected wife killer in prison

AMINNA Chief Magistrate Mohammed Gimba Gabi yesterday ordered the detention of Mohammed Jameel Musa, who is standing trial for allegedly killing his wife, Tawakaltu, in a hotel room in New Wuse, Niger State, till December 1.

Musa is facing a count charge of culpable homicide, contrary to Section 221 of the Penal Code Law, for allegedly strangling Tawakaltu on May 18, where he had lodged under a false name of Ademola Adeniyi with the deceased.

Adjourning the matter till December 1, Gimba noted that if Musa is found guilty, the case would be taken to the High Court as his court lacks the jurisdiction to try a murder case.

In company of his late wife, Musa had reportedly lodged at the hotel and fled after allegedly strangling the woman.

The prosecution alleged that the accused was on the run for five months after strangling the woman and was arrested at a commercial bank in Abuja.

Though no plea was taken in court yester-

From Jide Orintunsin, Minna

day, it was gathered that the accused had confessed to the crime during interrogation.

Police prosecutor Bartholomew Ameh urged the court to adjourn the matter to enable the police conclude their investigation.

He said the accused was charged with a capital offence, which is not bailable.

Ameh added that it took the police about six months to arrest Musa, arguing that if the accused is allowed bail, he might jump it.

He said: "My Lord, the accused person will run away just as he did the first time because of the gravity of the crime he committed. He is aware of the punishment of the case he is facing. He knows that he may face death sentence if he is found guilty."

But counsel to the accused, Kehinde Olaitan said he would prefer to apply formally for bail.

Ordering Musa to be remanded in prison custody, Chief Magistrate Gabi also adjourned hearing in the matter till December 1 for further hearing.