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Man to die by hanging for killing father

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Plateau State High Court has sentenced a 20-year-old man, Ponjul Yakubu, to death by hanging, for killing his father.

News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports Justice A.I. Ashoms gave the sentence after he found Yakubu guilty of a one-count charge of culpable homicide, punishable with death under Section 221 of the Penal Code.

“Going by the findings of this court, you, Ponjul Yakubu, mercilessly took the life of your father, Mr. Domsing Yakubu, in cold blood.

“You, however, showed remorse and appeared sober throughout your trial. However, this sentence is mandatory, as the law states that any person convicted of murder shall be punished with death by hanging.

“The sentence of this court upon you is that you, Ponjul Yakubu, will be hanged until you are dead. May God have mercy on your soul,” he declared.

NAN reports that Yakubu was arraigned on July 8, 2015, to face a one-count charge of culpable homicide punishable with death, after allegedly committing the crime on May 5, 2015.

Yakubu was accused of using his father's Dane gun to kill him (father), while the man was taking a nap under a tree in their home at Dorowa, in Vwang Gwong village, Shendam Local Government of Plateau State.

Yakubu pleaded not guilty.

The prosecution counsel, Mr. Gideon Azi of Plateau State Ministry of Justice, told the court that Yakubu had confessed to killing his father, for refusing to buy a motorcycle for him.

“He (Yakubu) confessed that he returned home on the day and found his father sleeping on a mat under a tree, went into his (father)'s room, took his loaded gun and shot him at close range,” Azi told the court.

He submitted Yakubu's confessional statement to the court as evidence, and quoted the accused as saying that he committed the crime alone.

Yakubu owned up to the statement that bore his thumb print.

Azi quoted the accused as saying that his father, after harvesting about a thousand tubers of yam and bags of maize and millet, promised to buy a motorcycle for him after selling them.

The accused was further quoted as saying that his father sold the produce without consulting him, and also refused to buy the motorcycle as promised, an action that provoked him into killing him.



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