

PHOTO: SYLVESTER OKORUWA

Court sends brother to prison over herdsmen's killing

YINKA OLADOYINBO - LOKOJA

A Lokoja Chief Magistrate Court on Thursday remanded two brothers, Adamu Yahaya and Mumuni Yahaya, in prison custody for over alleged killing of five fellow Fulani herdsmen in an attack.

Chief Magistrate Levi Animoku, gave the order in his ruling following the arraignment of the brothers in the court.

Animoku held that the offence alleged against the accused brothers, who are also herdsmen, was culpable homicide punishable with death and carried death penalty upon conviction.

The prosecuting police officer, Sgt Tuesday Ganagana, told the court that the accused were arraigned on a two-count charge of criminal conspiracy and culpable homicide.

According to him, the offence contravened sections 97(1) and 221(a) of the Penal Code law.

He further told the court that the case was reported by Chairman of the Miyetti Allah Cattle Breeders Association, Ikende, in Bassa

Local Government of Kogi Babangida Usman, on February 15.

He said that the herdsmen were holding a meeting with the Ardo of Fulani in Ikende to discuss the "incessant kidnapping of Fulanis in the area when the incident happened.

Ganagana also informed the court that while the meeting was going on, the accused and others now at large, criminally conspired armed with offensive weap-

ons including gun and cutlasses violently invaded the meeting venue.

Those attacked and injured in the melee, according to the prosecutor, were Ahmadu Yusuf, 30; Abubakar Mallam, 30; Abubakar Ahmadu, 18; Isah Ahmadu, 27 and Ruwa Alhaji, 20.

He said that the injuries led to the death of the five Fulanis, adding that investigation into case was still on, as he asked the court to adjourn for mention but opposed ad-

mission of the accused to bail.

He argued that Section 341(1) of the Criminal Procedure Code (CPC) did not allow the court to grant bail in the circumstance.

The court ordered that the accused be remanded at Federal Prisons, Dekina, directing that the case be transferred to Chief Magistrates' Court, Dekina.

Animiku however adjourned the matter till March 16, for mention.

Teenager, 9-year-old arraigned in court for alleged defilement of 4-year-old girl

AYOMIDE OWONIBI ODEKANYIN
- LAGOS

FOR allegedly defiling a four-year-old girl, a teenager and a nine-year-old boy were on Thursday arraigned before an Ogun Magistrates' Court, Lagos.

According to police prosecutor, Ihiehie Lucky, the accused committed the offence on February 24, 2016, at their parents' apartment.

One Mrs Edet Mercy, who lives in the same compound with the accused,

had reported the incident at Ketu police station, Metro learnt.

"The accused defiled Mercy's daughter on February 24. The girl told her mother that the accused used to insert his finger in her private part, and that it started last year," the prosecutor said.

A large number of family members attended the proceeding presided over by the Magistrate, Mrs O. Sule-Amzat.

Both accused persons pleaded not guilty of the offences.

The magistrate granted the accused bail in the sum of N100, 000 each with two sureties each.

She said one of the sureties must deposit N25,000 into the court's Chief Registrar's account, while the other surety must be a blood relation of the accused and must be gainfully employed.

Sule-Amzat ordered that the accused should be remanded at the Children Remand Home at Oregun, Lagos.

Further hearing has been fixed for March 16.