

From right, Inspector General of Police, Mr Ibrahim Idris; Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIG) Finance and Administration, Shuaibu Gambo and DIG in charge of Research and Planning, Valentine Ntomchukwu, during the IG's monthly conference with senior police officers in Abuja, on Thursday. PHOTO: NAN

On Thursday, sentenced one Lawrence Ejinnung to six years in prison

the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) has reported.

2 Court orders police to pay N10m for killing of driver in Oyo

THE Federal High Court in Ibadan, Oyo State, on Thursday, ordered the Nigerian Police Force to pay N10 million as compensation to the family of Alidu Hakeem, a commercial driver shot dead by a policeman at Saki.

According to the *News Agency of Nigeria (NAN)*, Hakeem was shot to death by a police inspector, Ifeayin Onynbu on March 9, 2016 along Saki-Okere International Market Road in Saki.

Consequently, Hakeem's son, Afeez, instituted a suit bordering on enforcement of fundamental human right against the police.

Joined in the suit were the Inspector General of Police, Oyo State Police Commissioner, his deputy and the Saki Police Divisional Headquarters.

The plaintiff had prayed the court to award N500 million as compensation for the unlawful killing of his father.

In the petition, the

plaintiff said his father was shot in the head by Onynbu for refusing to give him an additional N100 bribe after he had collected the N100 paid by all commercial drivers at the police checkpoint.

The judge, Justice Nathaniel Ayo-Emmanuel, in his ruling held that everyone has right to life and that deliberate killing of any individual in the society is against the law.

The judge held that Onynbu's refusal to contradict or challenge any of the arguments and exhibits tendered against him meant that the court shall accept them as the truth.

"The applicant in this case has proved beyond reasonable doubt that Inspector Ifeayin Onynbu, the fifth respondent, committed the crime because he did nothing to defend himself despite the fact that he was aware of the case.

"There is no evidence before the court contradicting the facts presented by the applicant in the matter.

"I therefore believe same to be the true reflection of what happened before life was snuffed out of the deceased.

"It is evident from the record before this court that the applicant's father had three wives and several children.

"For this and many other reasons, a sum of N10 million is hereby awarded to

the family of the deceased.

"The Inspector General of Police is, therefore, directed to investigate this matter and bring the said Onynbu to justice," ruled the judge.

Ayo-Emmanuel also indicted the first to the fourth respondents for complicity.

He stressed that the Nigeria Police Force, Oyo

State Commissioner of Police, Deputy Commissioner of Police and Divisional Police Headquarters at Saki were also responsible for the action of Onynbu.

The judge noted that the submissions of the first to fourth respondents were discountenanced because they were filed out of time as stipulated by law.

Businessman sent to prison custody for allegedly raping 16-yr-old Facebook friend

AN Ikeja Chief Magistrates' Court in Lagos State, on Thursday remanded a businessman, Ebuka Eze, in prison over alleged rape of a 16-year-old girl he met on Facebook.

According to the *News Agency of Nigeria (NAN)*, the Chief Magistrate, Mr P. E. Nwaka, ordered Eze, 27, to be remanded in Kirikiri Prisons, while the case file was sent to the state Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) for legal advice.

Earlier, the prosecutor,

Inspector Christopher John, told the court that the accused committed the offence on May 19 at his residence.

He said the victim, who was a friend to the accused on Facebook, had responded to an invitation to his house, where she was raped.

"He invited her to his house, and on getting there, he pushed her to the bed, covered her mouth with pillow and raped her.

"The accused then used the bed spread to clean the

bloodstain on her body.

"When the victim got home, her parents saw the bloodstain on her dress and asked questions.

"The case was reported at the police station and the accused was immediately arrested for questioning," the prosecutor said.

The offence contravened Section 260 of the Criminal Law of Lagos State, 2015, and carries life imprisonment.

The case was adjourned till June 28 for the DPP's advice.

Justice Idris Ku while delivering judgment, said: "I have considered the plea in mitigation by the learned counsel to the convict.

"I have also taken into account his sober conduct and commendable conduct throughout the trial.

"The convict is now only child of his aged parents, following the death of the older one.

"The convict also has no prior criminal record. Having weighed all the factors, I incline that appropriate and desirable sentence in this circumstance is one that achieves a noble goal of deterrence and reformation of the convict.

"I hereby sentence the convict to a term of five years imprisonment, with the period he was undergoing trial inclusive."

Ejinnung of Akimi Palace, Idu, FCT, was arraigned on March 17, 2014, on charge of culpable homicide.

The prosecution told the court that the defendant on December 2, 2014, during an argument with his brother, took a kitchen knife and stabbed him on the neck which resulted in his death.