

39-yr-old man sentenced to death over murder of lover in Ogun

Olayinka Olukoya
| Abeokuta

A 39-year-old, Musiliu Owolabi, was on Wednesday sentenced to death by hanging by a High Court in Abeokuta, the Ogun State capital, over the murder of his lover, Afusat Idowu.

Owolabi, an automobile mechanic, was convicted by the Chief Judge of the state, Justice Mosunmola Dipeolu, on a one-count charge of murder.

Justice Dipeolu, in her judgment, said the prosecution proved the case beyond reasonable doubt that the convict was guilty of the offence.

The judge said the offence committed contravened the provisions of Section 319 of the Criminal Code, laws of Ogun 2006.

She held that the evidence presented by the prosecution was tenable and, therefore, sentenced Owolabi to death by hanging.

Earlier, the state's prosecuting counsel, Mr James Mafe, who is also the Director, Legal Drafting, Planning Research and Statistics, said the convict committed the offence on February 1, 2018, at Camp area in Abeokuta.

Mafe said the convict took Afusat to a hotel for pleasure, but after a while, she complained of stomach ache and then started foaming from her mouth.

"The convict took her to his vehicle and on the way, he noticed she was dead and he secretly took her body to an uncompleted building, dug a shallow grave and buried her there without disclosing it to anybody.

"The convict was arrested when the younger brother of the deceased went to the police station to complain that his sister, who told him she was going for a naming ceremony at Bode Olude area, did not return.

"Upon police investigation, with the help of tracking the deceased's phone, it was discovered that the convict was the last person who spoke with the lady."