

Man to die by hanging for killing friend in Bauchi

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A Bauchi State High Court has sentenced a middle-aged man to death by hanging for killing his 17-year-old friend, cutting off his head, plucking out his two eyes and burying his body and head in different places in the state.

The state's High Court 10 presided over by Justice Faruq Umar Sarki sentenced the man, Musa Hamza, to death by hanging for killing his friend having been found guilty of the offence he was charged for.

Justice Sarki delivered the judgment and pronounced the sentence after Hamza was found guilty of killing Adamu Ibrahim.

Lawyers from the state's Ministry of Justice, comprising Mohammed Ibrahim,

Salihu A Haruna and Ali Yusuf, had filed a case against the convict accusing him of the offence of murder, punishable with death according to Section 221 of the Penal Code law.

The prosecutors told the court that Hamza, from Alkaleri Local Government Area of Bauchi State had called his friend, a 17-year-old boy, named Adamu Ibrahim, to a nearby bush.

While there and out of sight of people, Hamza hit Ibrahim with a stick, cut off his head, plucked out his two eyes and buried his head and body in different locations.

The suspect initially denied the accusation against him before the court at the beginning of the trial, but later admitted to the charge.

The prosecution presented six witnesses be-

fore the court to prove the case, while the defence presented one witness.

The prosecution witnesses said that the boy's father filed a complaint that his son did not return home on the day, but he heard information that he was seen with the accused and that the three of them ate dinner together.

They added that there was no fight between them, and did not insult each other. Later, one of them left the accused and the deceased together, but when the suspect was asked, he said that he too left him.

But after he was arrested, police went and searched his room and found the mobile phone of the deceased in his place. When the phone was found with the suspect, the investigation continued and he confessed to the crime against him.

He said that he took the deceased to the forest and killed him, cut off his head, plucked his two eyes and took the police to where the body of the deceased was buried.

All the efforts made by counsel to the accused, Mahmud Maidoki, to defend him was unsuccessful.

While sentencing him, Justice Sarki said that based on the statements of the witnesses and confessional statement of the accused, the court found him guilty because the accused committed the crime of murder with intent.

Justice Sarki also refused to agree to his request for leniency and sentenced the accused to death by hanging as provided for in sections 273 and 221 of the Penal Code laws to serve as a deterrent to others.