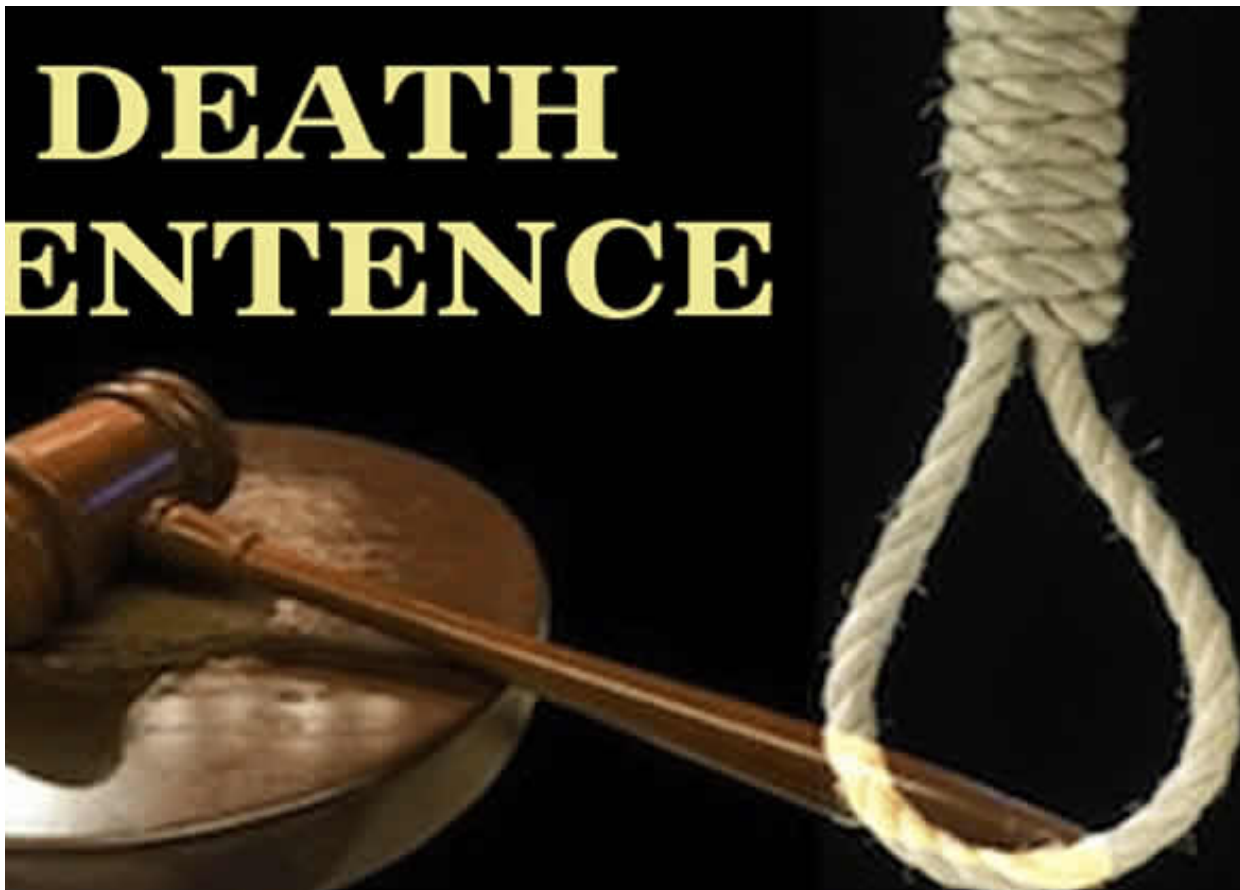


# Rivers court sentences five to death over murder of Shell worker

---

**Published** September 9, 2020



## **Sampson Itode, Port Harcourt**

A Rivers State High Court sitting in Port Harcourt on Tuesday sentenced five men and a woman to death by hanging after they were convicted of kidnapping and killing a worker with Shell Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria, Anthony Okoro.

The five convicts, in the suit number PHC/324/2017, faced 10 counts preferred against them by the Inspector General of Police.

The charges bordered on conspiracy, stealing, armed robbery, kidnapping and murder.

The convicts were identified as Oluchi Charles, Miracle Anumuna, Ifeanyi, Koko Basset and Uchenna Amaechi.

Two other defendants, Chukwudi Etete and Anthony Ugwu, were, however, discharged and acquitted by the court.

*PUNCH Metro* learnt that the convicts on May 29, 2016, attacked Okoro at his residence in the Woji area of Port Harcourt.

They were said to have shot him before whisking him away to an unknown destination.

It was gathered that the convicts also stole two cars belonging to the deceased — a Range Rover SUV and a Kia Optima — as well as his television set, a telephone and other valuables.

In his judgement, the trial judge, Justice George Omereji, held that the prosecution proved its case beyond reasonable doubt.

Omereji, while discharging and acquitting Etete and Ugwu, stated that the prosecution could not prove that the duo had knowledge of the crime, rather they unknowingly bought phones belonging to the deceased.

The judge also held that the prosecution proved the case of conspiracy against the convicts, adding that the prosecution proved that they met at an eatery in the Woji area, Port Harcourt, where they planned the kidnap.

Justice Omereji relied on Section 410 of the Administration of Criminal Justice Law 2011 in his ruling and sentenced the five persons to death by hanging.

The prosecuting counsel, I. Ubulom, said, “Justice has been served by the judgement. This will serve as a deterrent to others.”

### **Copyright PUNCH.**

All rights reserved. This material, and other digital content on this website, may not be reproduced, published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed in whole or in part without prior express written permission from PUNCH.

**Contact: [theeditor@punchng.com](mailto:theeditor@punchng.com)**

## DOWNLOAD THE PUNCH NEWS APP NOW ON



**Receive Alerts on:** Whatsapp: +2349090060943, Twitter: @MobilePunch, BBM:C003D3DC0

**Share your story with**

**us:** SMS: +2349090060943, Whatsapp:+2349090060943, Email: [punchonline@punchng.com](mailto:punchonline@punchng.com)



DEATH

MURDER OF SHELL WORKER

RIVERS COURT