

Court frees psychotic after raping, killing woman in Ondo

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The Ondo State High Court sitting in Akure, the state capital, has discharged and acquitted a man, Isaac Olufeye, who has been standing trial for rape and murder since 2018.

Isaac was arrested by men of the state police command in February 2018 for allegedly raping and killing one Lydia Ayeni on a farm

settlement in Ipe Akoko, in the Akoko North-East Local Government Area of Ondo State.

He was said to have buried the deceased in a shallow grave.

The defendant was thereafter charged to court and arraigned on two counts of rape and murder.

Isaac was said to have confessed to the crime in his testimony before the court.

He reportedly claimed that he did not know why he carried out the act because the deceased did not offend him.

During the court proceedings, his mother, Mrs Esther Olufeye, said the defendant had been behaving strangely before the incident, while a psychiatric doctor also confirmed the mental imbalance of the defendant.

After a series of arguments and counter-arguments from the prosecuting and defence counsel, the court in its judgement held that the defence's claims of insanity had been established through the evidence brought before the court.

Justice Ademola Bola, in his judgement, said Isaac acted while in unsound mind and could not be held responsible for the offences.

The court discharged and acquitted him and ordered that he should be released to his parents for proper medical care.

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