

# Court remands four suspected cultists for murder, arms possession

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By Naomi Chima

A 21-year-old man, John Junior, was on Monday remanded at the Ikoyi Custodial Centre for the alleged murder of one Kehinde Sule on Apapa Road, in the Ebute Metta area of Lagos State.

John Junior was arraigned before Magistrate O. Y. Adefope of a Yaba Magistrates' Court on five counts of murder, membership of an unlawful society and armed robbery.

According to the prosecutor, Haruna Magaji, who held a brief for Chekwube Okeh, the defendant, a member of the *Aiye Confraternity*, and his co-cult members attacked Sule, popularly known as 'Seigo', by using an axe to stab him on the head and stomach.

The charges read in part, "That you, John Junior, and others now at large on March 17, 2023, around 9.30 pm, at Apapa Road, Ebute Metta Lagos, in the aforesaid magisterial district did unlawfully and intentionally kill one Kehinde Sule, aka Seigo by using axe to stab him on his head and stomach and thereby committed an offence contrary to section 222 (1)a)(b) and punishable under Section 223 of the Criminal Law of Lagos State, 2015."

The prosecutor told the court to remand the defendant pending the outcome of the legal advice from the Directorate of Public Prosecutions.

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Granting the request, Adefope remanded the defendant to the Ikoyi Custodial Centre and adjourned the case till September 28, 2023.

Also, three suspected cultists have been remanded to the Kirikiri Custodial Centre for allegedly possessing firearms.

The suspects, Solomon Samuel, Ibrahim Mohammed and Moses Ogundepo, were arraigned on Monday before a Magistrates' Court sitting in the Yaba area for unlawful possession of firearms and membership of unlawful societies, *Aiye* and *Alora* Fraternities.

The prosecutor, Thomas Nurudeen, told the court that the defendants were arrested at Ojumola Street, Shomolu, and Ajegunle respectively, adding that one locally-made single-barrel gun and one expended cartridge were found in their possession.