

Activists fault death sentence for Adamawa farmer for killing herder

Uthman Salami

SOME rights groups on Monday joined other Nigerians in criticising the Supreme Court's judgment upholding the death sentence of Sunday Jackson, calling it a miscarriage of justice.

The apex court On Friday, March 7, 2025, upheld the death sentence of Jackson, a farmer in his 30s, for killing a Fulani herdsman, Ardo Bawuro, during an altercation on his farmland about seven years ago.

Reports indicate that Jackson



•A gavel

was working on his farm when a suspected herder, armed with a knife, allegedly attempted to

attack him. Jackson, acting in self-defence, managed to overpower the assailant, resulting in the herder's death.

Despite this, an Adamawa High Court sentenced Jackson to death in 2021, a ruling that the Supreme Court upheld.

The court ruled that Jackson had the opportunity to escape rather than stab his attacker, a decision that the Supreme Court upheld on March 7, 2025.

Speaking with PUNCH Metro on Monday, the Chief Executive Officer of Injustice Is Real,

a rights-based group, Ngozi Molokwu, condemned the ruling.

She argued that the prosecution had failed to prove the murder charge beyond a reasonable doubt, which should warrant a review of the sentence imposed by the courts.

She said, "I am deeply saddened by the case of the herdsman and the farmer, and I want to use this opportunity to urge the judiciary to revisit this case. Has reasonable doubt been proved here? Has the prosecution proved beyond reasonable doubt