

Accused Escapes Death Penalty After Killing Mother

A Katsina State High Court in Malumfashi, has pronounced one Hakilu Madugu not guilty on ground of mental illness, for the murder of his mother.

Justice Abbas Bawale ordered that Madugu be remanded in custody until it pleased the state governor to give him freedom.

Madugu, 40, resident of Yar'danya village in Musawa Local Government Area of Katsina State, was standing trial for allegedly killing his biological mother, Dije Ibrahim by hitting her with a pestle.

The prosecution counsel, Mr. Aminu Garba, had led four witnesses and tendered four

exhibits, while the accused person's wife, Hindatu Hakilu testified that her husband had mental problem.

Hindatu told the court that the father of the accused, on the day of the incident warned family members, including the deceased, that Madugu was insane.

The prosecution witness explained that the deceased was trying to lock up the accused person in a room, but luck ran against her as Madugu hit her on the head with a pestle.

Another prosecution witness, Dr. Gobir told the court that the accused person was mentally ill.

A defence witness, Alhaji Abdu Rugar-Far told the court that Madugu had been mentally

ill for long and that his parents had made several attempts to treat him.

Bawale noted that the prosecution led witnesses and tendered exhibits relevant to the crime of culpable homicide, punishable with death under Section 221 of the Penal Code.

But passing judgment, he said: "By reason of unsoundness of mind at the time of the crime, the accused is not guilty."

CHANGE OF NAME

Formerly Miss **Amba Mary Ntuiokwa** now **Mrs. Amba Mary Lambe-Atim**. Former documents remain valid. Public note.