

Man to die by hanging for murder, stealing 5-year-old in Rivers

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From **Tony John**, Port Harcourt

The Rivers State High Court in Port Harcourt has sentenced Promise Thompson to death by hanging, for killing Mr. Chidiebere Ogbugu and stealing his five-year-old child.

Thompson and his accomplice, Beatrice Ogbunka, stood trial on a three-count charge of armed robbery, kidnapping and child theft. The incident occurred on October 25, 2018, in Rumuolumeni, Obio/Akpor Local Government Area of Rivers State.

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It was gathered that Ogbunka, the accomplice, had fled after she was granted bail by the police.

In his ruling, the presiding judge, Justice Sika Henry-Aprioku, stated that the prosecution counsel's evidence showed that Thompson took the child to Abia State and sold him to a syndicate who, in turn, sold the child to another syndicate.

Also, Justice Henry-Aprioku sentenced Chisom Lucky to seven years imprisonment, while her husband, Lucky, bagged a 10-year jail sentence for child theft, for buying the child from Thompson and selling him off afterwards.