

Two brothers, traditional ruler's son to die by hanging

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A Lagos High Court sitting at Ikeja yesterday sentenced two brothers and a son of the Baale of Mafoluku, Oshodi, to death by hanging.

The court presided over by Justice Kudirat Jose found the two brothers, Shola Oni and Kayode Oni, as well as Ibrahim Omilade, son of Baale of Mafoluku, Mr. Bashir Omilade, guilty of conspiracy to murder and murder of Suleiman Afolabi.

According to the judgement, the convicts committed the offence during a fight on Christmas day in 2012 on Eyin Ogun Street, Mafoluku, Oshodi, when Suleiman was attacked with a machete.

“I pronounce the defendants guilty in respect of the charge of murder and conspiracy..., shall

be sentenced to death, hanged by the neck until their death,” the judge ruled.

Meanwhile, Jose cautioned youths to learn from the fate that befell the convicts and noted that young people should be careful of going about to attack people to settle scores.

It was learnt that trouble began for the trio on December 25, 2012 during a fight at the house of the deceased when, according to the defendants, they were invited by a neighbour to celebrate the Christmas with him.

They said it was not too long on the said date that a young boy came in and informed them that the brother of the deceased, Akeem Afolabi, had threatened to deal with them. They claimed that they went to inquire the reason for the threat but while

discussing, Akeem ordered them to go away.

He was alleged to have gone inside the house to get a machete with which he tried to attack one of them.

An attempt, they said, another blocked with his hand and got injured.

The convicts told the court during trial that it was while they were trying to dodge and plead with Akeem that Suleiman was hit by the machete.

They added that they got to know some days later that a doctor had pronounced Sulaiman dead.

But the judge said their testimony sounded rehearsed and polished, hence she relied on the evidence before the court presented by both the prosecution counsel, Mr. Babatunde Oguntomowo and Mr.

Olarewaju Ajanaku, as well as points of law to pass judgement of death for the murder and 12 years for conspiracy counting from the day there were arrested.