

IN THE FEDERAL HIGH COURT OF NIGERIA
IN THE ILORIN JUDICIAL DIVISION
HOLDEN AT ILORIN
ON FRIDAY THE 1ST DAY OF JULY, 2016
BEFORE THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE N.I. AFOLABI
JUDGE

CHARGE NO: FHC/IL/10C/2016

BETWEEN:

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIACOMPLAINANT

AND

FUNMI BALA PEACEDEFENDANT

JUDGMENT

The Charge herein is dated the 3rd day of May 2016. It is a two Count Charge relating to 99Kg of Cannabis Sativa (otherwise known as Indian hemp). The defendant was alleged to have unlawfully trafficked the said 99Kg of Cannabis Sativa thereby committing an offence contrary to and punishable under **Section 11 (b) of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency Act Cap N30 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004**. Also that the defendant without lawful authority dealt in 99 Kg of Cannabis Sativa (otherwise known as Indian hemp) thereby committing a crime contrary to and punishable under **Section 11 (b) of the National Drug Law**

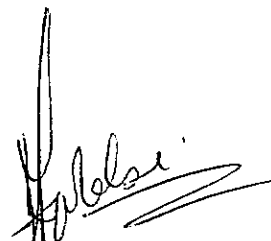
**Enforcement Agency Act Cap N30 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria
2004.**

The defendant upon the charge been read and explained pleaded not guilty. But on the resumed sitting of the Court on the 21/6/2016 the defendant changed her plea from Not Guilty to **guilty**. After the presentation of facts by the sole witness for the prosecution, One Ahmed Akopari Suleiman a deputy superintendent of Narcotics and the Kwara State Command Exhibit Officer, the prosecution was able to establish its case against the defendant. The defendant was subsequently convicted as charged. Her lawyer Mrs. R. O. Gbajumo – Yusuf pleaded in allocutus as follows:- *That the Court tempers justice with Mercy in sentencing the accused person, That the convict is a mother of two and presently divorced and that she is very remorseful.*

The convict faces a maximum sentence of life imprisonment. From her statement made under caution in Yoruba and English Language, the convict stated that she was born 37 years ago, attended Primary School in Ila, Osun State but was however unable to study further as a result of financial constrain. That she was introduced to the trade of selling Cannabis Sativa by one Henry when her food stuff business could no longer sustain her children and herself and she has since been in the trade till she was apprehended on the 30th of March 2016. Lack is never a reason to turn to crime and indulge in the destructive trade of trafficking in drugs. It is a very

- harmful and destructive trade. I find that the convict is not new to the trade and she has been trading in Cannabis Sativa until luck ran out on her. In sentencing the Court has tempered justice with mercy in the hope that the convict a mother of six would turn from her chosen path and become a meaningful and beneficial member of the society that her children would be proud of.

Accordingly, I hereby sentence you **Peace Funmi Bala** to a term of Four years imprisonment with effect from 30/3/2016.



N. I. AFOLABI
JUDGE
1/7/2016