

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

**SUIT NO. FHC/IL/CS/9C/2016**

**BETWEEN:**

**FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA .....COMPLAINANT**

**AND**

**SAMAILA ABUBAKAR.....DEFENDANT**

**J U D G M E N T**

The Charge herein is dated the 18<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2016 but filed on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April 2016. It is a one Count Charge relating to 8 kilograms of Cannabis Sativa (otherwise known as India hemp). The defendant was alleged to have unlawfully dealt in the said 8 kilograms of Cannabis Sativa thereby committing an offence contrary to and punishable under Section 11 (C) 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 to him pleaded not Guilty but on the resumed sitting of the Court on the 21/6/2016 changed his plea to **Guilty** after the charge had been read out and explained again to him.

By the evidence of one Ahmed Akopari Suleiman a Deputy Superintendent of Narcotics and the Kwara State Command Exhibit Officer, the prosecution was able to establish its case. The defendant was convicted of the charge and his lawyer Mrs. R. O. Gbajumo – Yusuf pleaded in allocutus as follows: *That the Court tempers justice with mercy, the convict is a first time offender and he is 30 years old.*

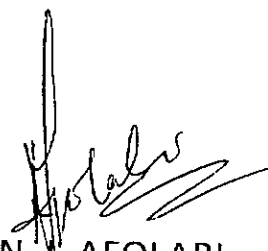
The Convict faces a maximum sentence of life imprisonment under this Count. From his statement made on the 7/3/16 in English Language the convict stated as follows; under caution, *That he is 30 years old, that he attended primary and secondary School in Kebbi State and because his parents couldn't afford it he didn't further his education. That it was on his way from Kaduna that he was found during a routine car check to be carrying a "Ghana must go" bag containing "wiwi" which is Cannabis Sativa. That he was introduced to the business of unlawful drug by a friend by name Aliyu. That if he bought a N19,000 worth of Cannabis Sativa, he could sell it for N70,000 in Zuru. That he had never dealt in Cannabis Sativa and this was his first time. He promised never to touch the drug again if pardon and the Cannabis Sativa weighed a total of 8Kg.*

The convict is indeed a first time offender and though ignorance of the law is no excuse, he has allowed the bad advice received from a friend sway him into making a very bad

and destructive decision, to enter into the sale of Cannabis Sativa a drug that destroys life. He has shown remorse during the Course of the trial which has swayed the Court in its sentencing. He has also not wasted the time of the Court or the tax payers' money by his plea of Guilty. At 30 one finds that if he mends his ways he can still be a very useful member of society. There is however the need to send a message that crime doesn't pay and the sale of drugs is a wicked and destructive business.

It is the sincere hope of this Court that he will make good use of the mercy shown to him by this Court by not imposing the sentence of life imprisonment as prescribed by the law and mend his ways.

Accordingly, I hereby sentence you **Samaila Abubakar** to a term of 12 months imprisonment with effect from the 10/3/16.

  
N. I. AFOLABI  
JUDGE  
1/7/2016

Mrs. M. O. Adeleye for the Prosecution  
Mrs. R. O. Yusuf-Gbajumo for the defendant.