

FORGERY AND MONEY LAUNDERING IBORI TO JOIN WIFE IN JAIL

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By Omafume

Amurun,

With the Jailing of Theresa Ibori, the former First Lady of Delta State, for five years on a two-count charge for money laundering, his playboy husband is said to have given up all hopes that his appeal to stop his extradition to the United Kingdom to face similar charges will be successful.

Members of the diminishing Ibori/Uduaghan dynasty in Delta were down hearted since the news of the jailing of Chief James Ibori's estranged wife was announced bringing the total number of the clan jailed in U.K for various criminal offence to three. In a previous trial, the

court had also sent to prison Ibori's sister, Christine Ibori-Ibie; and his mistress, Udoamaka Okoronkwo-Onuigbo.

The Southwark Crown Court in UK also found Chief James Ibori's United Kingdom lawyer, Mr. Bhadrash Gohil, who was on trial with Theresa guilty on all counts of money laundering. He was remanded in police custody.

Mr. Gohil will be sentenced after the conclusion of another trial involving the laundering of proceeds of V-Mobile shares by James Ibori, Henry Imashekka, David Edevbie and former Akwa Ibom governor, Victor Attah. The trial will start on Monday.

James Ibori, Victor Attah as well as David Edevwie, late President Umaru Yar'Adua's former aide and others are have been charged to the U.K court for their role in the sale of V-Mobile now Zain shares in which 37.8 million dollars (about N6 billion) were stolen.

The court rejected a motion earlier brought before it by Mr. Gohil a lawyer to James Ibori, to dismiss the money laundering and forgery case against him and three others.

The Court presided over by Judge Christopher Hardy instead decided that Mr. Gohil, who is referred to as the "predicate offender" alongside Chief Ibori are to undergo trial with

former Akwa Ibom state Governor, Victor Obong Attah; the former Principal Secretary to Umaru Yar'Adua, David Edevbie; a business associate of Ibori, Henry Imashekka, Lambertus De Boer and Daniel.

The accused face 14 counts of forgery and money laundering in relation to the sale of V-Mobile telecoms shares by Akwa Ibom and Delta states in which USD \$37.8 million was stolen.

The accused men allegedly used front companies to defraud the Akwa Ibom and Delta states of the said amount. In particular, a company, "Africa Development Finance Co." was named as the major conduit.

In instances cited in the case summary, an \$11 million loan was purportedly granted to an aviation company that assisted Mr. Ibori in purchasing a jet from Canada; \$10 million was given to "Ascot Offshore Nigeria Limited", the company that Ibori used to purchase Wilbros; and another \$790,000 was granted to another fake firm "Africa Development Co." and an offshore nominee concern.

The charges of forgery concern Mr. DeBoer and Mccan. They were accused of violating the Forgery and Counterfeiting Act of the UK by creating fake documents between Delta State and Africa Finance Ltd, and also Delta

and African Development Company. They are also accused of creating a false account which shows both men as beneficiaries, in order to hide the fraudulent nature of the transactions.

11 Responses to “Forgery and Money Laundering: Ibori to Join Wife in Jail”

1.  Helen A. says:

[November 24, 2010 at 12:57 am](#)

Na waoooooooooooooooooo!

Reply

2.  Naijaman says:

[November 24, 2010 at 2:03 am](#)

If I didn't understand Nigeria and the “Naija Way” of doing things, I would've been scratching my head raw trying to fathom why Madam Waziri's EFCC dealt Ibori & cohorts with such kid gloves for what we all know to be serious crimes of embezzlement, racketeering, inappropriate enrichment, forgery, Money laundering, abuse of power, aiding & abating, & a host of other descriptions of crimes that can be piled onto this list that this rascal Ibori orchestrated on the Nigerian soil while in government for 8 years. Are these not the same crimes for which a foreign UK government finds compelled to prosecute him for? Somebody please set me straight that these are not the

same crimes for which his close accomplices have been variously found guilty of and sentenced to serve various stiff penalties. It's common knowledge that the education sector has suffered a shellacking and that has largely been responsible for the tremendous status quo & steady decline in our knowledge base since the past two or more decades. But could the resulting 'dumbing down' of the masses be the excuse for Nigeria's inability to determine & prosecute crimes as do other peoples of other nations? That Ibori & his partners in crime were acquitted for these sames crimes in our Naija, where the same crimes were perpetuated & perpetrated, sums it up for me why the rest of the civilized world has not stopped laughing at the idiocy of the Nigerian system and its people. Tough to figure, though!

Reply

3.  [Bede](#) says:

[November 24, 2010 at 5:49 pm](#)

Please when is the Metropolitan police (from Scotland yard) coming to take the remaining three persons in nigeria. Please they should come immediately and make sure that justice is delivered to these rouges. Thanks to the British judiciary, and thanks to the British government.

Reply

4.  [Ephraim Osazuwa](#) says:

[November 25, 2010 at 1:49 am](#)

This really makes the EFCC and ICPC look bad. A foreign government helping to rid our country of thieves, while we kick and scream. What is the excuse for this mess? The Nigerian political class have failed the people. The more foreign govts try to help, the more these thieves in govt try to frustrate those efforts. Nigeria would by now be among the class of emerging economies like Brazil, India, and China, but they remain in denial, while they have made Nigeria the laughing stock of the world. The majority of present and immediate past governors are to blame for this show of shame.