

In case of reply, the number and date of this letter should be quoted.

Tel: +233 3120 46941
Fax: +233 302 226731/258250
Email: gissekondi@ghanaimmigration.org
Website: www.ghanaimmigration.org



GHANA IMMIGRATION SERVICE WESTERN REGION

West Region Admin Bldg
P.O. Box 403, Sekondi

Digital Address: WF-001-0376

Date: 13th February, 2024.

Our Ref. No. _____

Your Ref. No. _____

PRESS STATEMENT

TO ALL MEDIA HOUSES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A 31-YEAR OLD MAN CONVICTED AND SENTENCED TO TEN YEARS IMPRISONMENT FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING, AND ADDITIONAL SIX MONTHS FOR ILLEGAL ENTRY

1. On Tuesday, 12th March, 2024, the Western Regional Command of the Ghana Immigration Service, led by its Regional Prosecutor, Senior Inspector Terah Allou, arraigned a 31-year old Nigerian, Mr. Okolo Chukwukadibia Jackson, before the Kweikuma Gender Circuit Court, in Takoradi, presided over by Her Honour, Naa Amerley Akowuah, on two counts of Human Trafficking and Illegal Entry.
2. The accused was convicted on his own plea, contrary to sections 2(1)/(2) of the Human Trafficking Act, 2005 (ACT 694) as amended by section 1(1) of the Human Trafficking Act, 2009 and the section 2(1), and 52(1)(D) of the Immigration Act, 2000 (ACT 573) respectively.
3. Mr Okolo Chukwukadibia Jackson, was then sentenced to ten years (10yrs) imprisonment with hard labour for trafficking a 16-year old girl and other three females from Onitsha, Anambra State, a fine of five hundred penalty unit (Ghc 1,200.00) and in default serve additional six months term.
4. Presenting the facts, the prosecution informed the court that, the accused entered the country illegally in the year 2021 and has since remained so until his arrest at Aboi Nkwanta, Asankrangwa, in the Western Region.
5. According to the 16-year old victim rescued, one Madam Ella, one of the accomplices of the primary suspect recruited them in Nigeria under the guise of sending them to her brother, the primary suspect, in Dubai to serve as sales girls.
6. Investigations revealed that, an amount of Six Hundred and Sixty-Eight Thousand Two Hundred Naira (N 668, 200) was sent by the accused from Ghana to the said Madam Ella, to cover the cost of their recruitment, lodging, feeding, and transportation from Onitsha, Anambra State, to Asankrangwa in the Western Region.
7. The victims arrived in Lagos on the Sunday, 11th February, 2024 through an agent and handed them over a driver referred to as I.K. who accommodated them for the night. On the next day, I.K. put the rescued victim and the other three Nigerian girls into his car and brought them to Accra on Tuesday, 13th February, 2024.
8. On the night of Thursday, 15th February, 2024, I.K, arranged for Asankrangwa bound bus for the victims and gave Mr. Okolo Chukwukadibia's contact number to the driver to arrange for the victims to be received to call upon arrival.
9. Immediately after the the accused, had received them on the morning of Friday, the 16th of February, 2024, he singled the innocent 16-year old girl out by taking her to a shrine to swear with an egg to the effect that, she will neither run away nor disclose whatsoever ordeal she suffers to anyone, else she will die.

10. The victim was finally taken to a whorehouse, and handed over to another Nigerian woman, allegedly called Madam Special, in charge of that brothel. Right in front of the victim, the accused paid to Madam Special, an undisclosed amount of money in addition to giving her packages of condom, after which the victim was directed to a room and ordered to begin working as a prostitute. The victim was further informed that, the entire proceeds from her illicit trade goes to Mr Okolo Chukwukadibia Jackson.
11. However, the victim on managing to escape from the clutches of the traffickers, chanced upon a good samaritan, name withheld for security reasons, who led her to the Asankrangwa Sector Command of the Ghana Immigration Service.
12. The Commander, C/Supt. Kwabena Agyei, upon receiving the report, instantaneously arranged to rescue the victims and arrest the perpetrators but unfortunately missed Madam Special.
13. During the interrogation, Mr. Okolo Chukwukadibia Jackson, admitted to having sent the other three victims to one Madam Gifty, who is also at large, in exchange for Eight Thousand Five Hundred Ghana Cedis (Ghc 8500.00).
14. The Western Regional Command of the Service, in its quest to arrest the rest of the syndicate members and be able save the other three Nigerian girls has put its investigative machinery across the Region on high alert.
15. **The Service, through this publication is calling on the benevolence of the general public, especially its shareholders to be on the lookout for such suspicious characters within their vicinity and report them to the nearest Immigration Office for prompt action. The Command continues to rely on the support of all to secure our borders, leading to a stable country and safe people.**

SIGNED:

INSP/MOSES MANFORD AKAKPO.

(W/R PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER)

TEL: 0554103612

EMAIL: moiselogics96@gmail.com