

IN THE COURT OF MAGISTRATES (MALTA) AS COURT OF CRIMINAL JUDICATURE

MAGISTRATE DR. CHARMAINE GALEA

Today the 6th of June 2021

The Principal Immigration Officer
And
The Commissioner of Police
(Inspector Frankie Sammut)

VS.

Salieu Bangura (Police number 20A-161) Aminata Cisse (Police number 1900-008)

The Court,

Having seen that the offenders **Salieu Bangura and Aminata Cisse** were charged with having:

- 1. On the 6th June 2021 and in the previous months in Malta, while having in their possession a document issued by a competent authority, that are Nigerian passports no A05724482, issued in the name of Tony Tayo, and A05759000 issued in the name of Tony Lola had transferred these documents to another person or received these documents which were transferred to them by another person in terms of Cap 61, Sec 3 of the Laws of Malta;
- 2. Also charged with having on the same date, time and circumstances made use or attempted to make use of Passport, issued to another person, that is the mentioned document (Cap 61, Sec 4 of the Laws of Malta);

- 3. Also charged with having on the same date, time and circumstances made false return, false statement or false representation to the Principal Immigration Officer (Cap 217, Sec 32(1c) of the Laws of Malta);
- 4. Also charged with having on the same date, time and circumstances forged, altered or tampered with a Passport, ID card and Residence Permit Card or used or had in their possession a Passport, ID card and Residence Permit Card which they knew to be forged, altered or tampered with, (Cap 61, Sec 5 of the Laws of Malta);
- 5. Also charged with having on the same date, time and circumstances committed any other kind of forgery, or have knowingly made use of any other forged document, in the mentioned documents (Cap 9, Sec 189 of the Laws of Malta);
- 6. The Court is requested, in pronouncing judgement to condemn the person convicted, to the payment, wholly or in part, to the Registrar, of the costs incurred in connection with the employment of any expert or referee, in terms of Sections 533 of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta.

After having seen all the records of the case;

After having heard both offenders plead guilty to the charges at an early stage of the proceedings, which guilty plea was confirmed by the same offenders after the Court, in terms of section 453 (1) of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta, warned them of the legal consequences of their guilty plea, and allowed them sufficient time to re-consider their reply, and to change it;

After having heard the oral submissions on the punishment;

Considered that:

From the evidence brought forward and from the guilty plea registered by the offenders, the Court concludes that the offenders are guilty of the charges brought against them.

As regards the punishment, the Court took into consideration the fact that the offenders admitted to the charges at a very early stage of the proceedings. However, the Court also took into consideration that these crimes affect the security of the State and hence an effective imprisonment term should be imposed. However, after taking into consideration various factors put

forward by the defence in its oral submissions, the Court is of the opinion that the two offenders should be dealt with differently.

DECIDE

For these reasons the Court after having seen section 3, 4 and 5 of Chapter 61 of the Laws of Malta, section 189 of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta and section 32 (1) (c) of Chapter 217 of the Laws of Malta, upon their admission finds offenders Salieu Bangura and Aminata Cisse guilty of all the charges brought against them and condemns Salieu Bangura to one (1) year imprisonment and Aminata Cisse to one (1) year imprisonment which in terms of section 28A (1) of the Criminal Code is being suspended for a period of two (2) years from today.

In accordance with sections 28A (4) of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta, the Court explained in clear and simple language the meaning of this judgement to Aminata Cisse, and the consequences which would follow if she fails to abide by it, that is if she commits another offence which is punishable by imprisonment within the operative period.

The Court abstains from taking cognizance of the request of the Prosecution to condemn the persons convicted to pay the Registrar the costs incurred in terms of section 533 of the Criminal Code since no such expenses were incurred.

Dr. Charmaine Galea Magistrate

Diane Gatt
Deputy Registrar