



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

MAGISTRATE NATASHA GALEA SCIBERRAS B.A., LL.D.

Today: 23rd March 2019

**The Police
(Inspector Hubert Gerada)**

vs

**Yousef Karim
Refugee Document no: 24449/18**

The Court,

Having seen the charges brought against the accused Yousef Karim, aged 28 years, son of Karim and Ajoke, born in Nigeria on 22nd August 1990, residing at Hal Far Family Village limits of Birzebbugia and holder of Refugee Document number 24449/18;

Charged with having on 22nd March 2019 or previous days in these islands, forged, altered or tampered with a false Italian Passport bearing number 442422 and false Italian Residence Permit bearing number I12365410, used or had in his possession same false documents, which he knew to be forged, altered or tampered with (Chapter 61, Section 5 of the Laws of Malta);

And also charged with having on the same date, time and circumstances at Malta International Airport committed any other kind of forgery or have knowingly made use of any other forged documents (Chapter 9 Section 189 of the Laws of Malta);

And also charged with having on the same date, time and circumstances without lawful authority used or had in their possessions any document required for the purposes of this act (Chapter 217, Section 32 (1f) of the Laws of Malta);

Having seen the records of the case;

Having heard the accused plead guilty to the charges brought against him, which plea was confirmed by the accused even after the Court, in terms of Section 453(1) of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta, warned him of the legal consequences thereof, and allowed him sufficient time to reconsider his reply and to retract it.

Having heard submissions about the punishment to be inflicted.

Considered that:

In view of the guilty plea filed by the accused, the Court cannot but find him guilty of the charges brought against him.

For the purpose of the punishment to be inflicted, the Court took into consideration the serious nature of the offences with which accused is being charged and the circumstances of the case. It also considered the early guilty plea filed by accused and his clean criminal record.

Conclusion

For these reasons, the Court after having seen Sections 17 and 189 of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta, Section 5 of Chapter 61 of the Laws of Malta and Section 32 (1)(f) of Chapter 217, upon his guilty plea, finds accused guilty of the charges brought against him and condemns him to a term of six (6) months effective imprisonment.

Natasha Galea Sciberras
Magistrate