Lagos court sentences man to 14 years for attempted sexual assault

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Justice Rahman Oshodi of the Lagos Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Court has sentenced Taofik Oladosu to 14 years imprisonment for attempting to sexually assault a 12-year-old girl.  
  
Oladosu was convicted and sentenced after pleading guilty to an amended one-count charge of attempted sexual assault by penetration. Initially arraigned on February 5, 2018, he had pleaded not guilty to allegations of attempting to penetrate the survivor’s vagina with his finger.  
  
The case was first heard before Justice Sybil Nwaka, but upon her elevation to the Court of Appeal, the case file was reassigned to Justice Oshodi.  
  
The prosecuting counsel, Bukola Okeowo, informed the court that the offence occurred between September and December 2015 on Oyo Street, Mushin, Lagos. The prosecution emphasised that the act contravened Section 262 of the Criminal Laws of Lagos State, 2015.  
  
Subsequently, Oladosu sought a plea bargain agreement with the prosecution. During sentencing, Justice Oshodi noted that the convict fully understood the terms of the agreement.  
  
“You have pleaded guilty to the lesser charge of attempting to commit sexual assault by penetration under Section 262, which carries a maximum sentence of 14 years imprisonment. Having considered your plea for mercy, the prosecution’s submissions, and the seriousness of the offence, I find the agreed sentence appropriate,” the judge stated.  
  
The court sentenced Oladosu to 14 years imprisonment, with the term to commence from December 14, 2015, the date of his remand. Justice Oshodi also directed that the convict be registered as a sexual offender.