



**R v MOUHAMADOU FALL**

**Note of Sentence**

1. Mouhamadou Fall, on the 11<sup>th</sup> February this year you were convicted by a jury of two offences of Manslaughter, following your killing of two innocent people on the 17<sup>th</sup> November 2024. Neither of them had threatened you with any violence. One of them was Sidy Fall, your father, and the other Norman Scott who happened to ride his pedal bike passed you. What you did was against the background of your previously undiagnosed schizophrenia, with delusional beliefs, thought disorder and hallucinations. In your trial the Jury rejected your defence of Legal Insanity and convicted you of Manslaughter by reason of Diminished Responsibility. You are now aged 24, but were 23 when you killed your father and Mr Scott.
2. In the early hours of the 17<sup>th</sup> November 2024 a neighbour heard loud noises from the home where you lived with your father, at 24, Kippax Street, Manchester. It sounded to the neighbour like there was fighting, during which you repeatedly punched or kicked your father and also repeatedly stabbed him. The violence you used was savage. There were seven stab wounds to his chest, concentrated on his upper chest area and a large gaping wound to his throat which included incised wounds to his cervical spine in an attempt to decapitate him. He was left outside his home and you dropped the knife in the hallway of the house.
3. Outside you saw Mr Scott who was riding his pedal bike whilst listening to music. With a second knife you attacked him in a sustained assault which was captured

in a CCTV recording. He was heard by the neighbour to shout “get away from me” and “murder, murder”. You told him to wait where he was, but when he tried to escape, you chased after him and repeatedly attacked him again. He was knocked to the ground and repeatedly stabbed and kicked. He suffered 11 deep stab wounds to the chest and 2 to his cheek, one of which penetrated to the right side of his cervical spine.

4. Both Mr Sidy Fall and Mr Scott died at the scene.
5. From that second killing you carried your second knife and walked to a Mosque, at the AL Furqan Islamic Centre. At the entrance you dropped the knife and removed your coat. Inside you found the caretaker who was alone in the prayer hall, which caused you to go back to the Mosque entrance and pick up the knife you had dropped and returned to speak to the caretaker. He was obviously in fear as you waved the knife at him. Later Mr Aziz Saada, who was visiting the Mosque for the first prayer of the day, entered the Mosque and saw that the caretaker needed help. They were both threatened with the knife and had they not managed to distract you, and then get help from the police, it is highly likely that you would have attacked them. The bravery of those two men was remarkable and brought the police to the Mosque.
6. Once you were arrested and in police custody, you were kept under constant watch by police officers. Body worn cameras recorded what you said, which included that you believed your father and Mr Scott were possessed by evil spirits and the Devil, and that you had been sent by God to save mankind. You also threatened to behead one of the female police officers.
7. The killing of the two victims has caused profound grief and loss to their families and others. Mr Dijibril Camera, your father’s cousin, and Ms Thelma Scott for her son, have described their grief which will last forever. The circumstances of these killings and how they died will have increased their profound loss.

8. Was there any warning that you might commit these offences? The answer is that there was not. Friends and some family members described you as being an observant Muslim, attending Mosque, but in the months before November 2024, you had become more orthodox and insistent. Your behaviour had been noticed, but it was not violent. You had no previous convictions, lived with your father and you were in contact with your mother, who lived outside the UK.
  
9. For the purposes of this sentence hearing I have had the benefit of reports from Dr John Crosby, dated the 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2026 on behalf of the prosecution, and Dr Ross Mirvis, dated the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2026 on behalf of the defendant. Both Doctors are Consultant Forensic Psychiatrists approved under section 12(2) Mental Health Act 1983 and gave evidence during the trial. There is little which is disagreed between them upon sentencing, and Dr Mirvis has given oral evidence before this Court for the purposes of s.37, 41 and 45A of the 1983 Act, confirming the findings he has made in his report of the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2026.
  
10. Both Dr Crosby and Dr Mirvis are agreed in the diagnosis of Schizophrenia and that it was undiagnosed in the defendant prior to the killings; it is a lifelong mental disorder which is presently treatment resistant; it was the cause of the defendant in killing the deceased; the defendant has little insight into his mental disorder and remains psychotic, notwithstanding his current treatment in a secure hospital environment; there was some evidence of cannabis derivatives within the defendant's body after his arrest, although it was later discounted as being relevant.
  
11. Dr Mirvis, in evidence during this sentence hearing, confirmed that you suffer from a mental disorder making it appropriate that you be detained in a hospital for medical treatment and that such treatment is available; that such a disposal is a suitable method for dealing with your mental disorder and that as the approved clinician, he has made arrangements for you to be re-admitted to a secure hospital, being Ashworth Hospital where you have been detained since your arrest.

12. Whilst recognising that that their evidence relates primarily to rehabilitation and public protection, both Doctors suggest that the mechanism for eventual release back into the community with respect to public protection, is by means of an Hospital Order with Restriction. That would ensure, from a clinical point of view, that the defendant would be carefully monitored in his treatment and upon release into the community.

13. It is argued by Mr Thomas KC, on the defendant's behalf, that the appropriate sentence is that which is suggested by the Doctors, for an Hospital Order under s.37, with a Restriction Order under s.41. Attention is drawn to the different regimes upon release between an Hospital Order with Restriction, and a s. 45A Hospital with a Limitation Direction, referred to in *R v Edwards [2018] EWCA Crim 595* and more recently in *R v Calocane [2024] EWCA Crim 490*.

14. On the evidence and the circumstances of these two offences of Manslaughter and the medical evidence, I am satisfied that your retained responsibility, or culpability, for these offences was low, and that an Hospital Order may be appropriate to ensure that you continue to receive the treatment you need. I am also satisfied that it would be necessary for the protection of the public from serious harm, for you to be the subject of a Restriction Order under s.41 of the 1983 Act. Equally, I am satisfied that you are a dangerous offender within the terms of s.306 of the Sentencing Act 2020 and are likely to remain so upon any release into the community.

15. Although the Doctors are agreed that you would not have committed these offences but for your mental disorder, that does not relieve you of your responsibility. Indeed, the verdicts of the jury were that your responsibility was diminished and not extinguished. In sentencing you, therefore, I must take into account not only your rehabilitation, but also the public interest in punishment and its protection from you.

16. Although I understand the agreed evidence of the Doctors, who suggest Orders under s.37 and 41, I do not find that such Orders reflect sufficiently the need for life long protection from you for the public in circumstances where you have little insight into your treatment resistant mental disorder, you continue to experience psychotic symptoms with delusional beliefs which when acted on cause catastrophic harm. Further, I do not find that a Hospital and Restriction Order alone sufficiently reflects the need for punishment in which the defendant's responsibility was substantially reduced but not extinguished. Accordingly, I am satisfied that you must be the subject of an Hospital and Limitation Order under s.45A of the 1983 Act. That provides for both hospital treatment and a sentence of imprisonment.

17. Having determined that I must impose an Hospital Order with a Limitation Direction, I must fix the sentence of imprisonment.

18. The Manslaughter offences are Schedule 19 offences, and you were over the age of 21 when you committed them. I have found you to be a dangerous offender and I am satisfied that the offences are of such seriousness to justify sentences of imprisonment for life, which I will impose on you on both Counts 1 and 2. I must next fix the minimum term of custody you must serve alongside your s.45A Hospital Order.

19. Within the terms of the Manslaughter Guideline for a low level of retained responsibility, a Starting Point of 7 years imprisonment with a sentence range of 3 – 12 years is provided. The following factors aggravate the seriousness of the offences:-

- i. That two people were killed;
- ii. The severity of the violence used and the suffering caused to them in prolonged and separate violent attacks;
- iii. That you used two separate knives whilst killing the victims;
- iv. That you threatened to attack two further victims within the Mosque;

- v. That you also threatened a police officer whilst you were in custody, to behead her, in circumstances in which you had tried to behead one of the victims.

20. In the absence of your mental disorder, those aggravating factors would have increased the prison sentence very substantially. However, you had a low level of retained responsibility, suffering psychotic symptoms at the time of your offending, for which I will make due allowance.

21. In mitigation, I find the following:-

- i. You were suffering from a serious mental disorder which the Doctors are agreed caused you to act as you did;
- ii. You admitted killing the two deceased, your trial concerned whether you were not guilty by reason of Insanity;
- iii. You were aged 23 and are now 24;
- iv. You have no previous convictions and were of good character.

22. The aggravating factors I have identified, even after taking into account your mental disorder, must increase your notional sentence beyond the guideline sentence range which I do, to a sentence of 21 years. Reducing that sentence by one-third, produces a minimum term of 14 years in custody.

23. Accordingly, the sentences I impose on each of Counts 1 and 2 concurrently with each other are as follows:-

A sentence of Imprisonment for Life under s.285 of the Sentencing Act 2020, with a Minimum Term to serve in custody of 14 years.

I direct that you be subject to a s.45A Mental Health Act 1983 Hospital and Limitation Direction Order, comprising an Hospital Order with Restriction and your sentence of imprisonment.

24. That means that you will be re-admitted to Ashfield Secure Hospital, where you will be detained for as long as it is necessary for your treatment. If and when it is no longer necessary, and if your sentence of imprisonment has not expired, you will be transferred to prison and will only be released when the Parol Board decide it would be safe to release you into the community. You will thereafter be subject to the terms of your licence and the conditions on your release from hospital for life, and may be recalled into custody.