Federal Court



Cour fédérale

Date: 20220518

Docket: IMM-4066-21

Citation: 2022 FC 742

St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, May 18, 2022

PRESENT: The Honourable Madam Justice Heneghan

BETWEEN:

SALIU SHOLA SAHEED

Applicant

and

MINISTER OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION

Respondent

REASONS AND JUDGMENT

[1] Mr. Saliu Shola Saheed (the "Applicant") seeks judicial review of the decision of the Immigration and Refugee Board, Refugee Appeal Division (the "RAD"), dismissing his appeal from the Immigration and Refugee Board, Refugee Protection Division (the "RPD").

- [2] The Applicant is a citizen of Nigeria, from Kwara State. He fears persecution from the Eiye Confraternity. The RAD found that the determinative issue is the availability of an Internal Flight Alternative ("IFA") in Port Harcourt or Abuja.
- [3] The Applicant argues that the finding about an IFA is unreasonable.
- [4] The Minister of Citizenship and Immigration (the "Respondent") submits that the finding is supported by the evidence and is reasonable.
- [5] The decision of the RAD is reviewable on the standard of reasonableness; see the decision in *Canada (Minister of Citizenship and Immigration) v. Vavilov* (2019), 441 D.L.R. (4th) 1 (S.C.C.).
- [6] In considering reasonableness, the Court is to ask if the decision under review "bears the hallmarks of reasonableness justification, transparency and intelligibility and whether it is justified in relation to the relevant factual and legal constraints that bear on that decision"; see *Vavilov, supra* at paragraph 99.
- [7] The legal test for an IFA is addressed in *Rasaratnam v. Canada (Minister of Employment and Immigration)* (1991), 140 N.R. 138.
- [8] The Applicant takes issue with the RAD's treatment of the second prong of this test.

- [9] Upon review of the materials filed and the written and oral submissions of the parties, I am not persuaded that the IFA finding of the RAD is unreasonable.
- [10] In the result, the application for judicial review will be dismissed. There is no question for certification.

JUDGMENT in IMM-4066-21

THIS COURT'S JUDGMENT is that the application for judicial review is dismissed.

| There is no question for certification. | |
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| | "E. Heneghan" |
| | Judge |

FEDERAL COURT

SOLICITORS OF RECORD

DOCKET: IMM-4066-21

STYLE OF CAUSE: SALIU SHOLA SAHEED v MINISTER OF

CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION

PLACE OF HEARING: HELD BY WAY OF VIDEOCONFERENCE

BETWEEN TORONTO, ONTARIO AND ST. JOHN'S,

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

DATE OF HEARING: MAY 10, 2022

REASONS AND JUDGMENT: HENEGHAN J.

DATED: MAY 18, 2022

APPEARANCES:

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Laura Christodoulides FOR THE RESPONDENT

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