

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF FIJI**  
**AT SUVA**  
**CRIMINAL JURISDICTION**

**Criminal Case No. HAC 96 of 2011**

**BETWEEN**

**STATE**

**AND**

**PRANEET ANAND REDDY**

**BEFORE: THE HON. JUSTICE PAUL K. MADIGAN**

Counsel: Mr L. Fotofili with Mr.A. Dutt for the State

Mr. A. Reddy with Mr. J. Reddy for the accused

Dates of hearing: 27, 28 and 29 January 2014

Date of Judgment : 30 January 2014

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**JUDGMENT**

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1. Praneet Anand Reddy, you have been charged with the following offences:

**Count 1**

**Statement of Offence**

**Rape:** Contrary to section 207(1) and 207(2)(a) of the Crimes Decree No. 44 of 2009.

**Particulars of Offence**

**Praneet Anand Reddy** on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2011, at Gau Island in the Eastern Division had carnal knowledge of **Mere Lawe** without her consent.

**In the Alternative**

**Count 2**

**Statement of Offence**

**Defilement:** Contrary to section 215(1) of the Crimes Decree No. 44 of 2009.

**Particulars of Offence**

**Praneet Anand Reddy** on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of march, 2011, at Gau Island in the Eastern Division had unlawful carnal knowledge of **Mere Lawe** who at the time was between the age of 13 to 16.

2. In the unanimous opinion on three assessors you have been found not guilty of rape, but guilty of the alternative count of defilement. These opinions are available on the evidence and in directing myself on my own summing up, I agree. I find you not guilty of the rape but guilty of the offence of defilement. You are convicted accordingly.
3. That is the judgment of the Court.

**P.K. Madigan**

**Judge**

At Suva

30 January 2014.