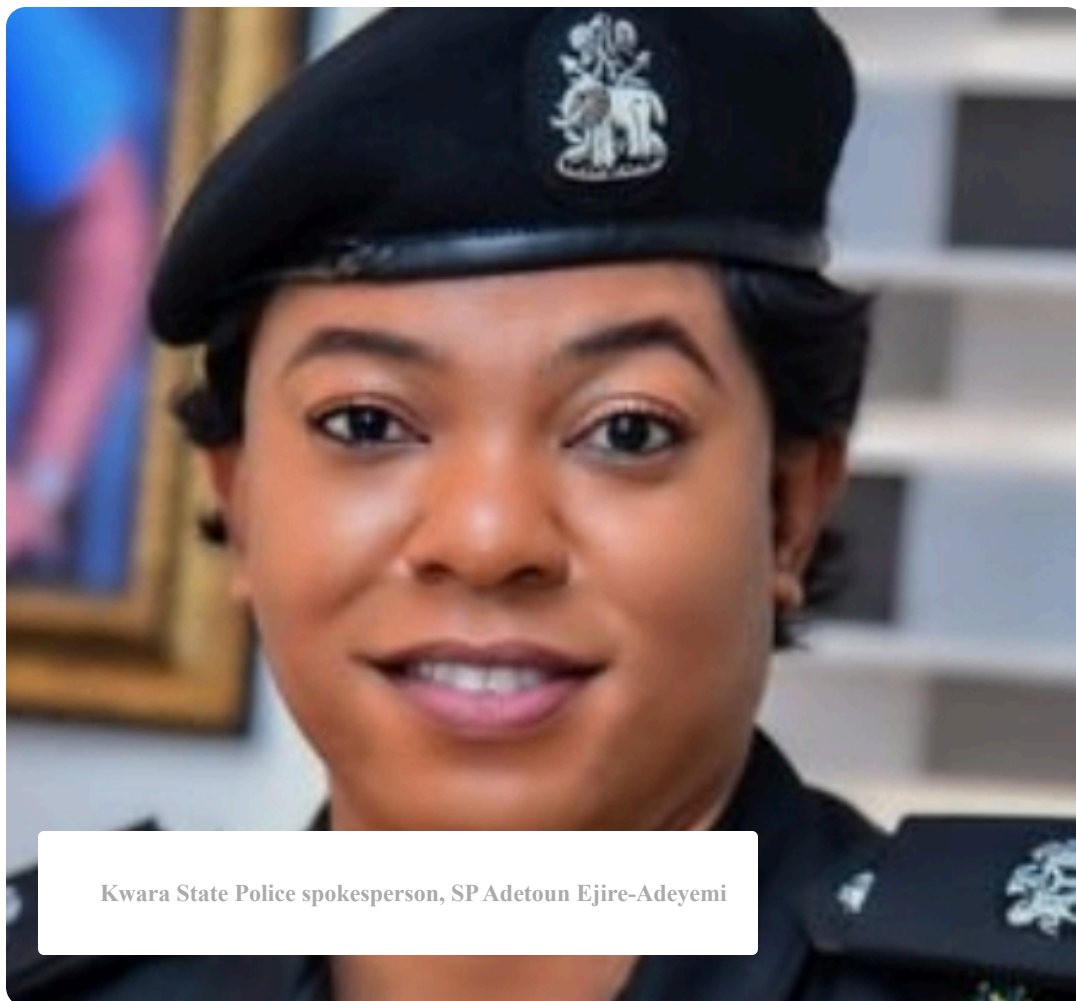


Police hunt 21-year-old who stabbed friend during fight over girlfriend in Ilorin

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Date: 24 October 2025 1:36am WAT

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The Kwara State Police Command has confirmed that a 21-year-old man, identified as Gafar, allegedly stabbed his 25-year-old friend, Usman Tunde, to death during an argument over a woman in Ilorin.

The command's spokesperson, SP Adetoun Ejire-Adeyemi, said the [police](#) received a distress call around 2:30 a.m., on Wednesday and immediately dispatched officers to the scene. However, the suspect and members of his extended family had fled before the police arrived.

The Guardian learnt that both men, residents of the Oja Gboro area and natives of Ile Olowo, were close friends before the incident. Eyewitnesses said the argument began at a sugarcane vendor's stand and quickly escalated into a fight.

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A police source disclosed that Gafar allegedly stabbed Tunde in the chest with a knife after the quarrel turned violent. "We heard that they were arguing over a girlfriend they were both interested in, and before passers-by could intervene, Gafar stabbed and killed his friend," the source said.

The victim, a resident of Ile-Soro 2 in Oja Gboro, was rushed to a nearby hospital and later referred to the General Hospital, Ilorin, where he was confirmed dead on arrival.

The Commissioner of Police, Mr Adekimi Ojo, commended residents of Oja Gboro for maintaining calm and avoiding jungle justice. "We understand the pain of losing a loved one in such a tragic way, but we urge everyone to remain peaceful as the police intensify efforts to apprehend the suspect and ensure justice is served," he said.