

Ogun Police arrested guards over traveller's murder



• *Lagos CP refutes cult violence claims, reassures residents*

The Police in Ogun State have arrested two guards over the alleged killing of a traveller in Ibafo.

This is just as the Lagos State Police Command dismissed reports of an impending cult clash in parts of the metropolis, reassuring residents of improved security patrols across identified flashpoints.

Detectives at the Ibafo Divisional Headquarters arrested Isikilu Dauda, 55, and Rasaki Abbas in connection with the death of the traveller, identified simply as Promise, following a credible tip-off on April 10.

Police said the victim, who was attacked the previous night, identified himself while being rushed to hospital and alleged that the guards macheted him after he arrived in the area late. He was later confirmed dead on arrival by a doctor.

The body has been deposited at the Olabisi Onabanjo University Teaching Hospital (OOUTH), Sagamu, for post-mortem examination, while preliminary investigation reportedly uncovered a trail of blood linking the scene to one of the suspects.

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This led to his arrest and the subsequent apprehension of the second suspect, spokesman for the Ogun Police Command, Deputy Superintendent of Police Oluseyi Babaseyi said in a statement yesterday.

He said efforts had been intensified to arrest other accomplices still at large.

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According to Babaseyi, the Ogun State Commissioner of Police (CP) Bode Ojajuni, condemned the killing, assuring that all culprits would be brought to justice.

He warned against violence, reiterating the command's zero tolerance for extrajudicial acts. The case has been transferred to the State Criminal Investigation Department (SCID), Eleweran, Abeokuta, for further investigation and prosecution.

In Lagos, the police command reassured residents of Shitta, Akerele, Itire/Aguda, Ishaga and adjoining areas that there was no imminent cult clash as widely speculated in circulating messages.

CP Tijani Fatai said the command had deployed personnel and operational assets to the affected areas, intensified patrols and increased police visibility to prevent any breakdown of law and order.

The reassurance followed the alleged murder of a suspected cult leader in Surulere at the weekend, which caused apprehension among residents of a possible eruption of violence among rival groups.

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The police chief urged residents to go about their lawful activities without fear, advising them to disregard unverified rumours capable of causing panic and to rely on official sources for credible information.

The command also called on the public to remain vigilant and report suspicious movements to security agencies, assuring that adequate measures were in place to sustain peace across the state.