

I killed okada rider to avenge what he did to me four years ago — Murder suspect

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The saying that one can only run but cannot hide forever recently came to bear on an armed robbery and murder suspect, Adebayo, as he was arrested two months after he allegedly killed a commercial motorcyclist, Tihamiyu Afeez, by slitting his throat with a knife. Not only that, he also went away with the deceased's motorbike.

The suspected murderer was apprehended by the detectives of the Homicide section in Osun State Police Command on Saturday, April 18, while the stolen motorcycle was recovered, even when family of the deceased had given up hope of finding the killer.

Adebayo, who confessed to committing the crime, however linked it with a grudge he had held against the deceased since four years ago.

The Osun Police Public Relations Officer, DSP Abiodun Ojelabi, who confirmed the arrest, said that before the suspect's arrest, a family member of the deceased had reported at A' Division, Ede, on February 23 at about 6p.m., that Afeez, who left home on February 21, at about 8a.m., for his commercial motorcycle operations within Ede town, had not returned home.

The relative told the police that efforts made by the family to trace his whereabouts proved abortive, but they later got the information that a police patrol team from Awo Division in the state discovered an unidentified male corpse along Ojo/Ara Ejigbo road, with his throat slit with knife.

The PPRO said that the corpse was identified to be that of Afeez, which established a case of murder, adding that it was transferred to the State Criminal Investigation Department (SCID), Osogbo, and assigned to the Homicide Section for investigation.

Ojelabi said: "During intelligence-led investigation and technology analysis, the suspect was apprehended on 18th April, 2026, by the detectives of the Homicide Section and the deceased's stolen Bajaj motorcycle was recovered from him."

The suspect, who confessed to the crime when interrogated, told the detectives that he contacted the deceased on phone and lured him from Ede to Ara-Ejigbo axis with his motorcycle.

The suspect further disclosed that when the deceased got to a location, he drew a knife from the back where he sat and slit the deceased's throat with it.

He further confessed that after the operation, he went away with the deceased's motorcycle while he threw the knife he used and the deceased's mobile phone away.

The detectives recovered the deceased's motorcycle and two ignition keys from the suspect.

Adebayo, aged 29, in an interview with Saturday Tribune, made these disclosures: "I am an electrician from Ede town. It is true that I killed Tihamiyu, popularly known as 'Olode.' What happened was that about four years ago, he stopped me at about 4a.m., asking me about my destination. I told him I was going to the bank. This was at a period of 'no cash', and customers used to sleep near their banks to be able to collect the little amount they could get. I decided to join them on queue.

"However, on the way, on Oke Egan Road, I met Afeez and another night guard, and he accused me of being one of those that were severing people's heads, asking why I would be going to the bank at such an odd hour. I told him that I was heading to the bank, but he didn't listen to me. He asked for the items I had in my pocket, and when he checked, he saw my two phones and some money. He collected the phones and took me to the police station.

"On getting there, he told the police that I was one of those cutting human heads for ritual. I started pleading with the police, telling them I was not such a person. The law enforcement officers had pity on me, admitted me to bail and freed me.

"I asked the police for my phones and money, but they told me that they were not dropped by Afeez. Since then, I had the mind to ask him if I should see him, but we never met.

"In February, during Ramadan this year, I saw him passing by on a motorcycle. I stopped him and asked if he could remember me, and he said 'no'. Then, I reminded him of the past, and he said he was no longer doing the job. He told me he had engaged in commercial motorcycle operation. I asked him of my phones and he turned the issue to a joke.

"I got his phone number from him, telling him that he would be picking me whenever I needed him. However, I had an evil plan for him. I was suffering because I lost the contacts of my customers with the phones he collected from me, so I didn't get people calling me for electrical jobs. To feed became a big problem. I sometimes worked as a labourer, and was also doing the job of a native doctor in the guise of being an Afaa. I had Yahoo boys as my clients. The native doctor job was practised by my ancestors, though my father did not practise it. He was a lecturer at Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile Ife, before his death in 2002. And there was no one to sponsor my education after I left secondary school.

"When I was in Quranic school, some Yahoo boys were coming to me to do rituals for them. I saw the work as trending, and it was a lucrative source of income for those practising it. I got the account for native medicine practice in the ceiling of the family house that I was living in then.

"My friends in the Quranic school used to urge me to do charms for Yahoo boys, and my friends in secondary school who were Yahoo boys were also coming to me, but I was just getting a little to go by. My electrical work

was still bringing more money than the Yahoo charm business. So, I stopped it.”

Why I killed okada rider

“Since the time Afeez apprehended me, I stopped moving late in the night because of the fear created in me. I also thought of the lie against me, and my phones and money he took away.

“The day after I collected his phone number, I called him to come and take me to a place. The road was bushy and deserted. It was in the afternoon. I already had a knife I hid. I told him to move slowly in the bush, knowing that both of us would fall from the bike with an attack from me.

“Suddenly, from behind him, I used knife to slit his throat and we both fell. He stood up and started pleading that he was voluntarily leaving the motorcycle for me. I replied him that I had no intention of taking the motorcycle from him, but was paying him back in his own coin.

“We started struggling with ourselves. He started running to escape from me. I also went to pick his motorcycle to get out of the bush before he could. I took another route. I heard on the fifth day that he was dead, and his people were going for his burial.

“Initially, since I knew that I couldn’t sell the motorcycle, I started using it for private and commercial purposes. Afraid of being caught with it, I later abandoned it by keeping it with the wife of a friend.

“I know what I did is against the law. It was the devil that pushed me. I plead with the government to bestow mercy on me and forgive me.”

The PPRO said that the suspect would be arraigned in court after the conclusion of investigation.