

Horror: Man kills wife in front of children, commits suicide

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Late Ayoola Ayanwale and his deceased wife, Ayobami Ayanwale

By Daniel Ayantoye

The Ogun State Police Command has commenced an investigation into the killing of a mother of three, Ayobami Ayanwale, allegedly by her husband, Ayoola Ayanwale, who later died in a suspected suicide.

The incident, which occurred on Thursday night at Olutayo Alao Street, River Valley Estate, Ojodu Berger, was followed by another development in the Sotubo area, where the man was found gasping for breath in an open field on Friday.

It was gathered that Ayobami was stabbed by her husband during a domestic dispute, sustaining fatal injuries. She was reportedly rushed to a hospital, where she was confirmed dead by a medical doctor.

Sunday PUNCH gathered that the woman's three children have since been placed in the care of relatives.

A security source who visited the residence told Sunday PUNCH that the police recovered three knives and immediately launched a manhunt for the suspect before his body was later discovered in Sotubo.

Items found on him, according to the security officer, included a bottle of suspected liquid, two mobile phones, a voter card and an ATM card, which confirmed his link to the earlier murder.

Meanwhile, a neighbour of the couple, who identified herself on X as @Irebamiolakanmi, said the killing followed a long history of domestic violence.

She wrote that the suspect stabbed his wife five times in the presence of their children after allegedly sending the first child to buy a poisonous substance locally known as sniper, which he poured into a pot of food.

According to her, the deceased reportedly refused to eat the food, after which the man attacked her.

“This man stabbed his wife five times and he is on the run. For someone who comes home once or twice a year, someone who does not care how the children were feeding or how their school fees were paid. She once told me she was always happy when he was not around because that was when she had peace of mind.

“I told her to leave. I shared my own story with her and told her that domestic violence should not be endured, but she said she had three children. Now that the man has killed her, who will take care of the children?” the neighbour wrote.

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She added that the murder happened before the eyes of the children.

“He killed his wife in the presence of his three children. He sent his first child to buy sniper and poured it into the food. She refused to eat, then he stabbed her five times.

“Imagine a 12- or 13-year-old girl witnessing the murder of her mother. She died when she finally summoned the courage to leave him. Never extend grace to a violent marriage. Leave early,” she wrote.

Narrating the incident, the brother of the deceased told TVC, “She called me that her husband had stabbed her and that I should start coming. I was coming from the highland. I rushed to the hospital, but before we got there, she had passed.”

A young girl living with the family said the man had earlier offered her money to leave the house on the night of the incident, but she refused.

She also alleged that the suspect poisoned a pot of soup.

“He said he was about to do something he did not want me to be involved in. He said he wanted to do something about grandpa, but he did not tell me about mummy,” she said.

A friend of the deceased also disclosed that Ayobami had previously suffered abuse in the marriage.

“There was a time she called me that she was very sick. When I came, I saw bruises all over her neck. She was beaten badly. That was around August last year. I advised her to get another apartment. She said she found one, but her husband’s sisters abroad told her not to leave,” the friend said.

Confirming the incident in a phone interview with Sunday PUNCH, the Ogun State Police Public Relations Officer, Oluseyi Babaseyi, said, “The case has been harmonised and transferred to the State CID for investigation. Their bodies have been deposited in the mortuary, respectively.”

Daniel Ayantoye

Daniel, well versed in print and multimedia journalism with about 10 years experience, is also a videographer, photographer, cinematographer, video editor, and website developer