

# Husband arrested over wife's death

By Shehu Abubakar

**T**he police in Abuja have arrested a middle-aged man, Matiu Akindele, over allegations that he killed his wife in their matrimonial home.

Parading the suspect at the FCT police command, the commissioner, Mr. Lawrence Alobi, told newsmen that Akindele used a pestle to hit the wife on the head until she died.

He said detectives gathered that there was a misunderstanding between the couple that angered Akindele into taking the action.

The corpse and the pestle were said to have been abandoned in the courtyard of their residence at Gossa village in the FCT from where the police recovered them.

Akindele however denied the charge, saying: "She was the mother of my only children. How could I have killed her? I did not kill her," he said.

He told *City News* that he travelled and came back to meet the corpse and before he could gather what was happening from his neighbours, he was arrested by detectives who were hanging around waiting for him.

He refuted the account given by some of his neighbours that he hit the wife with the pestle and ran away when he realised that she was unconscious.

"They were telling lies. They are bad neighbours. They are supposed to know that I was not around. How could I have done that. If I killed her, who will take care of our children? What will I tell our children that happened to their mother," he said.

When *City News* visited the culprit's residence at Gossa village, neighbours were very reluctant to comment to the press on the matter.

A middle-aged lady, who volunteered to speak on condition of anonymity, said the trouble in the house took place in the early hours of August 8 this year when most of the neighbours were asleep.

She said they heard when the deceased was shouting the name of her husband, saying he should kill her. This, she said, made them guess that a fight was taking place between the husband and the late woman.

Meanwhile, CP Alobi has said that the matter will be charged to court as soon as investigation is concluded.