

Man kills son, daughter at Bwari

A middle-aged man yesterday killed his son and daughter in his residence at Sabongari in Bwari area council of Abuja.

Mr. Onyema told *City News* that at about 1:00am yesterday, while most of the people in the neighbourhood were sleeping, he was woken up by the cry of a woman who kept on repeating 'please come and save me, he has killed my children'.

"I immediately rushed out to see what was happening," he said.

He said on getting out, he saw a lot of people, including policemen on patrol, gather around Mr. Moses' house while his wife was bitterly

By Misbahu Bashir

crying with the two children she escaped with.

"I managed to peep through the darkness and saw two lifeless children lying in pool of blood while the father, Mr. Moses, was holding an axe and putting a heap of cloth on them and threatened to kill anyone who came closer." Onyema added: "He later set fire on the heap of clothes in an attempt to burn the corpses."

Onyema said it was with the combined efforts of the police that Mr. Moses was caught and the fire quenched without burning any of the dead bodies.

"Moses kept on saying that the police should allow him to go since he had succeeded in killing the two evil children who came to disturb his life."

An eyewitness said the suspect before the incident lived in a one-bedroom flat with his wife and four children.

The mother of the children and wife of Mr. Moses, Mrs. Alheri (Grace), said her husband was last year diagnosed to have a mental illness and was taken to the church where he received spiritual prayers which eventually cured him.

She said her husband left for Jos last Friday for an assignment and when his col-

leagues returned home last Saturday, she could not see her husband and none of them came to explain to her what happened.

"I began to think that most likely his mental illness has started and his friends were afraid to disclose it to me," she added.

Mrs. Grace said when her husband finally arrived around 8:00pm on Sunday, he began to tell her strange stories and around midnight, the situation worsened when he seized an axe and killed two of their children namely, three months old Glory and Augustine who is five.

"I escaped through the window with two of my chil-

dren: Israel, 9, and Precious, 7," she said.

Mrs. Grace said they were indigenes of Kafanchan in Zangonkataf local government area of Kaduna state.

The divisional police officer of Bwari area council, Superintendent of Police Ayobami Surajudeen, told *City News* that he received the information through a phone call around 1:00am from one of his men on patrol and immediately went to the scene of the incident.

The DPO said they had to use teargas on Mr. Moses before he could be suppressed and arrested.

"He used axe and mutilated the heads of the chil-

dren," DPO said.

SP Surajudeen said the man also used the axe and hit himself in several parts of his body.

"The police used their vehicle to convey the corpses and the father who sustained injuries for hitting himself with an axe to Bwari general hospital."

The DPO also told *City News* that the man was among the members of a notorious group known as 'man waka' arrested by the police last year for assaulting and robbing innocent citizens at Shere vil-

lage. The assistant chief nursing officer, Bwari general hospital, confirmed the incident.