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Nigeria: Suspected Human Sacrifice Shrine Uncovered in Ibafo, Ogun State

Daily Trust (Abuja)
28 August 2007

Posted to the web 28 August 2007

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Olumide Bajulaiye

Shrines where human sacrifice is suspected
to be taking place have been found in Ibafo, Ogun state.

The shrines were uncovered when a woman escaped from kidnappers and went to Charles Ogbeide, a Divisional Police Officer (DPO), at the Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS), and one of the landlords at Asiwaju quarters, Ibafo, Lagos, to narrate her ordeal.

Ogbeide took the woman to Ibafo police station. The police in company of journalists went to the shrine to conduct an investigation.

The shrine is made up of two buildings one round and the other rectangular. In front of the round house was a moulded image which looked very grotesque. Also found at the shrines were cowries, a gong, some metal objects; white clothes and four human images placed around a tree. Blood was found on the clothes.

The rectangular building had five rooms. Four of the rooms had images which were mostly of animals. There were white clothes and a container of oil.

In the fifth room, there was an opening that led to what looked like an underground cell.

Outside the door, there was a carved image of a woman holding a cup. There was a path where a small grave was. A stone was on it.

Our correspondent learnt that residents of the community had complained to one of the indigenes of the town (Omo-Onile) about how people would drive in flashy cars into the place at daytime. He was said to have replied that they were not troublesome. He said "they were just men on 419 (dubious) businesses."

Later, it was gathered that those men later started coming around 7p.m. and left later at about 11p.m.

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At the moment, the police have laid siege to the area to arrest people visiting the shrines. Two persons have already been caught while investigation continues.

There had been several reported cases of how victims of kidnappers escaped from Ibafo while attempts were being made to use them for money making rituals.

Some of the lucky victims spoke about how other victims were taken to the hideouts of the ritualists inside the forests.

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