

Anxiety among Niger housewives as youths catch man with fresh manhood

By Hussein Yahaya

A drama played out at Garam, a Niger State community bordering the FCT on Sunday when a man was caught with a severed penis.

City & Crime learnt that when the news of the man's arrest broke out, women, mostly housewives, were seen trying to locate their husbands.

Those who could not reach out to their husbands on phone were seen walking, some barefooted, to fun joints to check on them.

"What do you want me to do? I have to go and find my husband, he left since after church service and has not returned. His mobile phone has not been going since then. I need to go and check if he is fine," Mrs Mary Audu said on her way to a burukutu (local alcoholic drink) joint.

Another housewife, Mrs

Mujidat Azeez, said immediately she heard of the arrest she called her husband.

She said, "When he picked the call, he told me that he also heard about the incident and that he was at the chief's palace to see the suspect."

Our City Editor learnt that the man, suspected to be a Nigerien, was hawking herbs in the community when he was arrested.

It was learnt that a man who called to patronise him found the penis in his basket and raised alarm.

Youths were said to have bounced on him and took him to the village head where he was severely beaten.

Although the chief refused to comment on the incident, a man who claimed to be one of his aides and gave his name as Joseph, said the suspect would

be handed over to the police after passing through their own local judicial process.

In a related incident, a man was arrested for defiling a minor in the community on the same day.

City & Crime learnt that the girl, said to be between the ages of five and seven, was said to have reported the incident to her mum, who raised alarm.

The locals said the suspect lured the girl to a hideout and forcefully had carnal knowledge of her.

A local, Samson Shekwoyi, said the man was traced, identified by the victim, apprehended and handed over to vigilantes.

Our City Editor further learnt that same last week, a mutilated corpse of a child wrapped inside a bag was dumped in the community.



■ Niger CP, Monday Bala Kuryas

Recall that City & Crime reported that a child was stolen by a woman who used biscuits to lure his siblings to part with the baby.

It was, however, not clear if the found body was that of the stolen baby as it was mutilated.

The state's police spokesman, Wasiu Abiodun, could not be reached for comment on the incidents.