## **Mutilated Female Corpse Found In Benue**

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A mutilated female corpse has been found dumped around the roadside of Welfare Quarters in Makurdi, Benue State.

Witnesses identified the body to be one 30-year-old, Mnena also known as Dorcas who resides at Owner Occupier Housing Estate in Makurdi.

A close associate of the deceased, who declined his name on print, explained to journalists in Makurdi that Dorcas went missing for two days before her lifeless body was found.

He said, "On Friday, July 14, 2023, she (deceased) escorted a friend of hers to the burial of her brother in-law. They returned back to Makurdi on Saturday after the burial. When they returned, she didn't go back home but slept at her friend's house around the modern market area.

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"The next day, Sunday, July 16, 2023, was her birthday, she left her friend's house with a promise to call her friend by 3pm, so they can sit out.

"However, when she didn't call back as arranged, the friend called to find out why she hadn't called, but she didn't pick her calls. The friend kept calling the whole of Sunday and continued till Monday, but she still didn't pick the phone.

"On Tuesday, the friend got a message that was sent from the lady's (deceased) phone, but later realised that she may not have been the one that actually sent the message, asking her to come to a certain address and when her friend got to the place, she discovered that she was dead and dismembered and some of her body parts strewn all over the place.

"While in a state of shock, she called her husband to the scene and the husband in turn called the police and it was discovered that her eyes, ears, tongue, breasts among other body parts were removed and taken away by whoever may have perpetrated the act.

"When the police saw that the corpse had started to decompose, they called in one of the state agencies, which came, gathered the body parts into a plastic bag, took and buried her. This lady has been going through a lot in recent times. She has gone through one trauma or another. And recently, she lost her elder sister."

When contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), SP Catherine Anene, said she was attending a conference elsewhere and needed some information to be able to confirm the incident.

But the Acting General Manager of Benue State Environmental and Sanitation Agency (BENSESA), Martin Tseuma, said the agency evacuated the corpse based on the report from the police.

"The police at B division wrote to us that they have discovered an unknown corpse at Adem village, near Welfare Quarters.

"It was based on the report that they said we should evacuate the body for burial and that was what we did. We didn't contact anyone because how do we know the family.

"But the family came to my office this morning (Monday) and I directed them to go back to the police where they got the story of the unclaimed corpse," Tseuma explained to journalists.