## Man narrates how he killed seven-year-old-boy

By Yetunde Ayobami Ojo and Catherine Udoh

ALAGOS High Court sitting in Ikeja has been told how a 26-year-old man, Patrick Onyekachuku Nwachukwu, allegedly murdered his neighbour, seven-year old Ayuba and dropped him in a septic tank at Momako Estate, Abaranje road, Ikotun,

Nwachukwu revealed this in his testimony before Justice Atinuke Ipaye yesterday while he was cross examined by the prosecution team led by Chief-State Prosecutor, Mr. Akin George . He told the court that the deceased fell from his shoulder and refused to stand up.

According to him, "I was carrying my young friend on my shoulder and we were walking towards the door, when we both fell because the floor was slippery. I tried reviving him by pouring water on him but he did not wake up.

"I shook him and tapped him but he was dead. At that point, I didn't know what to do and I was scared of what would be done to me if they found out what happened to Ayuba. I did the only thing that came to



I did the only thing that came to my mind by disposing the body into the septic tank on the street



my mind by disposing the body into the soak-away on the street."

When it was discovered that Ayuba was missing, all the neighbours rushed out in search of him but was unable to locate his whereabouts, until after a week when Nwachukwu's uncle called the deceased parent to come to his house.

Nwachukwu was arrested in his uncle's living room when the uncle showed them a ransom letter that he found, which was written in the suspect's handwriting. In the letter, the suspect had demanded for N5 million, stating that he kidnapped Ayuba.

Investigation showed that Nwachukwu strangled Ayuba to death and put him in a bag before disposing him in a nearby soakaway in the estate.

The matter was subsequently adjourned till April 18, 2016 for parties to file their written addresses.