

Police arrest alleged killers of taxi driver

By Samson Ezea

THIRTY-YEAR-OLD Callistus Charles Ugoh was a driver with one of the commercial banks before he was disengaged last year. As part of his disengagement benefits, the bank gave him a Toyota corolla car.

To reduce his cost of living, Ugoh relocated from Surulere to Ikorodu with his new wife, Cynthia. In order to make ends meet, he started taxi business with his car. Whenever he got a charter depending on the area, he spent between two to three days before coming back home. But while at work, he was always in touch with his wife and uncle, Basil Ugoh.

This was the situation when he left home for work on April 14 and never returned home. Narrating the story to *The Guardian*, Basil's wife, Cynthia said on that day, he got a call from a customer and left home for work.

"He assured me of coming back the next day to celebrate Easter with me and his

uncle's children that visited the day before. Unlike him, he didn't call that day. I called him several times, but his number was switched off. I became apprehensive.

"On April 16, I went to his uncle's house at Surulere to inform him of the development. He also tried his num-



The late Ugoh

ber and it was switched off. At this moment, it became obvious that something has gone wrong."

Basil, who is a police officer, noted that immediately Callistus' wife told him what happened, he reached out to police authorities.

"When I informed the Lagos State police command of the development, all the police formations were alerted. That was how his car was tracked down in Surulere by some policemen on duty, who took the car and its four occupants to Bode Thomas Police Station.

"Based on the confessional statement of one of the suspects, they attacked Callistus at Ajah area on April 14 and ran away with his car. We searched for his body for days at Lekki, Epe and Ajah axis to no avail.

"We were directed to the Military Hospital Yaba, where bodies of unknown persons are deposited. When we got there, we saw his body and ordered for an autopsy. We will soon convey his remains to village for burial," Basil said.