

Ondo: Motorcyclist, accomplice allegedly steal oracle, kill 90-year-old custodian

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Operatives of Ondo State Police Command have arrested a motorcyclist and his accomplice for allegedly killing a 90-year-old traditional chief after stealing an oracle in his custody.

The incident occurred in Irese community, Ifedore Local Council of the state. The suspects: Dada Ologundundun, 71, and John Samson, 27, a commercial motorcyclist, were said to have strangled the nonagenarian in his abode at the Oke-Misson axis of the community.

Sources said that Ologundudu, popularly known as ‘Kayefi’, and Samson were nabbed by residents of the community while trying to flee the community after committing the crime.

According to sources, the lifeless body of the deceased was found in his room a day after Ajisegiri had threatened to report the suspect to the whole community for stealing the idol, known as ‘Osho Osi Ode’ in the community.

The suspect’s landlady, Beatrice Ademeti, said the deceased came to her house a day before the incident, and informed the suspect to return what he took from his house or he would face the consequences.

Ademeti said the suspect, who had only spent six months in the community, claimed to be an

herbalist before renting the apartment. She said the suspect made the deceased his intimate friend and made him explain the workings of the oracle.

“The motorcyclist cannot say he’s not responsible for the death of Ajisegiri, because on the night of the incident, I overheard the deceased shouting at the suspect, saying he gave him a day to return the community’s property he took in his room or he would report the case to the whole town the next day.

“The following morning, I called other neighbours and explained to them that the deceased had not opened his door since morning, which made them force his door open.

“To our surprise, we found his lifeless body on the floor in his room with fingers and blood all over his neck,” Ademeti added. The Guardian gathered that the assailants gained entry through the window and strangled Ajisegiri.

The suspect, who initially denied the allegation, was said to have later confessed where he kept the oracle, after which it was retrieved with the Police’s help.

A police officer within the community, who craved anonymity, said the case has been transferred to the State Criminal Investigation and Intelligence Department (SCIID), Akure, for further investigation.

While confirming the incident, the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) in the state, Olufumilayo Odunlami-Omisanya, said an investigation had begun into the incident.