



# Features

www.dailyindependentnigeria.com

INL amongst  
global best brands »Pg38  
*Crime*

Group Features Editor: Sunny Igboanugo c&i@dailyindependentnigeria.com

08054103450

## When pure water sachet dispute led to landlord's death

By Femi Ogbonnikan  
Correspondent, Lagos

**WHENEVER** one is told not to fight, it is always a mark of wisdom and not cowardice to adhere to it. Indeed, many life experiences had proved that the use of physical force, in more cases than one leads to sadness, sorrow and regrets than the biblical turning of the other cheek.

In his rofororo fight song, the late Afrobeat king, Fela Anikulapo Kuti, aptly described one of the several sad outcomes of fighting, saying by the time the combatants come out of the mud in which they would have fallen, it would be difficult for even their friends to recognise them, because they would have been so messed-up.

But, in many cases, those involved would wish several times over that their trouble could stop at faces smeared with mud or going home in torn cloths or even completely naked rather than irreversible outcomes.

At least, if it has to do with just public disgrace, it could mean a different thing than long terms in jail or even death. In that case there will be much to worry about. For Biodun Amosun, the second scenario has become the case since a fortnight ago, when a fight she had with her landlord has landed her in deeper troubles that she could hardly anticipate or imagine in her entire life. Hers was actually a long grudge she could no longer bear with her landlord and wife. Having been pushed to the wall she dared the duo recently. The 34-year-old liquor shop operator allegedly snuffed life out of her landlord over a trivial litter of pure water sachet on the doorstep of the latter.

She was said to have hit a laced plank, with three nails on the left limb of the landlord, Jimoh Adeyemo, wounding him in the process, which eventually led to the complications that led to his death eight days after at a public hospital in Ogun state. The sustained bruise was said to have been infected with tetanus.

The incident occurred at about 10:30p.m on Friday, October 7, 2011 in Olorogbo area of Owode-Yewa, Ogun state.

The Ikereku, Abeokuta, Ogun state-born suspect, who is currently a guest of homicide detectives attached at the State Criminal Investigation Department (SCID), Ogun State Command Headquarters, Elewera, Abeokuta, admitted killing the landlord but said it was not her intention.

"The landlord was the cause of the problem. I was engaged in a fracas with his wife and when I had an upper hand on the wife she quickly called her husband to come to her rescue. And when the husband (landlord) came, instead for him to separate us, he held me by the throat and asked his wife to be beating me. The landlord's wife also, injured me on my left arm. It was when I wriggled myself out of them that I rushed outside the home and picked a plank I found on the ground and hit it on the land-



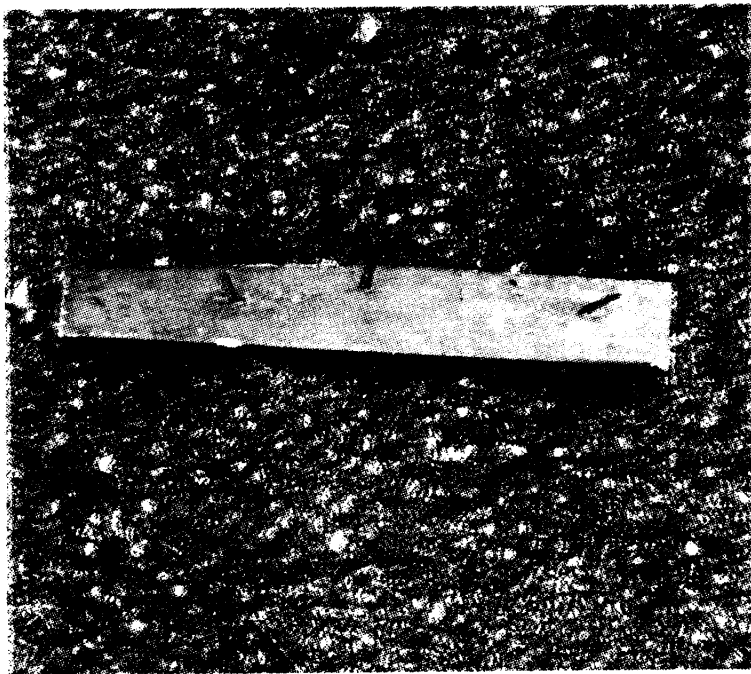
•Amosun

lord's left limb. I did not know that the plank was laced with nails and the thing landed on his arm and it bled.

The wife also, fled when she noticed I had hit her husband. The next thing, the landlord reported at the police station and I was invited. It was at the station that we were asked to go to hospitals for treatment over the various injuries we inflicted on each other. But I think five days thereafter, the landlord did not go to hospital and the bruise on him had already been infected with tetanus. Subsequently, the police invited me to the station where I was asked to foot the hospital bill of the landlord. The landlord claimed he needed the sum of N6, 000 for the treatment but when I could not raise the amount my younger brother, Muyideen raised the amount and we gave him.

But from our findings, we learnt that the landlord did not visit any hospital for treatment and instead, he was taken away by his relatives to an undisclosed location. It was eight days thereafter he gave up the ghost, according to information we gathered. Before I realized what was amiss about two policemen had come for me. They took me to their station and from there, I was taken down here (SCID, Elewera, Abeokuta)", narrated Biodun.

On what led to the ugly incident, Biodun, a widow, claimed she had long endured the excesses and as such, could no longer tolerate the landlord and his wife, who had al-



•Alleged plank used to kill the landlord

ways made unbearable to her.

"We had all the while been quarreling. I rented a room from the landlord where I and my two children are staying. I had lost my husband and I have refused to re-marry. On that fateful Friday, October 7, 2011, my younger sister, Kafayat came to visit me. She took a sachet of pure and unconsciously dropped it on the doorstep of the landlord's



•Nkemdeme

room. The next thing the landlord's wife, Adijat came and knocked on my door. She asked me to tell my visitor to come and pick the pure water sachet she dropped on their doorstep. Kafayat wanted to get up and pick the sachet but I prevented her because the issue was trivial. I had a rethink over my decision and I subsequently asked my son to go and pick the sachet. But instead, the

landlord's wife insisted my visitor, who is my younger sister should pick the sachet, not my son and that was what triggered the fracas. We fought and when she sensed she could not handle me she quickly raised an alarm and called

her husband to come to her rescue. And that was how the landlord joined in the fray", explained the 34-year-old suspect.

Nicholas Nkemdeme, Ogun State Police Commissioner confirmed the incident.

According to the CP, it was the report lodged at the Owode-Yewa Divisional Police Station by the deceased wife, Adijat Adeyemo, that culminated in the arrest of the suspect. He acknowledged that the quarrel that led to the entire saga came about over a trivial issue.

"Biodun Amosun and Adijat Adeyemo were engaged in a physical fight, the former became aggressive and when the landlord wanted to make peace until the former brought out a cane under her cloth and beat up Adijat. But while Jimoh Adeyemo, the landlord was preventing her (Biodun) from beating his wife (Adijat), the tenant picked a plank, with nails and hit it on the left hand of the landlord who sustained varying degrees of injury and later died on admission at a public hospital," said Nkemdeme.

The CP added that investigation had intensified into the matter and however, assured that the suspect would soon be arraigned in court to answer for the crime committed.