

## Human Interest

# Varsity student murdered in cold blood

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A YOUNG pharmacy student of Delta State University, Abraka, Okeri Oghale, was allegedly strangled to death by one Obaro Ekane at Ozoro in Isoko South Local Government Area of Delta State.

Oghale, it was said, barely finished her 300 level examinations and was preparing to start her internship at the General Hospital, Ughelli, when she was killed.

On the fateful day at about 2pm, the deceased called to inform her elder sister, Okeri Evi, that she was abducted by her friend, Obaro Ekane, and was locked inside his room.

Oghale's appeal to the murderers to spare her life fell on deaf ears and by the time her sister rushed to the place, Ekane who was standing outside his house, deceived her that Oghale had left his house for a hairdressing saloon.

Oghale's sister quickly dashed to the saloon where she and the deceased usually had their hairdo but did not find her sister there. By the time she got back, Obaro had disappeared.

In the evening, the deceased's mother and Evi went in search of both Obaro and the deceased, and promptly informed the police



•Oghale

and later the town's vigilante group, because the police told them that they could only declare a person missing after 24 hours.

While it was discovered that Obaro's mother and siblings had deserted their house, Kelvin Ekane, younger brother of Ekane, was later

discovered to have aided the escape of his brother and was trying to mop up stains of blood in their house so as to conceal the facts of the matter.

The vigilante group prevented Kelvin from escaping into a standby car with two occupants, brought him back and insisted on

searching the house.

Kelvin took the vigilante team to a wrong room in the house but the vigilante men forced him to open the door to his brother's room where earrings and bangles of the deceased were discovered on the floor, with bloodstains on them and other things. Kelvin was handed over to police that night by the vigilante team. And, while the search was going on, Ekane, it was said, kept answering the deceased's phone calls saying that she was in his house.

After a while, Ekane's younger brother took the police to an uncompleted building beside their house, where Oghale's corpse was found.

The police then took the corpse to the hospital where the deceased was confirmed dead and deposited in mortuary at Ozoro. The police at Ozoro carried out detailed investigation and discovered that the girl was strangled to death with a chain.

Two weeks after the discovery of the corpse, Ekane was said to have come out of his hideout.

Effort made to reach Delta State Commissioner of Police, at press time proved abortive. However, it was learnt that the matter has been transferred to the State Criminal Investigation Department at Asaba.

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