

Inspector General of Police, Mohammed Adamu

**LAGOS** – Seven suspects, working for an energy company, Xinxin Energy Limited, located at the Odogbolu area of Ogun State, and owned by a Chinese national, Hongli Song, have been arrested for alleged kidnap and murder.

They were arrested by the operatives of the Force Intelligence Response Team, IRT, for allegedly kidnapping and killing the father of their employer, Defa Song, in February 2020.

It was gathered that the suspects, identified as Adetayo Adeniron, Hammed Jabiri, Jayeola Olalekan, Animashaun Mustapa, Akeem Lawal, Moruf Razaq and Yinka Jayeola, were arrested sequel to the kidnap of the 65-year-old man in February 2020, when he stepped out of his daughter's factory.

IRT source disclosed that he was taken to an unknown destination.

Few days after the kidnap, his abductors were said to have demanded a ransom of N50million for his freedom.

It was gathered that his daughter, Hongli song, promptly wrote a petition to the Inspector General of Police, Adamu Mohammed, alerting him about the kidnap.

It was learned that the IGP, in his reaction ordered operatives of the IRT to go after the kidnappers.

The Ogun State, annex of the IRT operatives said to have been deployed, and few weeks into investigations, a vulcanizer working for the company, Adelekan, was arrested.

Adelekan, was said to have confessed during interrogations that he and others working with the company, including a security guard, planned and executed the kidnapping.

He allegedly said, the 65-year-old man died in their custody few days after he was kidnapped because he fell sick and was not given proper medications.

He said his group went on to demand a ransom of N50million from their boss after her father died and they gave his body to some fishermen to be disposed off. Police sources also disclosed

We gathered that, Adelakan, led IRT operatives to arrest six other suspects who allegedly took part in the kidnapping and killing of the sexagenarian.

A source which disclosed on the condition of anonymity said: "The suspects confessed after they were arrested that they kidnapped the old man because, since they started working for his daughter, they were being shortchanged or get sacked when they made any error. They stated that after they kidnapped the man, they kept him in a house where they fed him with just mineral and sausage. They said four days after he was kidnapped, he attempted to escape, prompting them to tie him up with rope which led to his illness and death.

Three of the people guarding the man called one Moses and Jayeola were said to have brought a vehicle and a drum and put the man's corpse in the drum, tied with a chain. They took the drum away with a vehicle to a river bank, where they gave it to some fishermen who took it way. We are currently working on getting the fishermen and those who followed the fishermen to dispose the body." The source stated.

The 34-year-old Jayeola, a vulcanizer, working for the Chinese company was said to have told IRT operatives that: "I am from Odogbolu area of Ogun State, I am married with two children, I am a primary school dropout. I am vulcanizing but in 2019, I was employed by Xinxin Energy Company in Odogbolu and I was working for them as a mechanicandavulcanizer. They are paying me N60,000 monthly and I worked for them for three months before Mr Song came from China and he sacked me because I bought a vehicle with the salary I was earning.

Then, they started using me on contract basis. Then one of thesecuritymenworkingforthe company, known as Israel called meandsuggestedthatweshould kidnapthe man andhis daughter who own the company will pay us a huge ransom. Then I called my younger brother Hamehd Jabiri, who also worked in the company and informed him about the plan. He bought the idea and he invited one Moses, who he said is a cultists, who has guns. This was in October 2019. We held a meeting and planned howweveregoingtokidnap the man. On 16 of February, 2020, I was given a Corolla to repair, then I felt it was a good opportunity, after repairing the car, I called my friends known as Ade TayoAdeniran Dele andAmend and we got information from the security man that Mr. Song had stepped out of his house.