

# Bayelsa: Man Strangles Lady To Death, Buries Corpse In His Room

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**T**he Bayelsa State Police Command on Friday arrested one Joseph Fekala for allegedly killing a young lady identified as Kate Ogwoh.

The command said the suspect reportedly strangled the 26-year-old Kate to death on Thursday and buried her in a shallow grave in his bedroom at Okaka community in the Yenagoa Local Government Area of the state.

It stated that Fekala, 27, was nabbed following a tip-off and was cooling his heels at the State Criminal Investigation Department (SCID) in Yenagoa.

The Commissioner of Police, Ben Okolo, said in an interview

with journalists that the personnel of the Homicide Department of the SCID had been deployed to exhume the corpse of the deceased for proper investigation.

CP Okolo said, "It's unfortunate that this morning we heard information that a young man called Joseph Fekala strangled his girlfriend by name Kate Ogwoh at Okaka area. It's an unfortunate incident.

"We understand that he buried her in his room. We've made arrangement for the Homicide Section of the State CID to do the needful by doing proper exhumation in line with police proceedings so that we will ensure that the matter is investigated properly and the suspect faces justice."

Checks indicated that the suspect was a worker in one of the branches of a mega church

in Yenagoa and was recently promoted to the position of a youth pastor.

The father of the deceased, Dick Ogwoh, said before the arrest of the suspect, his wife told him she called their daughter's phone number a couple of times but it did not connect.

He said that Kate, who sold clothes, and the younger sister of Fekala were friends and former schoolmates and she was on a visit to their home when the incident occurred.

Ogwoh said they became uncomfortable and suspicious when they could not reach Kate on her phone for a whole day, which prompted their visit to the house of the suspect.

He said, "My wife called me that my daughter's number was not going through. From morn-

ing till evening, the number was not going through. My wife told me the boy (Fekala) was owing Kate N50,000 and he refused to pay the money. Each time she (Kate) called him, he would not pick his call.

"I asked the boy where is my daughter, he said he didn't see her. In the process, I asked him when last he saw her, he said yesterday I asked him what she was wearing, he said she wore white polo (shirt) and black jean trousers. I asked him when she left the house, he said around 7am in the morning. His junior sister is my daughter's schoolmate."

He said he was laying a formal complaint to the police when he received a call informing him that the suspect killed their daughter and buried her in a shallow grave in his room.