

A 19-year old Ado-Ekiti housewife, Opeyemi Wasiu, connived with a 'pastor' to kill her 18-month old son for money-making ritual, ODUNAYO OGUNMOLA reports

Woman arrested for selling 18-month old baby

A 19-YEAR-OLD housewife has been arrested by the police for allegedly selling her 18-month old son to a fake prophet for money-making ritual.

Opeyemi Wasiu, a resident of Ado-Ekiti, the Ekiti State capital, who hails from Iwo in Osun State, confessed at a Police post that she was allegedly brainwashed by the fake prophet to use her son to make money.

The prophet, she claimed, influenced her to dump the boy inside a well.

The baby whose name was given as Abdullahi, had been declared missing since Sunday but was later found dead inside the well.

A crowd thronged the place to behold the mother who was made to carry the body and danced with it.

Many of the spectators, including market women and others cursed Opeyemi.

Narrating her story to reporters at the police post, the teenage mother explained that the prophet requested her to produce a manhood for ritual, to which she said she earlier objected. She later gave it a second thought when the prophet told her that neither her husband nor the son would be required for the ritual.

While confessing that she did not know the prophet, Opeyemi said the man when they first met felt sorry for her poverty, but promised to make her wealthy with both parties striking a deal to meet at Ori-Apata, in Ado-Ekiti, off Iworoko Road.

She said that she was attending an obscure church of her accomplice, located inside a forest around the oil palm plantation of the State Ministry of Agriculture, off Ajilosun Street. She alleged that the prophet slept with her several times.

According to Opeyemi, the fake prophet had demanded the semen of her one-and-half year-old baby which made her to wonder whether a little boy could produce semen. She alleged the "man of God" later

'She denied knowledge of the whereabouts of the boy until he was found dead in a dry well'

promised to use his own semen after he might have made love to her and promised that she would soon get her "reward" in several hundreds of thousands of naira.

When journalists asked her whether she intimidated her husband, Opeyemi explained that initially she informed her husband whom she said consented to her going to him for "spiritual consultation", but said that she did not reveal to her husband the love-making.

She said the fake prophet prepared a concoction which he put into her mouth and that of her baby, who was declared missing in mysterious circumstances.

She denied knowledge of the whereabouts of the boy until he was found dead in a dry well at Ita-Eku.

Her neighbours and family suspected her alleged culpability in the mysterious disappearance of her baby as they pressurised her to explain how the boy found his way into the well that was padlocked without the knowledge of anybody.

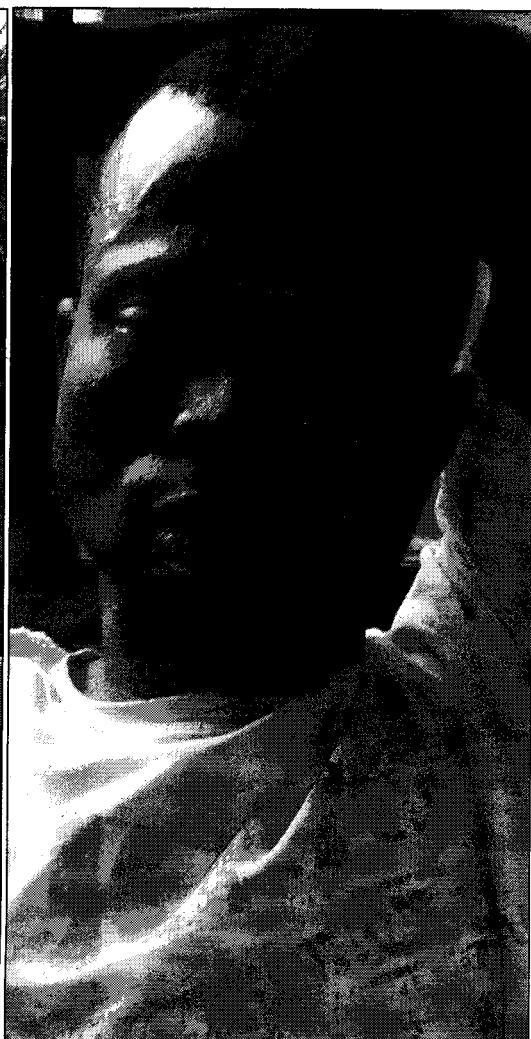
Opeyemi later allegedly confessed her involvement with the fake prophet whom she alleged had used her son to make ritual as they had planned.

Her husband, Belawu, who is a butcher, told reporters that he was disappointed by the infidelity of his wife. He expressed his love and care for her without knowing that she had been sleeping with the prophet.

A policeman attached to the police post said that the investigation is on-going to ensure that the prophet is arrested. He said Opeyemi's husband alerted the police on the death of little Abdullahi.



• Opeyemi, the mother of the baby



• Wasiu, the father



• The well in which the baby was thrown into

PHOTOS BY: TOYIN ANISULOWO