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Police detain stepmother over death of husband's son



The Nation

2 days ago

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Men of the Ondo State Police Command are batt-ling hard to unravel the sudden death of 13 year-old, Awal Osisi, who was alleged by his stepmother, Mrs. Rukayat to have committed suicide.

The incident which occurred Wednesday last week at Omi-Eja Street, Alamoye Road, off Akure High school in Akure, the Ondo State capital remains a mystery to residents who are asking the deceased neighbours what could have prompted the little boy, who was in Primary Five to kill himself?

Some of the residents are suspecting a foul play in the death of the boy whom they said had always been subjected to the beating of his life by his stepmother while alive.

Already, Rukayat has been detained by the police following the statement she made on the death of the little Awal.



One of their neighbours, Mr. Andrew Emeka who spoke with The Nation alleged that Rukayat raised alarm that attracted residents of the area that his stepson had committed suicide by hanging himself in their one room apartment.

Though, the sad event was said to have happened when his husband, Mr. Osisi, who is ironically a police officer had gone to his base in Ikare-Akoko.

Osisi, an indigine of Kogi State, was said to have separated from Awal biological mother before he got married to Rukayat and they started living together in a one room apartment.

A brother to Osisi's landlord, Mr. Taiwo Adegoke debunked the allegation that young Awal committed suicide by hanging himself as claimed by Rukayat.

According to him, "Rukayat ran out and raised an alarm at about 10:30am that her stepson had hanged himself to the door handle of their one room apartment. When I told her to go and show me where she claimed the boy hung himself I realised that the boy's height is higher than the door.

"When I saw the purported rope that she said the boy used in hanging himself, I realised that it was just a bag strap which cannot even go round the boy's neck.

Adegoke revealed that Rukayat had earlier sent Awal on an errand which the boy refused to go an action that provoked his stepmother to beat him.

He alleged "maybe while beating the boy he probably gave up the ghost and she tried to cover up her crime with the allegation that the boy hung himself.

"When she brought the body of the boy, the boy was

already foaming and bleeding from his nose and mouth and the blood stains were still visible around the house.

“When we rushed the boy to the State Specialist Hospital, Akure the medical personnel requested for police report when she told them the same story of suicide.

“It was then we accompanied her to ‘A’ Divisional Police Station in Akure to report the case, where she was detained after relaying the story and the police suspected foul play.

“If she can speak the truth, I am sure the issue will be better but because she cannot tell the truth that is why she is been detained. But the boy did not hang himself in our house.

The Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), ASP Wole Ogodo confirmed the incident, saying the case was already under investigation due to suspected foul play and the circumstances surrounding the incident.

Ogodo said, “A suicide case was reported on January 8, 2014 at about 2:35pm, one Rukayat Osis of High School Area, Akure, came to ‘A’ Divisional Police Station, Akure to report that at about 10.00am she discovered that one Awal Osis now deceased, 13 years, allegedly died inside the room after committing suicide.

“The complainant further stated that the victim allegedly hanged himself with belt tied to the door handle of the room.

“She further stated that she removed the corpse of the deceased to Ondo State Specialist Hospital, Akure before coming to “A” Division, Akure to report officially”. On the receipt of her report Ogodo said that policemen visited the scene of the incident and suspected a foul play.

He further noted that, “the complainant is a stepmother to the deceased and his mother has already divorced the father.

“The story of the complainant is also difficult to believe, she is presently undergoing interrogation and DCB is presently investigating the case and it would be transferred to State CID for discreet investigation,” the PPRO said.

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