

CITYBEATS

Teenager raped, killed in hotel

HER parents advised her to live responsibly and learn a trade, but she rejected their words of wisdom.

Oluwatosin Ami (18) embrace prostitution. When she presumably thought she was enjoying the "vocation", she was murdered in her room at the Happy Day Hotel, Sari-Iganmu in Orile-Iganmu, Lagos State by two of her customers who also stole valuables.

Her father, Babatunde Ami and mother, Muyibat, wept at the Orile Police Station, where suspected members of the rapists' gang which allegedly killed Oluwatosin were being held.

Mr Ami said: "My daughter dropped out of school and I told her to learn a trade; she refused and said she wanted to be a sales girl. We secured a job for her with one woman on Lagos Island. After some months, she said she could no longer work there. I was looking for money to start up a business for her when she ran away from home in December 2013 - a week before Christmas. We have been looking for her since then until one of our relations called us to inform us about her death.

"This was not the first time she would run away from home. The other time, we reported at Adeniji Adele Police Station and the police told us it was possible she had gone to stay with her boyfriend. She eventually returned home. We just hope that the police will bring the culprits to justice."

Police sources told *The Nation* that the suspects had not been arrested, but that some members of their deadly gang were already in their net, as-



• Chukwuebuka (left) and Chimudi

...the gang specialised in operating in brothels where they trick their would-be victim to sleep with some of them. If she agrees, while one of them is sleeping with her, she is tied up as others rob her of her belongings'

By Jude Isiguzo

sisting them in their investigations.

It was learnt that the gang specialised in operating in brothels where they trick their would-be victim to sleep with some of them. If she agrees, while one of them is sleeping with her, she is tied up as others rob her of her belongings. The strategy, it was learnt, was used on the late Oluwatosin, leading to her death.

A suspected member of the gang, John-Paul Chukwuebuka (19) was arrested by members of the Oodua People's Congress (OPC) at CityPoint Hotel, where he had once robbed and raped a woman.

The suspect dispossessed his victim of her iPhone and

N10,000. Chukwuebuka was with Joshua and Victor at the hotel the day Oluwatosin was killed.

Though he claimed he was not with them in the room when the incident happened, he admitted that they had been doing the same thing together because they had no job.

Chukwuebuka's confession led to the arrest of Ebuka Chimudi (22), who also confessed to the crime.

Chukwuebuka gave the names of his accomplices as Kojo and Williams, adding that they had operated at Nodwa, Boundary at Ajegunle; Pent House at Awodiora, Sunderland 1 and 2 at Coker, Orile, and Top Star at Kirikiri.

He said he had raped and robbed five girls, but none died.

The suspect said: "We had no cause to do what we did. It is just that we had no money; we played and stayed together and that was how we started thinking about it. We had gone to certain hotels and it did not work out. We operate only in hotels where there is loud music and plenty of rooms. We don't operate in rooms close to the reception area so that even when our victims shout, nobody will hear."

The suspects are now at the homicide section of the State Criminal Investigation Department (SCID), Panti, Yaba on the mainland, undergoing investigations.

Fear grips residents over fallen electricity cables