

Two suspected kidnappers lynched in Oyo

•Three mobbed in Ondo, Osun

Two suspected kidnappers were lynched on Sunday by residents of Sabo in Oyo, Atiba Local Government Area of Oyo State. They allegedly attempted to abduct a seven-year-old girl, Anike Mufutau.

Lateef Gbadegesin, a university graduate and former councillor in the defunct Oyo Local Government and Abideen, popularly called “blood”, reportedly told Anike, who was running an errand for her mother at Basorun, to take them to a place in Sabo.

The girl was said to have complied with their request and they boarded a bus to Sabo around 7pm.

When they got to Sabo, the suspected kidnappers allegedly dragged Anike towards an unknown destination.

Her cry for help attracted passersby who intervened.

On interrogation, it was gathered that the suspects could not explain where they were taking the girl to.

Residents beat them up and set them ablaze.

When the police arrived on the scene, the suspects were dead.

Anike was handed over to the police and taken to the Atiba Police Station, where she was reunited with her mother, a local gin seller.

Gbadegesin's family stormed the station, demanding justice.

They argued that Gbadegesin was Anike's mother's customer and was not a kidnapper.

One of them said: “One of our brothers in Ibadan took Gbadegesin to Ibadan so that he would not mingle with miscreants. He came home recently because he could not withstand what he called the isolated lifestyle in Ibadan. He does not keep late night and has never been involved in undesirable acts.”

Anike said the suspects were her mother's customers, but her mother denied knowing them.

Yesterday, a middle-aged woman was set ablaze by irate youths in Ondo West Local Government Area of Ondo State for allegedly attempting to kidnap a teenage boy.

It was learnt that the suspect, popularly called “Ayababa”, was mentally ill and was often seen at a dump site on Oluseyi Street.

Ayababa, who many residents now believe had been pretending to be mentally ill, allegedly accosted the boy on the road around 7:30am and dragged him into the bush.

His cry for help attracted passersby, who rescued him.

The passersby searched Ayababa's bag and found a Blackberry, a Nokia phone and other items.

It was discovered that she fixed artificial nails and used artificial hair to disguise as a mad woman.

An eyewitness said Ayababa confessed that she was a kidnapper and was from Osogbo in Osun State.

Ayababa was set ablaze by a mob before policemen arrived on the scene.

The Divisional Police Officer (DPO) in charge of Funbi Fagun Police Station in Ondo, Emmanuel Okorie, a Superintendent, confirmed the incident.

At Ikire in Osun State, two suspected kidnappers were mobbed yesterday by residents, led by youths and commercial motorcyclists.

It was learnt that one of the suspects, an unidentified middle-aged man, was pped for questioning by residents at the N.U.D. Primary School in Sango on his mission in the area, but he took to his heels.

He was apprehended and set ablaze.

At Isale Total in Apomu, Ikire, another suspect was stripped naked and set ablaze after he allegedly confessed to being a kidnapper.

Commissioner of Police Ibrahim Maishanu condemned the incidents, saying jungle justice is unlawful.