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'Good Samaritan' in trouble

Posted by: Ebele BONIFACE in News ⌚ 2 days ago

•Police charge him with murder as female stranger dies in his house

A 35-year old man, Otubor Richard, is now being questioned by the State Criminal Investigation Department (SCID) of the Lagos State Police Command in connection with the death, in his house, of a female stranger.

Otubor, it was gathered, had tried to play the Good Samaritan by offering to give the lady transport fare to take her to her destination.

They had met at a bus stop at the Iyana Ipaja section of the Lagos-Abeokuta Expressway on Friday, May 8, 2015, after the women told him that she had run out of money and could not proceed with her journey.

The woman, according to the suspect agreed to follow him to his Abesan Estate house to collect the N200 she required to continue her journey home.

Otubor, a native of Ekpon village in Igueben Local Government Area, Edo State, said he was on his way back home from work when he ran into the woman at Iyana Ipaja who was going in the same direction as himself.

He said: "When we got to School Bus Stop at Abesan Estate area, I alighted and she too alighted. She approached me and begged me to help her to continue her journey home. She said she had no money to continue her journey home and was not ready for any embarrassment from usually abusive bus conductors.

"The lady even told me that there was a time she was stranded and a bus conductor collected her shoes and hand bag in lieu of transport fare and even inflicted serious wounds on her. She said since that time, she had avoided any confrontation with any bus conductor.

"So we both alighted at School Bus Stop at about 10.30 pm. I told the lady that I had no money on me, but because of her pitiable situation on that fateful day and time, I would be willing to go home with her and give her the only N200 I had. I asked her whether she was willing to follow me home to collect the N200 and she said she did not mind no matter how far my place was, saying that it would be an opportunity for her to know more about the estate.

"I told her that I was living at No. 1, Oluwole Street, Abesan Estate but I had just moved into my new house and didn't know the address. I had decided to give her the only N200 I had at home because I intended to meet my brother who lives in the same Estate the following morning to collect some money from him for my transportation to work. I was determined to help the young lady because I saw her as my sister.

"When we reached my house, she stood outside. She also told me to hurry up because she had a headache. I entered the house and brought out soap and water to wash her head, after which I went back into the house to fetch the N200.

"As I came out with the N200, I saw her shivering seriously and she was foaming in the mouth. I felt the best thing to do was to take her to the hospital. People gathered and were watching what was going on. Then she slumped and looked as if she was dead. I went to report to the police at Ikotun with my brother and others."

He said it was not the first time he would help people in a similar situation.

He said: "I have been helping stranded people. There was a day I saw somebody, a man corporately dressed, who was carrying laptop. He approached me to help him with transport fare of N100. In my wallet I had N150. From it I gave him N100 and rode home with the remaining N50.

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"I have also met corporate beggars who tell one lie or the other to collect money from me. I only give according to my pocket, whether the person is lying or not, because I imagine myself in their shoes, travelling a long distance.

"I only help people because of God. I am a Christian. I attend Mustard Seed Faith Ministry at Baruwa Bus Stop, Ipaja. Pastors have been preaching to us and even my grandmother always told me that helping people or giving other people's problems a priority above yours prolongs one's life.

"But with what I am experiencing now, I can't help any stranded person in Lagos again. I am now suffering for helping a stranded person. If I knew that trouble would come out of this help, I would not have allowed her to follow me to my house."

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