

Four pastors arrested for alleged killing of colleague's wife

FOUR senior pastors of a Pentecostal church have been arrested by the Zone '5' police headquarters in Benin, the Edo State capital, for alleged killing their colleague's wife, Mrs Faith Amayo, at Uromi, headquarters of Esan North East Local Government.

She was 38.

Among the pastors is the husband of the deceased, Pastor Kingsley Amayo.

The suspects were reportedly arrested after the deceased's family petitioned the Assistant inspector-general (AIG) for Zone 5 to investigate how their sister died in an accident.

An assistant pastor in the church's branch in Benin said he was aware of the arrest, adding that only the Lagos head office could comment on it.

The elder brother to the deceased, Fidelis Evbuomwan, said the family instructed its

From Osagie Otabor, Benin

lawyer to write a petition on the conflicting accounts by the deceased's husband on how his wife died in the accident in which he was also involved.

Evbuomwan recalled that on July 26, Pastor Amayo informed his wife's family, through his elder brother, identified simply as Chief Iso, that Faith died in an accident at Ujogba while her husband was driving her to Benin.

The distraught brother said the family's investigation showed that no accident was recorded at Ujogba, or at Ekpoma Police Division, which is in charge of the area, on that day.

Evbuomwan raised ques-

tions about his sister's death.

He asked: "Where did the accident occur? Where is the other vehicle alleged to have had a head-on with Pastor Amayo's Sienna vehicle? Who took them to hospital where Faith was pronounced Brought-in-Dead (BID)? Who embalmed the body before it was taken to a mortuary at Uromi? And why was it not reported to the police or wait for her family?"

Zonal Public Relations Officer (ZPRO) Emeka Iheanacho, a Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP), said the discrepancies in the reports to the police led to arrest of the four pastors.

Iheanacho said a case of an

accident was reported at Ekpoma Police Division by the pastor but the deceased's family wrote a petition of alleged murder to the zonal AIG on the incident.

He said: "The matter was reported at the Edo State Police Command where, initially, they were investigating a fatal motor accident before the family of the late woman and wife of the pastor, Mrs Faith Amayo, initiated a petition to the Office of the AIG, alleging a foul play.

"So, the petition before the AIG is from the family of the deceased, which suspected that the husband must have used the woman for ritual.

"That is the matter we are investigating presently."

