Killer-cop arrested in Rivers

Victim's family demands justice

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Rosemary Nwisi, Port Harcourt

THE police in Rivers State have arrested a Sergeant who allegedly killed Abiodun Jimo (38).

Jimo, a father of three, was killed last Friday at the gates of Elelenwo Police station, Obio/Akpor Local Government Area.

A statement on Sunday by the police spokesman, Nnamdi Omoni, said Commissioner of Police Joseph Mukan regretted the act.

He added that the suspect has been arrested and orderly room trial will begin, even as plans are on to test his psychological status.

The statement reads: "Commissioner Mukan condemned the killing of a civilian by a Sergeant serving at Elelenwo Police Station.

"The incident happened at the station. The Sergeant, without justification, shot Abiodun Jimoh, who was rushed to the hospital but later died. His remains have been deposited in the mortuary.

"The incident is being investigated and the outcome will be communicated to the public. Meanwhile the suspect is in custody for debriefing and psychological evaluation. His Orderly Room Trial will begin in earnest for possible arraignment..."

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The deceased younger brother, Ismaheel Jimo, who witnessed the incident, said they were returning from a party; they rode on a motorcycle.

"My brother and I were returning from a party on Friday when a some policemen stopped us. They searched us and found only our identity cards and three phones, two belonging to my brother and one mine. They said we should follow them to their station at Elelenwo and we did not argue with them.

"When we got to the gate of the station, instead of driving in, one of the officers asked us to bail ourselves. We still did not argue but told them we had only N1,500 left on us.

"The team leader then asked that we be allowed to go since nothing incriminating was found on us, but one of them insisted we could not be freed like that. Instead of letting us go, the officer who later shot my brother began to beat me, hitting me with his shoes and gun.

"His colleagues and my brother begged but he did not stop. Then my brother decided to go inside the station to look for the DPO but, sensing what my brother was up to, he shot him on the leg.

"My brother died of blood shortage having lost so much blood from the injury. Efforts to save him failed as the three hospitals we took him to rejected him, including his company hospital."

Ismaheel appealed for justice, calling on the Inspector General of Police (IG), Mukan, civil society groups and well meaning Nigerians to come to his aid, and give justice to his innocent brother.

The deceased's wife, Azeezat, described her late husband as law abiding citizen. The mother of three called on the government, police authority and well meaning Nigerians to come to her aid.













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