

# Killer lovers on the prowl



Favour Oladele



Olamide Alli

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bones as instructed by Olaniyi.

They later cut the flesh into pieces and sold them to some herbalists, alfas and a pastor who needed them for money rituals. Some of them also allegedly roasted the meat and ate it, washing it down with hot drinks.

Police said that Olaniyi was tracked and arrested, and his arrest led to the recovery of Abosede's body parts from different Ogun villages where he buried or sold her mutilated remains.

Other suspects arrested in connection with Abosede's murder include Adefa Sogbeyinde (37), Rasaq Rasaq Arabs (27), Sunday Akinyemi (41), Adewole Olwafemi aka Pastor (38), Mustapha Ajibola aka Alfa (31), Mustapha Iliya (30), Shilola Amodu aka Alfa (38), Jamu Abass (25), Smooth Kazeem aka Alfa (37) and Adesola Oduyemi (56).

Confessing, Olaniyi said: "She called me on the phone saying that she was coming to see me. I asked her the reason for her visit and she said she wanted financial assistance to boost her business."

"I called Akanbi, who is my helping hand, and told him to come around because someone would be visiting us. Already, we had work at hand, so Akanbi suggested that we use her for the work."

"We killed her beside my house. I took the head, two hands and part of the meat. I sold the head to Africa for N40,000. I sold one of the hands to an orthodox doctor named Murideen for N15,000 and the other hand to Tonight for N15,000. I sold the flesh to one Alfa named Sunday Akinyemi (N10,000), Rasaq (N5,000) and Mustafa (N5,000)."

"It was Ajibola that introduced Mustapha Iliya to me. I used part of the flesh to do powdered medicine which if taken with a hot drink would draw customers."

"At times, we kill the husbands of some of our customers to turn them into widows so that they would join us in bringing victims to be slaughtered."

His confession led the IRT detectives to Abeokuta and different Ogun villages like Ifo, Iton, Papalanto and Adigbe, where eleven suspects were arrested and eight of them confessed to the kidnapping, killing and selling of the body parts of the victim.

Among the items recovered by IRT operatives were decomposed human remains, burnt human flesh mixed with liquid substance in a bottle and calabash, one complete human foot, pieces of dry human skull, a Laura SUV with registration number KTU801FP, one Bajaj Boxer motorcycle with Registration number JGB019VC, one unregistered Toyota Corolla and one Toyota Matrix with Registration number AKD703FU.

## Other recent cases

It will be recalled that in June 2020, a 39-year-old man, Chris Ndikwe, committed suicide in Lagos after killing his 25-year-old girlfriend, Olamide Alli.

Police said that Ndikwe and Alli were found dead at the former's residence at Road 5, House 16A, Victory Point Estate, Ilasan, Lagos, after a tip-off to officers of Ilasan Police Station.

A statement issued by the then police spokesman, Bala Elkana, said: "The woman was found lying in a pool of blood, with deep



Onche



cuts on her head, while the man's mouth was foaming with whitish substance.

"It was alleged that the man stabbed the woman to death with a kitchen knife and thereafter drank some poisonous substances suspected to be insecticides."

"Two blood-stained kitchen knives, two empty bottles of the poisonous substances, three empty cans of Red Bull energy drink and a plier were recovered from the scene."

Elkana added that family members of the deceased lovers revealed that they were not married but had a relationship for over seven years, adding that they had two boys, aged seven and three.

He said: "Their relationship is described as complicated, as the couples were on and off over the years. While the man lives at Victory Point Estate Ibadan, the woman lives at Ogha (Lagos)."

The woman was said to have visited the man alongside her 22-year-old sister a night before the incident, on his invitation.

He said that Alli's sister was the first to have noticed that they were both dead and raised

the alarm.

Elkana added: "In her (Alli's sister) statement, she was woken up by a loud music from the room where the corpses were found, as herself and the kids slept in a different room."

On July 21, 2012, a postgraduate student of Nasarawa State University, Cynthia Osokogu, then 25 years old, was lured from Abuja to Lagos by Okwumo Nwabufu, who she had met and befriended on Facebook.

Nwabufu had paid for the deceased's flight ticket from Abuja and lodged her in Room C1 at Cosmilla Hotel, Lake View Estate, Festac Town, Lagos, where he later connived with one Olasaeloka Ezike, and murdered the young lady.

The duo drugged Cynthia by putting Rohypnol in her drink after which they tied her hands and legs and gagged her mouth with a handkerchief and part of her hair weave.

Cynthia's killers thereafter stole her two BlackBerry mobile phones, jewellery, sex toy vibrator, passport and a pair of shoes.

In December 2019, a 23-year-old man, Adeeko Owolabi, reportedly connived with a 42-year-old self-acclaimed pastor of a white garment church, Segun Philip, to murder his girlfriend and final year Sociology student at the Lagos State University, Favour Daley-Oladele.

According to the spokesman of Ogun State Police Command, Owolabi, who was arrested in Ikoyi-Ile area of Osun State, confessed that he used his girlfriend to prepare a ritual meal for himself and his own mother who he claimed had been broke.

According to Oyeveni, "the deceased was reported to have left home to an unknown destination since the 8th of December, 2019 and had not been seen since then; hence, she was reported missing by her parents at Mowe Police Station."

"Upon the report, the DPO Mowe Division, SP Marvis Jayeola, detailed his crack detectives to unravel the mystery behind the sudden disappearance of the 22-year-old woman."

The detectives went into full-scale technical and forensic investigation of the case and their efforts paid off when the movement of the deceased was traced to a white garment church in far away Ikoyi-Ile in Osun State, being pastored by one Segun Philip.

"On getting to the church, the self-acclaimed pastor was promptly arrested, but

he was quick to inform the detectives that the girl was brought to him by her boyfriend, Adeeko Owolabi, who was still within the vicinity of the church.

## Culprits sentenced to death

A number of culprits have been prosecuted and handed death sentences in recent times with bereaved family members of their victims commending the verdicts.

In March 2019, an Ondo State High Court sentenced Seidu Adeyemi to death by hanging, for killing Khadijat Oluboyo, the daughter of a former Ondo State Deputy Governor, Lasisi Oluboyo.

The presiding judge, Samuel Bola, noted that the prosecutor and the state government's counsel had proved beyond reasonable doubt that Adeyemi committed the offence. The judge held that by criminal law, the convict had committed a capital offence and should die by hanging.

Like Adeyemi, a Lagos State High Court in Igbosere in March 2017 convicted Okwumo Nwabufu and Olasaeloka Ezike who were charged with the murder of Cynthia Osokogu.

The trial judge, Justice Olabisi Akinlade, ordered that Nwabufu and Ezike should be hung by the neck until they were dead.

Reacting to the conviction of his daughter's killers, Ondo state former deputy governor, Alhaji Lasisi Oluboyo, said the death sentence by hanging passed on the killer by the court had rekindled his hope and that of his family members in the nation's judiciary.

"This judgment will serve as a deterrent to others. You cannot kill somebody and just go away free like that. The boy thought he would go away with the murder and that was the reason he did everything to cover his track."

"This will teach our ladies a lesson that whenever they are going out, they should let people know. It was because we knew on time the whereabouts of Khadijat that we were able to get her killer," Oluboyo said.

Chairperson of the International Federation of Women Lawyers FIDA, Ondo State chapter, Bola Ogundadege, also noted that the judgment would serve as a deterrent to others, urging speedy execution of the death sentence by the state government.

## How to curb the trend-Expert

A Lagos-based clinical psychologist, Ms Lamide Adejumo, described the rising cases of ritual killings as 'worrysome, noting that there was need for circumspection in choosing partners and relationships to curb the trend.

"People must exhibit tact and thoughtfulness when going out with people as lovers. There is nothing like love is blind. You must be very vigilant and carry out diligent observation of your partners for salient countenances such as his or her thoughts on getting rich, success and the utterances of his or her circle of friends. This would enable one to gauge the kind of influence one's partner has and what he or she could do when there is disagreement or when faced with a situation in future. Most of the victims of gruesome killings in the hands of their lovers just threw themselves into relationships without any caution leading to their killing by people they thought truly loved them."

She also advocated mindset orientation of young men and women, as well as couples with a view to encouraging hard work instead of looking for fast money through rituals.

"I am also suggesting a kind of mindset orientation for our young men whose lust for overnight success and financial breakthrough are lured into ritual killings. This could be done through communal engagements and public service awareness on consequences of such actions as well as religious orientation in churches and mosques."

In his opinion, a security expert, Austen Onwirdi said "it is always reasonable to disclose where you are going when visiting anyone and to also let your host(s) know that your family members are aware of your visit. This can go a long way in disabusing evil motive from the minds of potential killer lovers."