

Man sets wife, brother-in-law ablaze two hours after she returned from Scotland

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On Apr 3, 2022



Operatives of the Lagos State Police Command have arrested a businessman, Benjamin Ogudoro (50), over alleged murder of his wife, Chinyere (46), and her younger brother, Ifeanyi Edoziem.

The deceased siblings were said to have been set ablaze by Ogudoro around 3 am, less than two hours after the woman arrived their apartment at Oteyi community, Amuwo Odofin from Scotland.

It was gathered that an argument ensued between Ogudoro and his wife over his alleged plan to sell the house she built.

The deceased woman, who was said to have relocated to Scotland four-years-ago, returned to Nigeria that night in a bid to stop her husband's move but was allegedly set blaze alongside her brother.

Ogudoro was said to have contacted his wife's sister and told her that fire gutted their building and he managed to escape but Chinyere and Ifeanyi got trapped.

Unknown to him, it was only Chinyere that died on the spot while Ifeanyi was able to make a last-moment declaration were he narrated what transpired and how the suspect set them ablaze.

In his declaration, Ifeanyi revealed that he was the one who went to the airport to pick up Chinyere, adding that Ogudoro came back late and poured petrol on them after an argument.

He said: "I went to pick my sister from the Murtala Mohammed International Airport when she returned (from Scotland).

“We had a little misunderstanding as he accused me of locking him outside.

“I told him I didn’t bolt the door; that I only used the key lock, and besides, he could have opened it since he had his keys with him.

“He kept shouting that I locked him out. He insulted me and my sister but we kept quiet.

“He left the room only to return when we had fallen asleep.

“He poured petrol on us, lit a match and went out.

“We were burning. I managed to escape but couldn’t save my sister.

“I was fortunate enough to survive.”

Ifeanyi, however, died shortly after he arrived at the hospital, as the degree of the burns he suffered was high.

Police sources said the charred remains of Chinyere were evacuated by a team from Trade Fair Division, after the police were alerted by private guards in the community.

Although Ogudoro fled immediately after the incident, it was gathered that the police trailed and apprehended him.

Spokesman for the command, SP Benjamin Hundeyin, who confirmed the arrest, said the suspect had been transferred to the State Criminal Investigations Department (SCID), Yaba, on the directive of the Commissioner of Police, CP Abiodun Alabi, for further investigation.

He said the bodies had been deposited at the Mainland Hospital mortuary, Yaba, for autopsy.