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Easter tragedy: Seminarian dies acting in Jesus crucifixion drama

TRAGEDY struck at Clarian University of Nigeria, Nekede, Imo State on Friday as a seminarian slumped and died while acting a drama on the crucifixion of Jesus Christ on campus.

The sudden death of Suel Ambrose caused panic among other seminarians and passersby as frantic efforts were made to revive him without success.

Some of the institution's students interviewed yesterday said the deceased, an indigene of Benue State, was acting the role of the biblical Peter when the incident occurred.

One of the students, who iden-

Chris Njoku, Owerri

tified himself simply as Mavis, said the 25-year-old first year student of Philosophy died on the spot.

Mavis said: "He was playing the role of the biblical Peter, demonstrating how Peter cut the ear of one of the Roman soldiers who came to arrest Jesus and Jesus fixed the ear back.

"But as the drama was going on, he slumped and died.

"The young man fell on the floor and started bleeding.

"We took him to our school hospital and the doctors did their best to revive him, but he was not responding.

"We then took him to the Federal Medical Centre in Owerri, and that was where he was certified dead.

"The drama was in commemoration of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ in respect of Easter celebration.

"He was born in 1997. He was a year one student whose dream was to become a priest in the Catholic Church."

It was observed that the school premises was quiet as there was no further activity taking place in the school in respect to the Easter celebration as the whole school was in mourning mood.

The priest in charge of Students

Affairs in the university, Fr Chukwuemeka Iheme, told newsmen that the institution would brief the public after the "authority gives us permission to do so."

The spokesman of the Imo State Police Command, Michael Abattam, a Chief Superintendent of Police (CSP), was not in the office when our correspondent called.

A source close to the command said that nobody had reported the matter to the police.

"It is only when people report that the police can investigate to find out if there was a foul play.

"For now, nobody has reported," the source said.