

CRIME REPORTS

Prophetess accused of killing 11-yr-old boy

📅 14.Dec.2014 | 0 Comments | 👤 Oluwatoyin Malik



THE mysterious death of an 11-year-old boy, Yusuf Kolawole, has generated so much bad blood among members of Pagun Community in Lagelu Local Government area of Oyo State that eight of them, one of whom was accused of killing the boy and others arrested for physical assault, were taken to the Department of Criminal Investigation, Iyaganku, Ibadan, for investigation into the case.

Crime Reports learnt that the deceased left his

parents' home on September 25, 2014, to play in the neighbourhood. That was the last seen of him as his body was found the following day in a pit close to his parents' house. A woman, Mrs Toyin Olaoye a.k.a. called Mama Adura was alleged to have killed Yusuf when words went round that she asked for the deceased's name and those of his parents during the period of search for him.

She was also reported to have told community members where to find the boy when they threatened to kill her if she did not disclose his whereabouts. When the body of the boy was discovered, the community members allegedly descended on Mrs Olaoye, beating her with all kinds of weapons until she became unconscious.

After recovering from the beating, the woman reported a case of assault and malicious damage of her property at the Iyana Offa police station while the deceased's father reported murder.

Yusuf's father, Amos Kolawole, who is among the seven being detained for physical assault, told Crime Reports that it was Mrs Olaoye's statement that aroused suspicion that she knew about his son's death. The 39-year-old man said "I returned home on the fateful day to discover my son missing. His mother said he told her that he wanted to go and play with friends at the roadside in the community.

"I went to Iya Adura in church to inform her and she prayed that my child would be found. We kept searching for the boy the next day. My daughter, Bosede Kolawole, then told us that Iya Adura came home asking for the name of my child who was popularly known as Baba, but whose real name was Yusuf, as well as my name and my wife's name.

"My neighbours and I went to meet her in the church and she said that if we wanted to see the child, we would need to go to Abeokuta. People started threatening her concerning the whereabouts of the boy. When we were about to get to the bus stop of our house, she said we should go back to my house that we were going to find the child there. When we got to my place she asked us to start praying. She then asked of what use he would be to us even if we found the child.

"She said we should go and check the pit close by; that we would find the child there. Eventually, we found the child in

the pit, dead. I fainted on seeing my child, but by the time I was revived, people had started beating the woman. I then called the police to intervene. The Investigating Police Officer (IPO) of my case told me there was nothing that could be done since the woman was still in hospital. About four days ago (before the interview) I saw the woman with policemen.”

But Mrs Olaoye (50) denied all the allegations, saying she never pointed anywhere to the community members.

“In March this year, kolawole took my Toyota Starlet car that he wanted to help me sell. Out of N50,000 which he claimed to have sold it, he gave me N20,000 in April and kept telling me stories about the balance. Even he did not return the battery I told him I was not selling with the car.

“On September 10, I went to his shop and he promised to come later in the day. But he did not come. I called him on phone and he promised September 20 when the person who bought the vehicle would have returned to Ibadan. I called him on September 20 and he promised another date, saying he would send his apprentice. When I did not see the apprentice, I went to his house but found no one.

“On my way back home, I met his wife and asked her to tell her husband to send the apprentice to me at home. I also told her that if the boy came late, he would not meet me because I was going for vigil on prayer mountain.

“On September 26 at about 12 midnight, my phone rang and it was him who called me, saying that he was looking for his son. I prayed for him. Thirty minutes later, he called again, asking for my location. I described the prayer place for him and he came. Again I started praying for the return of the boy home. Kolawole started crying so I went to the church and announced the loss of the boy.

“I followed him and we started knocking on doors to see if the boy mistakenly slept off in someone’s house. The next morning, he called me again. I prayed for him but he still called me back, demanding to know where I was. I said I was at home. As I looked up, I saw members of Pagun community who said they were told by spiritualists that the boy was within my house. I opened all my doors, asking them to check and they could not find anyone.

“They entered my church and broke all the chairs and destroyed all my property. They said I should follow them to Kola’s house. When we got there, they said we should be praying. We took turns and I also prayed. As I was doing that, someone cried and said the child was in a nearby pit.

“I knelt and gave thanks to God but as I turned to get up, I was blinded with sticks, cutlasses and other weapons that landed on me from different directions. They broke my head and blood came out my ears, nose and mouth. That was all I knew. I spent a month and five days with a nurse who took care of me before I recovered. I was given 38 drips.”

Crime Reports learnt that the eight suspects were arraigned at Chief Magistrates’ Court 1, Iyaganku, Ibadan on Thursday, December 11. While seven of the accused were granted bail, Mrs Olaoye was remanded in prison custody by Alhaja Fatimah Badrudeen. The case was adjourned to January 7, 2015.

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