

Ladipo Market traders protesting the death of one of their colleagues, Otazi, who was attacked by hoodlums, on Tuesday, and died on Thursday morning.

Footballer confesses to dumping body of 7-year-old in soakaway

AYOMIDE OWONIBI ODEKANYIN

A footballer, Patrick Onyekachukwu who was accused of killing a seven-year-old boy, on Thursday told an Ikeja High that he unknowingly killed the boy.

The boy simply identified as Ayuba died on January 12, 2013 in the Abaranje area of Ikotun.

Onyekachukwu when arrested was accused of luring the boy into his compound, where he allegedly strangled him to death. He denied the allegation and also blamed one Jamiu for the death of the boy.

At Thursday's proceedings, Onyekachukwu, however recanted his earlier statement and confessed that he mistakenly killed the boy. He admitted that he dumped the body in a soakaway to escape the consequences of his action.

He made these confessions during cross-examination by the prosecution lawyer, Mr Akin George.

Narrating to the court, Onyeka said: "I was carrying my young friend on my shoulder and we were walking towards the door, when

we both fell because the floor was slippery. I tried reviving him by pouring water on him, but he did not wake up.

"I shook him and tapped him but he was dead. At that point, I didn't know what to do. I did the only thing that came to my mind by disposing the body into the soakaway in our compound."

Father, pastor, orphanage staff connive to sell baby for N250,000

FOUR people, including 32-year-old father of a nine-month-old baby have been arrested by the police for selling the baby for N250,000.

The suspects included a worker at an orphanage, Alhaji Sunkanmi Adamu; the father, Nathaniel Vanny; the buyer, Ekah Gift and the middleman, who is also a Pastor, Samuel Osaviitu.

They were arrested by policemen from the FESTAC town divisional police station, after the 28-year-old mother of the baby, Ijeoma Njoku raised the alarm.

The father of the baby, Nathaniel denied selling the baby, though he admitted

When it was discovered that Ayuba was missing, the neighbours organised a search party but were unable to locate his whereabouts, until one week later when Onyeka's uncle called the deceased parents to come to his house and showed them a ransom written in Onyeka's handwriting.

In the letter, Onyeka had

demanded for N5 million as ransom, stating that he kidnapped Ayuba.

Onyeka was, thereafter, arrested in his uncle's living room.

Investigation also revealed that Onyeka strangled Ayuba to death, hid his body in a bag and later disposed it in a nearby soakaway in the estate.

collecting money from Ekah Gift. He insisted that he took the baby away from home, after the mother abandoned him, without proper breastfeeding.

Ijeoma told the police that "Three months ago, he said he didn't have money to take care of me and our baby, but he had money to buy cigarettes and smoke but can't bring out N150 to buy pampers for our baby."

She also claimed that "Even if I want to take our baby to hospital, I would have to borrow money. He'll promise to give me whenever they pay him."

She also refuted her hus-

band's claim that she abandoned the baby: "It's a lie! I didn't abandon my baby. He said he wanted to hand the baby over to his aunt, to care for. I said it will give me opportunity to look for a job and support the family. I didn't know his plan was to sell our baby."

Meanwhile the father of the baby had reportedly lied to the buyer that the mother had abandoned the baby and that there was nobody to take care of the baby.

The image maker in charge of the state police command, Dolapo Badmus confirmed the arrest of the suspects to

Lagos Metro.