

2 Catholic priest murdered, police arrest 3

THE police in Plateau State have arrested three persons in connection with the alleged murder of a Catholic priest, Raphael Pankyes.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Mr Tyopev Terna, disclosed this to the ***News Agency of Nigeria (NAN)*** on Thursday in Pankshin.

Terna said the police arrested the three suspects in the course of their investigation.

"We are on the trail of more suspects in connection with the incident," he said.

He gave the names of the suspects as Alex Bala, David Bala and Dasen Bala, all of whom, he said, were not related in spite of their surnames.

"On July 20, 2017 we received a report at our Pankshin Division from the family members of the de-

ceased, who said that they had not seen him since July 14.

"They claimed they had neither seen nor heard from him since that day, which necessitated a thorough search for him in all possible places," the PPRO said.

According to him, the family members first went to Yiti Primary School, Fier,

where the deceased also served as a teacher, but didn't see any trace of him.

"But when they visited his small house built on his farm, they found his body already decomposed, which prompted them to report the matter to us (police).

"We are not leaving any stone unturned until all those who have a hand in the killing of the cleric are found

and punished in accordance with the law of the land.

"We are happy that these three suspects are giving us useful statements and with time, we shall get to the root of the matter," Terna said.

He urged members of the public to avail the police with any useful information that could lead to the arrest of the other suspects.

16-yr-old docked for defiling neighbour's daughter

**AYOMIDE OWONIBI
ODEKANYIN - LAGOS**

FOR allegedly defiling his neighbour's eight-year-old daughter, a 16-year-old boy, was on Thursday granted N100,000 bail by an Ikeja Chief Magistrates' Court.

The suspect, an apprentice, allegedly defiled the

girl on July 26 when he called her into his room on the pretext of sending her on an errand.

"The accused allegedly defiled the girl and told her not to tell anyone. "But the following day when the mother was bathing her, the girl started shouting that her private part was hurting her," the police

prosecutor told the court.

Upon enquiry, the girl later told her mother that the suspect put something inside her private part and stuffed her mouth with cloth to prevent her from shouting.

The incident occurred at 26, Biyi Adeyemo Street, Igando, a suburb of Lagos, where they both resided.