

Man beats wife to death over N2,000 loan in Edo

'Suyi Ayodele | Benin City

TRAGEDY struck on Saturday night at Uselu area of Benin City as a 45-year-old man simply identified as Mr Christopher, beat his 39-year-old wife to death over a N2,000 loan request.

Nigerian Tribune gathered that the incident occurred at No. 1, Agbontaen Street, beside Ebvareke Secondary School, off Agboniro Street, Uselu.

A source privy to the incident disclosed that Christopher descended on his wife, Isoken, following her failure to give him the N2,000 loan he requested from her.

The deceased, a mother of three, according to her

eldest child, Augustine, was hale and hearty before the incident.

The 13-year-old boy explained that his father, who is a menial worker with a waste management company in Benin City, was always in the habit of beating his mother at the slightest provocation.

According to him, his father had earlier called his wife to request for a loan of N2,000, which she declined.

Narrating the event that led to the incident, the young Christopher said: "Following the call, my father came home at about 9:00 p.m. and started beating my mother; he accused her of always embarrassing him each time he

requested for money from her.

"After the beating, I was trying to give my mother paracetamol and water she asked when my father took the water and drug from me and threw them away. It was after that that she went out to pour water on her body and later lie down outside.

"My father locked us [children] inside the room and went out to beat my mother again where she was lying down. Already weak from the beating, a neighbour came and rushed her to two different hospitals where she was pronounced dead on arrival," he explained.

The boy hinted that his father smokes and is always

drunk.

Similarly, a neighbour to the deceased, Mrs Florence Obahiagbon, said it was the noise from the beating that brought them [neighbours] outside.

"On getting outside, we met the man beating his wife as usual and we tried to revive her by pouring water on her because she was weak by then. We rushed her to two hospitals within the neighbourhood where they both said she was dead on arrival.

"We invited vigilante that responded swiftly and they caught the husband who was then trying to escape after committing the crime," Mrs Obahiagbon explained.