

# He strangled the lady while I was holding her hands — Murder suspect

## Man beheads girlfriend for ritual to become millionaire

By Oluwatoyin Malik, Crime Editor

**W**HEN the news about the arrest of 29-year-old Ismail Wasiu and Shittu Mutairu, aged 35, in Saki Town, Oyo State, broke out on Wednesday over alleged killing and dismembering of a female victim Mujidat for ritual purpose to make money, people held their breath in shock, fear and trepidation.

The spokesman of the Oyo State Police Command, DSP Adewale Osifeso had disclosed that the suspects were apprehended after the police in Saki Division got information that they were caught with fresh head belonging to a female and other body parts.

Osifeso said their arrest revealed the friendship between the victim and Wasiu who invited her to Saki.

*Saturday Tribune* spoke with the two suspects in an interview which gave full account of what led to their acts. Below are the excerpts:

### Ismail Wasiu

"I'm 29 years old. I'm an Afaa and native doctor. The man that brought me up was an Afaa, but I moved with herbalists and started doing the two when they put pressure on me to join them.

"I left Saki for Lagos State in 2013 and started working as a houseboy at Magodo. I was taken there by a friend. Three years after, I returned to Saki and started the native doctor work.

"The man who brought me up was an Afaa. We are related. When I got back to Saki, I did not know about reading and interpreting Quran. I only did Wolimat. I was going to mosque once in a while to pray. So I merged being an Afaa to that of a native doctor."

### My first ritual assignment

"I did a job for a Yahoo boy and it worked for him. He asked for money ritual and I used dry human skull for him. I knew the Yahoo guy through a primary school mate who he was a commercial motorcyclist and used to take the Yahoo guy around. He knew he was a Yahoo boy. I don't know his name. He came from Ibadan to do the ritual.

"I went to (name withheld) who is also a native doctor and like a brother to me in the neighbourhood. I knew he used to have dry human skulls. But when I went to him, he didn't have at that time, so he took me to his friend. That one didn't have also. He gave me the number of Doctor who lives in the same area with me. I didn't know he was doing such a thing. I just knew that he has a chemist shop and used to treat patients in a room at home. I went to him and he said I should pay N60,000 for one. I said I didn't have that much and gave him N50,000. He sold it to me and I used it to perform the ritual. It came out successful, as the yahoo boy called to thank me profusely.

"When the Yahoo boy came, I was the one who told him he needed a head to do the ritual. I learnt about it in a book of record left by the late Afaa who brought me up. To do the ritual, I got dry head, two hands of *iro* (an animal), two cobra heads, two heads of *olufa* (big snake), stool made with *iroko* tree, schnapps and black soap. I ground everything together, poured the schnapps on it, mixed it with the black soap, poured it in a white breakable plate with cover and placed it in the stool. We



placed the remaining alcohol beside it.

"In using it, the yahoo boy would drink from the alcohol before taking the mixture to bathe. He called me that the job was positive, promising to further give me a reward, but I had yet to see him before my arrest, except for the N200,000 he paid me ahead of the job."

### Second ritual job

"When I finished his job, I thought within myself that I should look for means of making more money. I checked the Afaa's record book again and found out that if one uses fresh human head whose owner's name is well known, it will yield better result than the dry one.

"I went to Mutairu (his accomplice) to explain to him, telling him that I have Mujidat in mind as the prey. He had already told me that he wanted to do money ritual when he got healed of the accident that created a festering sore on his leg. We talked about a week before Mujidat came to Saki.

### How I got linked with the victim

"I met Mujidat in Ikeja, Lagos. We met through, a friend I met in a commercial vehicle while going to Lagos.

I used to go to him frequently and he introduced me to Mujidat in a hotel where she was doing 'runs.' I used to have sexual relationship with her whenever I was in Ikeja, so we became friends. When I returned to Saki, we had each other's phone number and were still dating.

"I used to send money to her; between N5,000 and N20,000. This time, I didn't tell her anything. I used diabolical prompting (*olugbohun*) that could never be resisted.

Before then, she had come to visit me twice. This time around, when she came at about 6pm, I used incantation (*olugbohun*) and told her to enter my work room. She went in and I was with her. Mutairu also came to check us and went out again. At about 10pm, I told Mujidat to accompany me to a distance and she followed me without any question. The charm I used since morning was still working. Three of us left for the bush. I told her to sit down, brought out the charm again and reused it. As I was making incantations, Mutairu was telling her to be uttering 'so shall it be (Ase)'.



He strangled the lady on the neck while I was holding her hands. After some time, he said he was tired and I took over. Later, he returned to the neck. After that, he brought out his knife and cut off her head

"In the incantations, I said 't'ake se nii se lawujo, t'iwugbo nii se l'ale odo, t'ijimere nii se l'awujo awon eleye. Ase ina nii mu ina j'oko, ase oorun nii m'oorun l'a. Ojo elegu ba bi'mo tie ni sopanna ba, ojo akere jugbon gbo tie kanle nii kanle pa.

"Another one was 'eran t'oka ba f'enu so, enu oka nii ku si, oajo l'oro sebe nja, aba t'alagemo ba da, oun l'oosa oke ngba, bi sango ba npa l'aye, won a maa gb'orun gbo; bi sango ba npa l'orun, won a maa gb'aye gbo."

They were four incantations and I pronounced all upon her and she was stamping it with 'amen.'

"I thereafter told her to lie down and asked Mutairu to tie her hands. I strangled her by the neck. When her face contorted in pain, I could not stand it again and I told Mutairu that we should leave her because I never did it before, but he said we should complete the job. I could not strangle her again, so Mutairu took over and completed it.

"When she became lifeless, I cut off her head with a knife and her two hands. I also removed her heart while Mutairu removed her two thighs and private part. We took the body stump to a place beside a rock in the bush and threw it there. We kept the thighs in the bush and cover them with leaves. We brought the head, heart, hands and private part home. I didn't know what the private part would be used for, I just removed it from her body with the thought that someone might desire its purchase. Mutairu needed the hands."

### How we were caught

"We got home 12 midnight. On getting home, I heard the voice of an Islamic teacher, who is like a father and living in the same house with me. I went out to urinate and put on my phone torch. He asked who was putting on his torch and I said I was the one. Our residence faces the road and he was by the roadside. I was wearing my charmed singlet fortified with amulets. It is for protection and being watchful (*isora*). He saw the singlet and asked what I was doing. I replied him that I was doing some work inside.

"That was when two of our neighbourhood's guards called Soludero were approaching. Mutairu also put on his phone's torch and switched it off again. He repeated it. The Alfa noticed it and asked who it was. I told him it was Mutairu. The Islamic teacher then asked them to check my work room. That was how they discovered the fresh human head and other body parts.

We put the head in a plastic bowl and poured gin on it. We also put the hands, heart and private part in another bowl and also poured gin on it for preservation.

"Initially, Mutairu was trying to cover up, but I confessed to what we did. They asked me to take them to where we dumped the body stump and the thighs. Amotekun Corps also came and asked me to pack the body stump and the thighs with the head and others found with me at home. Then they drove me to police station and handed me over to officers."

### On his fate after alleged crime

I believe this is what God has destined for my journey in life. I don't know what the government will do about my case, but when my family members heard of what happened, they were just crying, saying