

23-year-old mother of two murdered by husband in Plateau

Isaac Shobayo | Jos

VOM community in Jos South Local Government Area of Plateau State was thrown into mourning on Thursday when news filtered in that a 23-year-old mother of two, identified as Mercy Samuel, whose husband, Matthew (surname withheld), had attacked during a disagreement in their residence in Jos, had died.

Nigerian Tribune learnt that the woman was attacked in a most barbaric manner as her husband allegedly ripped open her abdomen with a knife before escaping from the house.

It was learnt that the in-

cident occurred on Monday, and neighbours who dashed to the couple's house rushed the woman to the Bingham Teaching Hospital, where she eventually died on Wednesday night.

The Plateau State Project Officer for Women's Right Advancement and Protection Alternative (WRAPA), Jummai Madaki, who got wind of the incident and had made spirited efforts to save the victim's life, lamented her passing.

Madaki said: "There had been violence against her in the past as confirmed by her family, but the husband's family denied this."

"The man ripped open her stomach, removed her

intestine and cut it before he disappeared with her phone so that she would not be able to call for help.

"They live in a small apartment, so I wonder why no one heard her scream; we were told help did not come until the early hours of Monday when she was rushed to the hospital where she was placed on oxygen.

"An informant called my attention to the incident and we raised an alarm. Surprisingly, the matter was not reported to the police.

"We were told by her parents that even as recent as last year, she moved back home due to some domestic issues, but her husband's

people came to beg and she went back to him."

The Commissioner for Women Affairs and Social Development, Rebecca Sambo, who also visited the deceased's family in Gyel, expressed sadness over the incident.

The commissioner assured the family that the matter would not be swept under the carpet, saying, "the police have been informed and action has commenced."

Efforts to get the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), ASP Gabriel Ubah, to confirm the incident were unsuccessful as he did not answer calls made to his mobile phone.

2 **Nigerien arrested for killing housewife daughter in Kogi**