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# 55-year-old landlady in court for allegedly killing tenant in Ondo

**Hakeem Gbadamosi | Akure**

A 55-year-old landlady identified as Cecilia Idowu has been arraigned before an Akure Chief Magistrates' Court for allegedly killing her tenant, one Stephen Haruna, with palm oil, before throwing him inside a well.

The landlady was said to have committed the crime with others at large between 10:00p.m. and 4:00am at Oke-Igbala Street, Oge area, Okeagbe Akoko in Akoko North West Local Government Area of the state

The accused, who was

arraigned on a two-count charge of conspiracy and murder, pleaded not guilty to the crime.

The police prosecutor, Simon Wada, told the court that the woman conspired with others at large to commit the crime by giving the deceased palm oil to drink in the midnight, which resulted to his death.

The police prosecutor informed the court that the accused invited some of her conspirators who assisted her to throw Stephen's corpse into the well in her compound.

"My Lord, the woman and the deceased were the only occupants of the house and she confessed to seeing the deceased when he returned home at about 10:00p.m. A calabash filled with palm oil was found in the woman's apartment, Wada told the court," Wada told the court.

The police, however, said they were yet to ascertain the motive behind the murder of Stephen, but said the deceased was forced to drink palm oil before his remains were thrown inside the well.

He disclosed that an autopsy report showed that

the tenant died after consuming excess palm oil, saying the offence contravenes Section 516 and 316 of the Criminal Code Law of Ondo State, 2022.

The prosecutor, in an application urged the court to remand the accused at the Olokuta Correctional Centre, Akure pending the insurance of advice from the Directorate of Public Prosecutions

The defence counsel, Mr. A. Adedire, prayed the court for an adjournment to enable him file a counter affidavit to the application sought by the prosecutor.