

Police arrest man who allegedly killed lover in Delta

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OPERATIVES of the Delta State police command have apprehended a former vice chairman of Okolor Inland community in Udu Local Government Area of the state, Austin (surname withheld), who allegedly murdered his lover, Felicia Akpomeria.

The suspect was arrested at a hideout at Ologbo community of Edo State on Monday.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), DSP Bright Edafe, confirmed the arrest of the suspect.

Family sources said Austin had been in an amorous relationship with 45-year-old Felicia, a single mother of four for over a year.

However, Felicia was found dead in her lover's bedroom apartment in a pool of her blood from machete wounds on Friday, while the suspect fled.

The discovery of the remains of Felicia led to tension between Ubogo (victim's community) and Okolor inland (suspect's community) as angry youths spoiled for a show-down.

Meanwhile, anxiety in both communities has waned following the arrest of the suspect, it was gathered on Tuesday.

A relative of the victim, Godwin Laya, said: "We are a bit relieved that the killer of our sister has been arrested. We thank the police operatives who acted swiftly.

"We call on the government to handle the matter very well and ensure that justice is done. Felicia cannot die in vain."

Narrating how Felicia was lured to be killed by her lover,

Laya said: "Felicia was 45 years old with four children - three girls and a boy - from her failed marriage before meeting the suspect.

"She was the only child of her father; her aged mother is alive. Felicia was called by Austin to come over to Okolor on Thursday evening.

"On Friday afternoon, we got a call from Okolor that Austin had killed her, so I sent two emissaries.

"When they returned and confirmed the report, the others and I joined them and we went there.

"On getting there, we found police from Ovwian already removing her corpse in an ambulance and they invited us over to the station. Felicia's daughter and others made statements.

"We were told that when neighbours didn't hear from Austin on Friday morning, they decided to check his door and discovered he left at night, so they went to the back window and peeped, from there they saw Felicia in her pool of blood.

"This led them to raise the alarm and the door was broken down. On getting inside the room, several fetish and idol-worshipping paraphernalia littered the floor.

"Felicia's naked corpse was rested at a corner. Several machete blows were seen in the back of her head and chest.

"We don't know whether any organ had been removed because she was covered in blood."

Another family member said, "the daughter told us that Austin was owing Felicia over N300,000 and had called Austin to demand the money.