

# Suspected cultist did not die in custody, say police

Olayinka Olukoya | Abeokuta

OGUN State police command on Sunday denied allegation that a suspected cultist, Seyi Oduyiga, died in its custody as a result of torture.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Omolola Odutola, in a statement said the suspect, who was arrested in Sagamu in connection with cultists' unrest in the town, died at the General Hospital, Ijaye while receiving treatment.

Odutola said Oduyiga, in a statement, confessed to be a member of Buccaneer and was arrested alongside Gbenga Adejoke, a member of Eiye confraternity.

Speaking on the circumstances surrounding his death, the police spokesperson said the deceased was not tortured as being speculated in some online media.

She said: "The Ogun State police command vehemently refutes that the deceased was tortured to death as is being speculated in some online media.

"Ogun police command holds a strong commitment to upholding fundamental human rights, particularly when it comes to treatment of suspects.

"Torture is strictly against our protocols and principles.

"Ogun state police command is well versed in the legal framework that safe-

guards the rights of individuals in custody, free from all forms of cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment.

"For the records, the deceased was already charged for cult-related activities and he was taken to court on Thursday, November 23, where he was to be arraigned before a special court on cultism in Isabo, Abeokuta, but the court did not sit, and he was brought back to Elew-eran same Thursday.

"Seyi was to be taken back to the court at the next available day that the court will sit, which was on Friday, November 24, but at about 5:00 a.m, he went berserk, shouting, biting and assaulting other suspects in the cell until he got exhausted.

"Other suspects in the cell alerted the policemen on duty.

"He was taken to the Police Hospital and later to Ijaye General Hospital, Abeokuta, along with other suspects he attacked with his teeth for treatment against infection.

"The other suspects were treated and discharged, but Seyi, while on medical attention, later gave up the ghost.

"Every other allegation is hereby debunked as the accurate position is what has been stated above.

"As soon as the autopsy report about the deceased is out, the police will give further details."