

Police: Mob lynches woman accused of witchcraft in Benue

by **Ayobami Sanusi** January 2, 2025 in **Metro** Reading Time: 2 mins read

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The Nigeria Police, Benue State Command, have detained two suspects over alleged involvement in a mob attack that led to the brutal killing of an elderly woman on accusation of witchcraft in Egba village, Agatu Local Government Area of the state.

The tragic incident which led to the killing of the elderly woman happened on Christmas Eve.

According to a statement by the Police Public Relations Officer, SP Catherine Anene, the suspects, identified as 50-year-old Bako and 40-year-old Oyaje Clement, were apprehended during investigations into the case.

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"On December 24, 2024, at about 7:00 p.m., the police received reports of the killing of an elderly woman accused of witchcraft in Egba village, Agatu LGA. Swift investigations led to the arrest of two suspects linked to the crime," Anene disclosed.

The police spokesperson expressed concern over the rising trend of mob justice, particularly against elderly individuals accused of witchcraft. She described such actions as alarming and urged the public to refrain from taking the law into their own hands.

"This case highlights the disturbing pattern of jungle justice in our communities, especially targeting vulnerable older persons under the guise of witchcraft accusations. The police are committed to ensuring those involved face justice," Anene stated.

She further called on residents to report suspicions to law enforcement rather than resorting to violence, emphasizing that mob actions undermine the rule of law and create further insecurity.

According to her, the suspects are currently in police custody and will face legal proceedings upon the conclusion of investigations.