

Man held for carrying possession of human parts

A 40-year-old suspected ritualist, Mr. Tafa Ayorinde, is now telling the Oyo State Police Command how he came about two fresh human heads suspected to be those of a man and a young girl.

Parading the suspect on Friday, the police said the man was also found with one hand and human parts, which were believed to have been exhumed from a cemetery at Akanran Road in Ibadan on Friday.

His accomplice, whom the arrested suspect simply named as Kehinde, a resident of Oja Igbo, is said to be at large.

The police said luck ran out on the suspects around 7 am at Ogbere Tioya area of Ibadan, at the Ibadan end of the tollgate when one of the heads slipped from the polyethylene bag one of them was carrying.

This attracted the attention of some eagle-eyed

Akin Oyedele, Ibadan passers-by who raised the alarm.

While the second suspect escaped from the mob during a chase, Ayorinde was not that lucky as he was apprehended and given the beating of his life before being handed over to the police.

Asked how he came about the human parts, Ayorinde told newsmen that he had woken up as early as 5am from his Orita Aperin residence and headed for the cemetery with the mission to exhume the bodies.

Assisted by his accomplice, he said they had exhumed three coffins and decapitated two corpses, while he added that they secured the human parts and dried bones from the third coffin.

Narrating the story further, he said, "I was the one carrying the polyethylene bags in which we kept the heads. As we were about crossing

the road, one of the heads dropped and some passers-by saw us and raised the alarm.

"We were given a hot chase and I was eventually caught while the second person escaped".

The suspect claimed that he wanted to use the human parts for money-making rituals, having allegedly been plagued by poverty over the years.

He dismissed the theory that he might be fronting for some barons or powerful individuals in the society, insisting that the urge to be rich, and nothing else, fired his desire.

"Nobody sent me. I was a driver before becoming an herbalist. This is the first time I will be engaging in a thing like this," Ayorinde claimed.

The command's Police Public Relation Officer, Mr. Fatai Sanni, said the police would interrogate

the suspect further in order to get to the root of the matter.

He said the command was on the trail of the fleeing suspect and would make sure he did not escape justice.

The PPRO advised members of the public to be vigilant

and to continue to assist the police in combating crime in the state.

Police engage

Men of the Anambra State Police Command engaged suspected members of the Movement for the Actualisation of the Sovereign State of Biafra in a fresh gun battle on Friday in Onitsha, the state's commercial centre.

The fighting, which took place at the Akpaka Forest hideout of MASSOB, led to the recovery of three vehicles suspected to have been snatched from their owners by MASSOB