

# 85-year-old man kills only son over farming

**Francis Falola, Minna**

**A**N 85-year-old farmer, Ayuba Saleh, has been arrested by the police in Niger State for beating his only child, an 18-year-old boy, to death for failing to carry out an assigned farming activity.

Saleh, who hailed from Kwankwaso village in Wushishi Local Government Area of Niger State, it was gathered, beat his son, Ibrahim to death out of provocation.

The octogenarian, our correspondent learnt, travelled to Saminaka village for two days for an undisclosed mission and before leaving, he allegedly gave his son an instruction to work on his farmland before his arrival.

The old man was said to have arrived home from his journey and discovered that the teenager left the assignment undone.

According to a family source who spoke to our correspondent on the condition of anonymity, "Pa Saleh, following his discovery on arrival from the journey, called Ibrahim, who responded and bowed down before the dad in obeisance, but as the father questioned him concerning why he refused to carry out the instruction, he replied angrily that the dad should leave him alone.

"His response provoked the father who picked a firewood stick nearby with the intention to discipline the boy and as he was beating him on the back, the firewood hit Ibrahim on the head and he slumped and died

instantly."

This development was said to have confused the old man, as the screams from the mother of the deceased attracted the neighbours who gathered in the compound and later reported the matter to the district head of the area.

The Police Public Relations Officer for the Niger State Command, Mr. Richard Oguché, who confirmed the incident in an interview with our correspondent in Minna on Wednesday, said the matter was

reported at the Wushishi Police Station and later transferred to the Criminal Investigation Department at the state command headquarters in Minna.

According to him, "the 85-year-old man regretted his action as he never expected the outcome of the event. As you are aware, the deceased was his only child. He was visibly sad and pained over the development and we had to calm him as he wept uncontrollably."



• L-R: Immediate Past President, Nigerian Institute of Esoteric Studies, Dr. Sunday Makinde; and Immigrant Industry, Mr. Oluremi Omotoso, during a media briefing on Wednesday. Photo: Success Nwogu.