

# 21-year-old 'drop-out' sets mother ablaze

## Sunday Aborisode, Akure

What close relations referred to as a minor misunderstanding between a mother and her son has led to the death of a 65-year-old retired primary school teacher, Mrs. Grace Akinkuotu, in Ondo town.

Our correspondent learnt that the late Akinkuotu and her son, Idowu, who was allegedly rusticated from a private polytechnic in Ekiti State recently, were living together on Lotogbe Street in the Ajilo area of the town before the incident.

It was learnt that the late retired teacher was reportedly set ablaze by her son while she was sleeping last Saturday afternoon.

The deceased was said to have abandoned the house three days before the incident, for the fear that her son could attack her.

She was said to have returned home when she was prevailed upon by her relatives, who pledged to settle the dispute between her and her son.

A source in the family told our correspondent that Idowu, who seemed not to be satisfied with the intervention of the relatives, allegedly sneaked into the deceased's room, poured petrol on her body, and set her on fire.

The source explained that the husband of the deceased heard her scream for help, but could not do much to save her life because he had sight problem.

He was said to have shouted for help from their neighbours,

who rushed in and took the deceased to the hospital.

She died on the way to the hospital.

It was learnt that the suspect immediately rushed

## Jonathan departs Nigeria for CHOGM

### Olalekan Adetayo, Abuja

President Goodluck Jonathan will on Sunday (tomorrow) leave Abuja for Perth, Australia, to participate in the 2011 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting.

According to the President's itinerary released by his Special Adviser on Media and Publicity, Dr. Reuben Abati, on Friday, Jonathan is expected to hold bilateral talks with the Australian Prime Minister, Ms. Julia Gillard, before the meeting.

He is expected to attend a dinner with top Australian businessmen and be hosted to an official dinner by the Governor-General, Ms. Quentin Bryce AC.

Abati said the President would deliver the keynote address at the Commonwealth Business Forum, with the theme, 'Unleashing Africa's Potentials: A New Vision,' and participate in the forum's other activities, including a panel discussion on 'Africa: Creating A New Economic Power for the 21st Century.'

Jonathan will take part in the Presidential Country Roundtables, specifically the Nigeria/Australia Mining Roundtable, and other consultations with global business leaders.

to the pastor of his church to confess his crime and surrendered himself to the police.

A senior police officer told our correspondent in Akure

The statement added that the CHOGM-2011 opening ceremony would hold on Friday, followed by an executive session, while Queen Elizabeth II would host a dinner for all participating Commonwealth leaders and their spouses in the evening of the same day.

Other major events in which Jonathan will

on Friday that the suspect had been transferred to the State Criminal Investigation Department at the police command headquarters for investigation.

take part include a sports breakfast, a reception by the Commonwealth Secretary-General, a global polio eradication session, retreat sessions for Commonwealth leaders and an official dinner to be hosted by Gillard.

While in Australia, Jonathan will hold bilateral talks with several Commonwealth leaders,

The Police Public Relations Officer in the state, Mr. Aremu Adeniran, who confirmed the incident, said investigation was ongoing on the matter.

including the Prime Minister of Malaysia, the Vice-President of India, the Prime Minister of Canada, the Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda and the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs, and meet with a cross-section of the Nigerian community based in Australia.

## Man defrauds four intending pilgrims of N4.2m

### Success Nwogu, Ilorin

Four Fulani men in Ilorin, Kwara State, who had planned to go on the Muslim pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia this year, have been allegedly duped by Abubakar Alarape.

Alarape, who is said to be in his 60s, had allegedly received N4.2m after promising them that he would facilitate their trips to the Holy Land.

One of the victims, Ibrahim Audu, was said to have given Alarape the money on behalf of himself and his three colleagues, to secure them passports and visa, and perfect all other documents for the trip.

Our correspondent gathered on Friday that Alarape later told his clients that he had tidied up the arrangements.

It was learnt that he asked them to go to a transit camp,

where those to be airlifted at the Ilorin International Airport to Saudi Arabia were waiting, and promised he would meet them there.

The unsuspecting men were said to have stayed at the camp till the last batch of Ilorin Zone of intending pilgrims were airlifted at the airport without Alarape showing up.

The men, who obviously were stupefied at the development, reportedly complained to the officials of the National Hajj Commission at the camp. The officials were said to have told them that they were unaware of their arrangement with Alarape.

They informed the complainants that they were not on the list of those to be airlifted.

The police later arrested Alarape in his house after

the victims had reported to the police.

The suspect was said to have claimed he never intended to swindle his clients, saying he was unable to perfect the arrangements.

He was said to have told the men and the police that he kept the N4.2m in a bank, because his children who allegedly helped him to process visas, passports and other documents were not around. The matter was later transferred to the Criminal Investigation Department of the state police command for further investigations.

Police Public Relations Officer, Kwara State Command, Mr. Dabo Ezekiel, confirmed the development to journalists.

He added that the police would soon complete their investigation on the matter.