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Boy, 14, hacks cousin to death

February 26, 2012 by James Azania 17 Comments

A 14-year-old boy (names withheld) who was accused of killing his cousin has been detained at the Juvenile Centre, Esigie Police Station, in Benin, Edo State.

The incident reportedly occurred on December 23, 2011.

The mother of the late girl, Mrs. Favour Offorka, told SUNDAY PUNCH she took her 14-year-old daughter (name withheld) to the salon to make her hair on the day of the incident only to return to meet her daughter's corpse.

"She was to go home after making her hair. About 5pm that day, I called my husband, Thaddeus Offorka, and he sounded distressed. He simply asked me to return home urgently."

On getting home, Mrs. Offorka said she met many people, including policemen, who disallowed people from entering their apartment.

She added, "Later, I saw some of our church members and I saw my husband's eyes were very red with little tears on them but he did not tell me anything. It was after an hour that somebody told me that my daughter was murdered in our apartment."

She said she was confused and wondered who must have killed the girl and why but no one had any answer for her.

However, five days later, precisely December 28, Offorka said her landlord's wife and children came to their apartment to say that the young boy who is being detained was looking for a cutlass with which to break into Offorka's apartment.

"They said the suspect went into my husband's car and picked the house key to open the apartment. At that point, they said my daughter came in and found the boy inside even though the door was locked when we left home. She then threatened to report the matter to her father. It was then that he must have struck her with the cutlass."

SUNDAY PUNCH gathered that on the day the girl was murdered, a suicide note, purportedly written by her was found on her chest stating, "I killed myself because I am pregnant."

However, tests showed that the deceased was not pregnant and was indeed a virgin; and that the handwriting on the paper was not hers but that of the accused.

Speaking with our correspondent, Mr. Offorka said the accused was the last son of his brother.

He said the suspect, who had a questionable character, came around to spend his holidays with him, adding that he was even around with them for some time and left two weeks before the murder of his daughter.

He said, "I want the police to take up the case in the appropriate way. It is a murder case; they know what to do about it as stated in the law."



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