

Agony Of A Widow

Loses 2 Undergraduate Sons In One Day

MOYO FABIYI

Awidow, Mrs. Adenike Olusuyi, 56, has cried out over her two missing sons, Olumide, 23, and Kayode, 21, who went to the Bar Beach in Victoria Island, Lagos, to catch fun in company of their peers, but never returned to their residence at 36, Kayode Shokunbi Street, Abule Alfa, Ojo Oro, Ikorodu, Lagos State, southwest Nigeria.

Narrating her agony to *P.M. NEWS*, Mrs. Olusuyi said she lost her husband since 1994 and has been struggling to raise her three children including Olumide Olusuyi, an undergraduate of Lagos State University, LASU, Ojo, Lagos and Kayode Olusuyi studying at Olabisi Onabanjo University, OOU, Ago Iwoye, Ogun State.

Three suspects, Tony Igbede, Timilehin and Ayo have been arrested and presently detained at Panti in connection with the incident.

Mrs. Olusuyi said that on 2 January her two sons in company of their peers led by her tenant, Tony Igbede, hired a bus to carry them to the Bar Beach to catch fun. But when they were about to return, they discovered that the two brothers were

missing. But the fun seekers failed to report the incident at the nearby Bar Beach Police Division. Instead, they headed to Abule Alfa, near Ikorodu.

Mrs. Olusuyi said when the group returned without her two sons in the early hours of 3 January, they went to Baale of Ajaguro, Chief Sikiru Orepitan to complain to him.

The two persons who reportedly knocked the door to intimate the baale about the missing boys were identified as Kemi and Femi who have since fled from Abule Alfa. She said their failure to report the incident promptly made her to feel there was foul play.

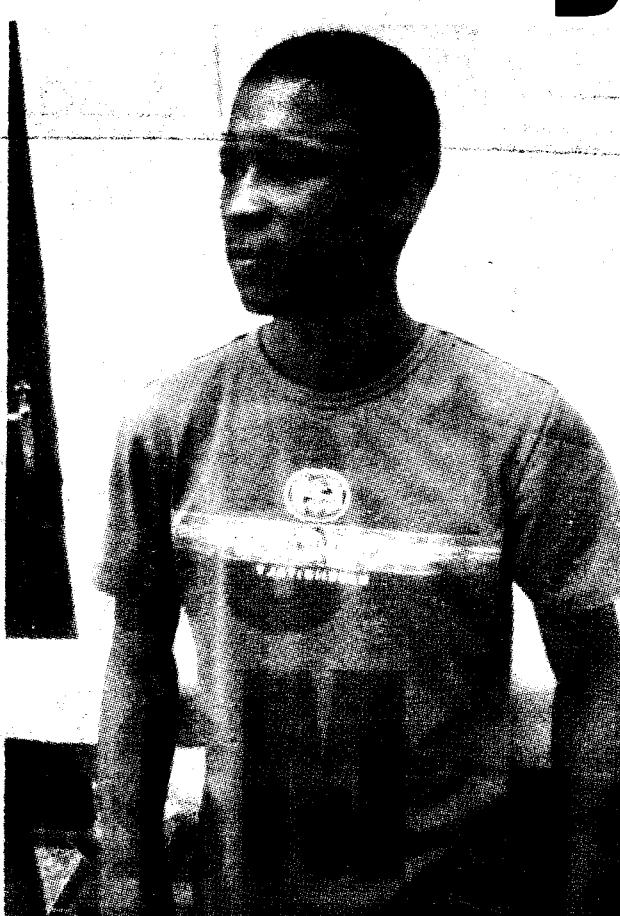
When the matter was reported at Owutu Police Station the following day, the two drivers of the buses used for the trip and the vehicles had been released by the police, on the intervention of the baale.

Speaking on the latest development, Mrs. Olusuyi said

"The other boys at the beach produced the dresses of the missing persons. We have in our possession their two Nokia phones and two blackberry phones which suggested that they removed their dresses, left their phones before they went into the beach to play and they were drowned"



•Kayode Olusuyi



•Olumide Olusuyi

Chief Orepitan (baale) led some parents to the palace of the Ayangburen of Ikorodu, Oba Salaudeen A. Oyefusi concerning the matter.

The baale reportedly urged the monarch to use his position to ensure that the other children who went to the beach with the missing boys who were invited by the police at Panti were not arrested and detained.

But the monarch pointedly declined the request, saying that he also smelt foul play regarding the missing undergraduates. And the only advice he could offer their parents was that they should contact their lawyers.

Alleging that she suspected foul play, Mrs. Olusuyi said the boys hired a bus to take them to Bar Beach. But it was learnt another Volkswagen bus joined them on the way. The incident was not reported at Bar Beach Police Station which was the nearest to the scene of the incident.

Meanwhile, counsel to the family, Barrister Biola Daramola, has sent a petition to the Commissioner of Police, Lagos State, demanding a thorough investigation into the missing persons with a view to bringing to justice the perpetrators of the act.

In the petition copied to the Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Babatunde Fashola, the lawyer alleged that two key witnesses in the missing saga, named Femi and Kemi were still on the run. They allegedly called Baale of Ajaguro on phone from Bar Beach, to inform him that Olumide and Kayode were missing.

Contacted at his Kayode Shokunbi residence, Baale of Ajaguro, Ikorodu, Chief Orepitan denied knowing anything about how the two boys got missing. He said nobody phoned him at the Bar Beach.

He explained that when the people who went to the beach returned at about 1 a.m on 3 January, 2013 there was pandemonium as some boys vandalized the bus they chartered to the beach and that was why his nephew called Fatai, son of former family head (oloriebi) knocked at his door and when he knew his nephew was at the door, he opened for him.

Orepitan stated that his

role at Owutu police station was simply a mediatory one to ensure an end to the crisis surrounding the missing persons. He stressed that the police wanted to enter a case of malicious damage but he insisted that the issue of missing persons led to the damage of the bus.

"The duty officer at Owutu police station known as Matha ordered the release of the two vehicles and the two drivers before we went there for the second time, I did not," he disclosed.

When *P.M. NEWS* called at the State Criminal Investigation Department, SCID at Musliu Smith street, Yaba, Lagos, an officer who does not want his name mentioned confirmed the incident.

He said some suspects were arrested to find out the truth pointing out that police investigation so far suggested that the two brothers might have drowned while playing football at the Bar Beach.

"The other boys at the beach produced the dresses of the missing persons. We have in our possession their two nokia phones and two blackberry phones which suggested that they removed their dresses, left their phones before they went into the beach to play and they were drowned," the officer narrated, saying that when their mother was at SCID, their clothes and phones were shown to her and she was surprised.

When asked what will be her next line of action in view of the findings by the police, Mrs. Olusuyi said she was confused as to what to do since police told her investigation into the incident was still ongoing, adding that when some of the boys who went to the beach returned without her sons, their reports were contradictory. She alleged that one of her son's phones was still missing till date.



•Manko, Lagos state Commissioner of Police



•Mrs. Adenike Olusuyi