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Police probe killing of constable by naval rating



Mudiaga Affe, Calabar

THE Cross River State Police Command is investigating the killing of a police constable, Sunday Agida, by a naval rating identified as Udoette Joseph.

It was learnt that the rating stabbed Agida to death with bayonet after a heated argument with another person.

The incident occurred along Barracks road, Calabar. Narrating the incident to PUNCH Metro on Thursday, the pregnant wife of the deceased, Mercy, said there was no indication on the day that a minor car accident which happened in front of her shop, involving the vehicle of the naval rating and a lady could lead to the death of her husband last Sunday.

She said the accident degenerated into a heated argument between the naval rating and the unidentified lady, adding that her husband was not even at the scene when it occurred.

Mercy said, "When the accident between the naval rating and the lady happened at about 10pm, my husband wasn't around, but he was on his way to meet me in the shop so that we could go home together."

"After the accident, the navy man and the lady started claiming right of way and all efforts to get the matter settled by passersby proved abortive as the navy man became

aggressive. Eventually, a patrol team from Akim Police came to the scene and took them to the station.

"Later, my husband came to the shop to pick me. This was around 11pm and I had closed my shop, but he (my husband) was talking with a friend who had come with him."

"Suddenly, the naval rating resurfaced and started harassing the man that was talking with my husband, saying he was among those who had earlier confronted him when the accident happened."

"But the accusation was false because my husband's friend strolled in with him. The accusation started another round of argument and as soon as my husband intervened, the navy man brought out a bayonet and stabbed my husband in the stomach."

"He wanted to run after doing that but passersby, including policemen, apprehended him. But all this did not help my husband as he was confirmed dead at an hospital about 15 minutes later."

The state Police Public Relations Officer, Mr. John Umoh, confirmed the incident, saying it was already being investigated.

The Information Officer in charge of the Eastern Naval Command, Lieutenant Commander Way Olabisi, said the accused was indeed a naval rating who was spending his holiday in Calabar.

Olabisi said he would not give details since the matter was being investigated by the police.

Truck crushes while on

TRAGEDY struck in front of Lafenwa Comprehensive High School, Ota, Ogun State, last Thursday, when a 15-year-old pupil, Miss Kemi Obanla, was crushed to death by a truck driver.

It was learnt that Kemi was killed while running errands for her class teacher.

It was alleged that the teacher had asked Kemi to go and buy cooked 'ofada' rice for her around 10am on the day.

An eyewitness, who craved anonymity, said the SS1 pupil was knocked down by a truck while crossing the road.

He said Kemi died while she was being rushed to the hospital.

Simon Utebor

"The girl was knocked down when she was crossing the road. After hitting her, the driver of the vehicle attempted to escape but the youths around apprehended him."

"It was when the girl was being taken to the hospital that she died. When we inquired where she was going at that time, we were told her teacher, whose name was not given, sent her to buy ofada rice for her."

The father of the deceased, Mr. Peter Obanla, said the death of his daughter, dealt

a devastating blow to the family.

He said when the girl left their Ajegunle Close, off Mefun Road, Ota, home, she was full of life.

Obanla said about two hours after his daughter left for school, someone informed him that she was involved in a fatal accident.

He said, "The accident happened on Ahmaddiya Road, Ota. By the time I got there, I learnt that they had taken her to an hospital. She died on the way to the hospital."

"Since then, we are yet to come to terms with the fact

Valentine's Day

Couple end seven-year dispute on Valentine's Day

Ade Adesomoju

ALagos High Court judge, Justice Joseph Oyewole, on Thursday commended a couple, Olorunloba and Tinuade Ogundipe, for their decision to reunite on Valentine Day after seven years of separation.

Many people around the world observe Valentine Day on February 14 annually as a day for celebrating and showing love.

Ogundipe and his wife, Tinuade, told Oyewole at the resumed hearing of their petition on Thursday that, in the spirit of Valentine Day, they had settled their dispute.

The 17-year-old marriage, which was contracted on July 1, 1995 at the Lagos Mainland Marriage Registry, produced three children.

Tinuade, who filed the petition seeking the dissolution of their marriage on the grounds of adultery, told the court on Thursday that she had filed an application for the discontinuance of the suit.

The 44-year-old mother had sought to end the marriage, alleging that her 51-year-old husband had cheated on her with another woman who she claimed was a banker.

Following the discontinuance application, Oyewole

dismissed the petition and commended the couple for making efforts to resolve their marital dispute.

"You have made my Valentine Day special and it is a big plus to this court," Oyewole said.

He also advised other

couples facing similar experiences to follow the Ogundipes' exemplary step.

He said couples needed to put extra efforts to make their marriages better and urged them to always strive to resolve their disputes amicably.

Sexual harassment will not be tolerated -UNILAG

Eniola Akinkuotu

THE authorities of the University of Lagos have warned that sexual harassment, especially by lecturers, will not be tolerated in the institution.

The authorities added that cases of sexual harassment had dwindled in recent times. They advised any victim to such to the Student Affairs Office.

Deputy Dean of Student Affairs, Dr Rebecca Soromekun, said this during an interview with our correspondent after a seminar organised by the school to commemorate 2013 Valentine's Day.

The seminar focused on the dangers of pre-

marital sex.

Soromekun said, "Sexual harassment has reduced considerably. In the past, we had reports but we encourage the students to come and report to us. So, it has reduced so considerably."

On the importance of the programme, Soromekun said, "The event is about relationships and it is being put together to provide some guides to our students. It is a foundation-building programme."

"Basically, we are here to educate them so that they won't make mistakes. We want them to learn from the experiences of people who have gone ahead of them and ultimately what

we are trying to prevent is broken heart among others."

The Guidance Counselor of the institution, Mrs. Aderonke Asiwaju, said free medical examinations would also be given to the students particularly breast examination for the ladies.

She said, "We are also conducting free breast examination through Sebeccl, a cancer-awareness NGO, so that if they have lumps, they can be referred to the medical centre for treatment. We also brought another NGO to conduct free counseling on AIDS/HIV so that students, after this programme, will come and be tested."

15-year-old pupil teacher's errand

that that she is dead. I still cannot believe it. Kemi was very industrious, respectful and brilliant. Her death has dealt a blow to us."

Obanla, who works with Dangote Group of Companies as a driver in Ibeshe Plant, said the school was shielding the teacher.

"It is only the Principal of the school that has been showing up. We do not know the teacher that sent my daughter on an errand. Though many teachers from the school have been coming to our house, we do not know who among them sent her on errand on that fateful day.

"The driver that killed her and the school authorities have been begging me to drop the case. They said what happened was the will of God."

When contacted, the Public Relations Officer, Ogun Police Command, Mr. Muiyiwa Adejobi, promised to get the details of the incident.

However, as of the time of going to the press, he did not get back to our



•Kemi

correspondent.

Subsequent efforts to

speak with him were not

successful as his phone

rang out many times

without him picking it.

Activists protest N4bn budget for First Lad