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Feature

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JUNE 29, 2015 : SAMSON FOLARIN 20 COMMENTS

Like 25 g+1**Jimoh and Kwenumé**

A Beninoise, Kwenumé Ojo, aka Abiodun, has been arrested by men of the Lagos State Police Command for allegedly killing her husband, Jimoh Ojo, 32, in the Yaba area of the state.

PUNCH Metro learnt that Kwenumé put poison in her husband's soft drink and forced it down his throat while he slept on the bed.

Our correspondent gathered that the 17-year-old suspect took the poison from a relative of her boyfriend after she was forced to marry Jimoh.

The incident happened on Friday on Apolo Street, the Makoko area of Lagos.

When our correspondent visited the area, he met a crowd of residents and family members who said the victim's corpse had been deposited in a mortuary.

It was learnt that the suspect had been arrested by policemen from the Adekunle Police Division.

Jimoh's in-law, Rotimi Akinlagun, explained that the deceased was retarded, which made it difficult for him to get a wife.

He said his marriage to Kwenumé was arranged by the two families.

He said, "Jimoh was a carpenter. When he was born, he fell sick and that affected his health as he became retarded.

"When he became mature, we decided to get him a wife. We started asking around for anybody who could give him a wife.

"Kwenumé's father heard and he contacted Jimoh's family. He gave them Kwenumé to become Jimoh's wife. She had no choice in the matter."

PUNCH Metro learnt that Kwenumé's father took the decision to prevent her from marrying her boyfriend, who he did not like.

The dislike, it was gathered, stemmed from the maltreatment of Kwenumé's sister, who was married into the

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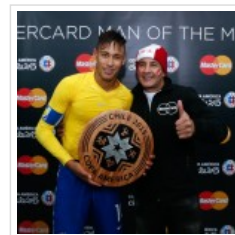


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boyfriend's family.

"She was brought to me and we took her to Jimoh's hometown in Yewa, Ogun State. He was going there to make love with her. After six months, she became pregnant and we brought her back to Lagos State.

"The couple moved into a new apartment to start a new family. Their apartment was close to my house so I could monitor them. Abiodun (Kwenumbe) was assisting my wife to sell food at her canteen," Rotimi added.

Our correspondent learnt that after giving birth to a baby girl, christened Hannah, the suspect became attracted to her former boyfriend and she started visiting him.

She was said to have met his elder brother, Wensu, an herbalist, who allegedly gave her the poison to put in her hubby's drink so she could marry the unidentified boyfriend.

Jimoh's elder sister, Modupe Akinlagun, said the victim had returned from work on the fateful Friday and visited her shop to get food.

She said, "He dished the food himself and ate. After eating, I asked him to go home and rest. When his wife returned from an errand I sent her, I asked her to also return home with her baby.

"I was still there when his wife came to call me that he had slumped in the toilet.

"When we got there, people had surrounded him and were pouring palm oil into his mouth. He was vomiting the oil and a white substance. He kept saying, 'Iya Hannah has killed me, she opened my mouth and poured drug inside.'

"Iya Hannah (Kwenumbe) denied Jimoh's accusation, but he insisted that she forced the poison down his throat."

Another relative explained that Kwenumbe put the poison in a bottle of drink that the victim had brought home to share with her.

He said, "They usually shared their food and drinks together. After he finished eating at the canteen that day, he bought a bottle of drink and drank half. He took the remaining home to share with his wife.

"It was when she returned that she put the poison in the drink. She then forced it down his throat."

Modupe's husband said Jimoh died around 11.30pm on Friday.

He said the community elders took Kwenumbe aside to press her for information on where she got the poison.

He said after some time, she confessed to the crime, adding that she collected the poison from her boyfriend's brother who lived in the Sogunro, Iwaya area of the state.

He said, "Around 3am on Saturday, a policeman, together with some of our people went to get the man."

The two suspects were said to have been kept till dawn until a team of policemen from the Adekunle division arrived in six vans.

PUNCH Metro gathered that some youths attempted to lynch both suspects, but for the intervention of the policemen.

The traditional ruler of the Egun community, Seriki Dito, urged the police to do a thorough investigation and punish the culprits.

He appealed to governmental and non-governmental organisations, to assist in taking care of the couple's child, Hannah.

He said, "This is something that has shaken our community terribly. We want the government to give the deceased justice. We also want help for the girl because she is almost an orphan now."

The Police Public Relations Officer, Kenneth Nwosu, confirmed the incident, adding that it had been transferred to the Department of Criminal Investigation.

He said, "The woman and her accomplice are in custody. The case has been transferred to the DCI for investigation."

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Opinion

