

Family demands justice for murdered pregnant woman

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• Kogi State CP, Inalegwu Photo: File

Gbenga Odogun, Lokoja

Family members of a pregnant woman and mother of six, Mrs. Asabe Obaje, who was murdered at Odogomu, in the Ankpa Local Government Area of Kogi State, have demanded that her killers be brought to justice.

A spokesman for the family, Mr. Paul Obaje, said the woman was returning from Odogomu to Ofano village at about 6pm on July 12 when she was waylaid and killed by suspected hoodlums.

He said the assailants used machetes to hack the woman to death, adding that one of her legs was cut off, while her throat was slit before she was dumped by the roadside in a pool of blood.

Obaje said, “The killing is barbaric and inhuman. The woman was pregnant with twins, but she died with the unborn babies.”

He said following the incident, three suspects believed to be perpetrators of the heinous act were arrested by the police and taken to the Okaba Police Post.

He, however, raised concerns that the police in the area were handling the matter “with levity.”

“Our concern made us to go to the police to demand justice for our member,” Obaje added.

He alleged that following the demand for justice, the police raided their family house and arrested some family members, namely: Ismaila Yakubu, Abdullahi Yakubu, Haliru Yakubu, Idris Usman and Yusuf Usman.

He said the family members were kept at the Ankpa Police Division for three days and released upon the payment of N30,000.

Obaje, who decried the development, called on the state Commissioner of Police, Wilson Inalegwu, to ensure that the culprits in the matter did not escape justice.

When contacted, the Public Relations Officer of the Kogi State Police Command, Mr. Williams Aya, said the suspects had been transferred to the State Criminal Investigation and Intelligence Department in Lokoja.

He said, “It is a case of culpable homicide and the command will not treat it with levity. The suspects will be charged to court as soon as investigations are concluded.”

On the arrest of the deceased’s family members, Aya said those arrested had gone to the police and demanded that the suspects arrested should be released to them for jungle justice.

He said the allegation that money was collected from the family was not true.