

Tenant kills Lagos landlord, dumps corpse in septic tank

Published July 29, 2019



• **Woman arrested with ammunition, 26 cultists nabbed**

Deji Lambo

A tenant, Daniel Isaac, has been arrested by personnel of the Lagos State Police Command for allegedly killing his landlord, Willy Ebinate, at his house on Owodun Street in the Ikotun area of the state.

Isaac was alleged to have killed the 50-year-old car dealer in a order to steal his Toyota Camry car that was parked inside the compound.

After perpetrating the crime, the 38-year-old tenant reportedly dumped Ebinate's corpse in a septic tank and drove away the car.

PUNCH Metro gathered that Ebinate had gone to the port on Monday, July 22, 2019, to clear the car, but had to take it home since he finished the transaction late.

The deceased's colleague, who did not want to be identified, said efforts to contact him after he took the car home proved abortive, adding that a case of missing person was subsequently reported at the Isheri-Osun Police Station on Thursday.

In the early hours of Friday, the colleague said the deceased's cousin informed him that Ebinate had been murdered by his tenant, Isaac, who allegedly strangled him while he was washing the car.

The colleague said, "We became worried when he was nowhere to be found on Tuesday and his phone was switched off. So, on Wednesday, we went to his house. When we got there, all his tenants had gone out, but we managed to get the telephone number of a tenant, who confirmed to us that he saw Ebinate washing his car on Tuesday.

"On Thursday, we went to the Isheri-Osun Police Station to report a case of missing person; but around midnight on Friday, I got a call from Ebinate's cousin that he was dead.

"We informed the police at the Isheri-Osun Police Station and went to his house to confirm what had happened; we met the Divisional Police Officer of the Iba Police Division and her officers at Ebinate's house. The DPO explained that Isaac was arrested while trying to sell his landlord's car.

"She said Isaac confessed during interrogation that he had been planning to steal one of Ebinate's cars. So, when the victim brought the Toyota Camry home, Isaac waited for all the tenants to leave the house and strangled Ebinate while he was washing the car. We want justice served."

The state Police Public Relations Officer, Bala Elkana, said in a statement on Sunday that personnel of the command, while on stop and search duty, apprehended Isaac and his accomplice, Emmanuel Chukwu, for driving in a reckless and suspicious manner.

He stated that during interrogation, Isaac confessed to killing his landlord in a order to dispossess him of his car, adding that he was fleeing from the crime scene when he was arrested.

Elkana stated, "On Wednesday, July 24, 2019, around 5am, policemen from the Iba Police Station on stop and search duty at First Gate, Agboroko area, Iba, flagged down a Toyota Camry, which was being driven in a reckless and suspicious manner.

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“Two suspects, namely; Daniel Isaac, 38, and Emmanuel Chukwu, 36, were intercepted and further investigation revealed that the first suspect, Isaac, killed his landlord, Willy Ebinat, aka Don Able, 50, and dumped the corpse in a septic tank inside his compound on Owodun Street, Ikotun.

“The suspect was escaping with the stolen vehicle along with his accomplice, Emmanuel Chukwu, when they were intercepted. Their intention was to go and sell the car.

“They confessed to the crime. Homicide detectives from the State Criminal Investigation and Intelligence Department, Yaba, are investigating the case. The suspects will be charged .”

In another development, the personnel of the command have arrested a businessman, Friday Okeke, for allegedly sodomising two underage boys in the Lagos Island area of the state.

Elkana said Okeke lured the victims into his shop on Kose Street, where he perpetrated the crime, adding that a team of detectives from the command arrested the suspect.

The PPRO stated, “On Saturday, July 27, 2019, around 11.30am, the Ebute Ero Police Station received a complaint from two different parents (names withheld) against one Friday Okeke, 35, of 23 Kose Street, Lagos Island, that the suspect lured their two male children, aged 12 and nine, into his shop on Kose Street and had unlawful carnal knowledge of them through their anus.

“The victims were taken to a general hospital for medical treatment and forensic examination. The suspect was arrested by a team of detectives led by the Divisional Police Officer, Ebute Ero Police Station, CSP Sina Olunlade. Investigation is ongoing and the suspect will be charged.”

One Yomi Olajide has also been arrested by men of the command for allegedly conniving with one Jamiu to steal an LT bus with number plate, JJE 713 XH, in the Shibiri area of the state.

Elkana said Olajide and Jamiu, who is still at large, used a master key to steal the vehicle from where it was parked, adding that during investigation, detectives recovered the bus from Olajide in Ogun State.

Elkana said Olajide would be charged for the crime, while efforts were ongoing to arrest Jamiu.

He stated, “On Friday, July 26, 2019, around 7.30am, one Amaechi Ude of No. 15 Etegbin Road, Shibiri, Lagos, reported at the Ilemba-Hausa Police Station that his LT bus with number plate JJE 713 XH was stolen by unknown persons from where it was parked along the Etegbin Road.

“A team of detectives led by Inspector Kehinde Kareem swung into action and visited all the mechanic and scrap sellers’ workshops in the area in a bid to recover the stolen bus, but their effort was to no avail.

“Acting on credible information, investigation was extended to the Atan area of Ogun State, where the vehicle was recovered and one Yomi Olajide, 39, of No. 14 Oremeji Street, Toll Gate, Ogun State, was arrested while driving the said vehicle.

“In his confessional statement, he stated that he and one Jamiu of the Toll Gate area, Ogun State, who is still at large, removed the said vehicle from where it was parked with a master key, which the police recovered from him.”

In another development, a yet-to-be identified woman has been arrested for allegedly attempting to convey ammunition from Lagos to Onitsha, Anambra State.

Elkana said men of the command, while acting on information supplied by a source that pieces of ammunition were being transported, stormed the Maza-Maza motor park and located the bus that was being loaded with the items inside a bag containing garri.

He stated that the owner of the bag, a woman, was arrested and during interrogation, she said a yet-to-be identified man gave her the bag to deliver to someone in Onitsha.

Elkana said, “On Wednesday, July 24, 2019, around 11.15am, the Satellite Police Station received information from a credible source that a bag containing suspicious items was smuggled into a motor park for onward transfer to Onitsha, Anambra State, by unknown persons. Based on the information, the Divisional Police Officer, CSP Chike Oti, deployed his surveillance team in the motor park at Maza-Maza to recover the bag.

“Upon searching the bag, 50 rounds of 38mm live ammunition hidden inside garri was recovered. A female, who claimed that the bag was given to her by a man in the Ojo area to deliver to someone in Onitsha, was arrested and she is helping the police with useful information. The case has been transferred to the Special Anti-Robbery Squad for further investigation.”

Meanwhile, 26 suspected cultists have been arrested by personnel of the Operation Crush for terrorising the Bariga and Oworonshoki areas of the state.

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Elkana said the arrest was made following a violent clash between members of two rival cults in the areas on Sunday, July 21, 2019.

The PPRO added that the state Commissioner of Police, Zubairu Muazu, had ordered the immediate deployment of operatives in the two communities with the mandate of identifying, isolating and apprehending the leaders and members of the gangsters and cults disturbing the peace of the areas.

“Acting on credible Intelligence, 26 suspects were arrested within five days and assorted weapons were recovered from them. The suspects will all be charged to face the full weight of the law,” he stated.

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