

# #EndSARS: Police withheld my brother's corpse for four years, relative tells panel

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**A** resident of Erin-Osun in the Irepodun Local Government Area of Osun State, Teslim Ibitoye, has narrated how some policemen allegedly shot his brother dead in 2017 and refused to release his corpse since then.

Teslim, who spoke on Friday before the Osun Judicial Panel of Inquiry on police brutality, human rights violations and extrajudicial killings, said the cops also inflicted an injury on his spinal cord.

The petitioner explained that the killing of his brother, Akeem Ibitoye, who he described as the breadwinner of the family, had impacted negatively on the family's wellbeing.

He said he and Akeem were on a visit to their cousin's house on April 25, 2017 when the policemen stormed into the apartment and whisked them away.

Ibitoye recalled, "Suddenly, I heard gunshots. The last thing I remembered was that I stood up

at the sound of the first gunshot. We were taken on a bus and driven to Osogbo. My brother was lying dead on the ground and I also lay on my back because I couldn't sit by myself again. I remember that when the Commissioner of Police at the time, CP Adeoye, came around, my cousin, Nureni Ibitoye, and the other suspects who were apprehended, kept repeating that my brother and I had not done any wrong.

"On the basis of their testimonies, the Commissioner of Police ordered that I should be taken to the police clinic for treatment. I was sneaked out of the clinic on April 28 around 2am and taken to Abuja. After some examinations in Abuja, an officer, Abba Kyari, ordered that I should be taken to the hospital for treatment.

"I was taken to the General Hospital, Gwagalada, where I was admitted and discharged on August 1. From there, I was taken to the police cell again for two weeks. I was eventually released on August 15, and I have been trying to treat myself since then."