

# Bayelsa man allegedly kills wife with sledgehammer, commits suicide

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New Bayelsa Commissioner of Police, Echeng

A 46-year-old man, Patrick Markson, on Thursday, allegedly killed his wife, Hannah, and committed suicide at their residence in the Etegwe area of Yenagoa, Bayelsa State.

Patrick, who was working in the Yenagoa Local Government Area, was said to have used a sledgehammer to hit his 35-year-old wife while she was fast asleep on their matrimonial bed.

He, thereafter, allegedly drank an insecticide and slept beside her. However, no suicide note was found in the room.

A family member, Victor Kubor, said Hannah's husband confided in him a few weeks ago that he had some marital problems.

He said, "I knew they were having issues and two weeks ago he complained to me about some marital issues. I told him that we would see and discuss, but we never did.

"This morning (Thursday), a friend called me that both husband and wife were dead; that Patrick beat the wife to death and drank an insecticide after his action. I'm shocked at the news; who did they leave their six children to? What a world!"

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A spokesman for the state police command, Asinim Butswat, confirmed the incident, adding that a team of operatives had removed the corpses.

Butswat said, "Preliminary investigation reveals that one Patrick Markson, 46, a native of Onopa, Yenagoa, attacked and killed his wife, Hannah Markson, with a hammer. Thereafter, he drank a poisonous substance, which led to his death. The hammer and bottle of the insecticide were recovered as exhibits."