

Teenager dies after poisoning

Olumide Famuwagun

TRAGEDY struck in the Ojodu Berger area of Lagos State on Monday when an 18-year-old boy, identified only as Noah, died after being allegedly poisoned by his friends.

PUNCH Metro gathered that the victim lodged in a hotel with the suspects on Sunday and suddenly developed stomach aches and started vomiting.

He was rushed to a hospital, where he was confirmed dead.

His mother, Mariam, who spoke to our correspondent on the telephone, stated that she was informed about her son's death while at work.

She said, "On Sunday night, my son told me that he was going out with his friends. I told him to stay at home but he kept pleading with me, saying I was always trying to keep him indoors. He pleaded with me that he simply wanted to meet his friends and catch some fun."

"I eventually agreed and told



• The victim's community

him to go. He was supposed to come back on Monday morning. I called him on Monday morning and he said he was coming home; he even spoke to his younger ones, and nothing was wrong with him then.

"Around 6pm while I was at my workplace, I suddenly received a call from my neighbour, who said

something happened to my son. Later, I received another call from someone else asking me to come to a hospital where my son was."

The woman said when she got to the hospital, she discovered that her son was already dead.

In disbelief, she noted that she took the body to another hospital, where she was told he died four

hours earlier.

"When I asked what happened, I was told that he was sleeping and the next minute, he started vomiting. This was what his friends who were with him told the doctor.

"But the doctor told me that wasn't the case; he said my son must have been poisoned and he couldn't have just started vomiting and died," she added.

A neighbour, who spoke on condition of anonymity, stated that the doctor called the police after assessing the situation.

She said, "When I heard, I immediately went to the hospital and I met the victim's mother, who is my friend. From the whole situation, I knew the boy was poisoned and did not just vomit and die like that.

"I told his mother to call the police since the friends had also been held down and it was a good opportunity to hand them over to the authorities.

"Fortunately for us, the doctor

in Lagos hotel, friends held

In a scrap collector, wasu Adeyi, before a Lagos Magistrates' Court for allegedly causing the death of a car washer, Owoseni Abayomi.

MOTION stated that 42-year-old Adeyi had a quarrel with the victim, which degenerated into a fight. The defendant was said to have pushed the deceased

by excessive use of force in the right of self-defence, thereby committing an offence contrary to and punishable under Sec

had already called the police and they were on their way. The police came and met the doctor and the victim's mother. That was how the boys were taken.

"The major suspects, however, are two of his friends who are siblings; they lodged in the hotel with him. The other guys that were arrested were just caught in the whole thing because they made videos of the incident and spread them on social media that night. We want justice for him."

Our correspondent obtained a video clip of the victim's body being carried into a car, while people gathered around.

Another clip of the victim seen by our correspondent showed him dancing while in the hotel before the incident occurred.

The state Police Public Relations Officer, Benjamin Hundeyin, confirmed the incident, adding that the suspects had been moved to the State Criminal Investigation Department, Yaba.

He said, "The suspects, Angel

17; Falohun, 17; Elijah, 17; Iwu, 18; Falohun, 19; Stephen, 18; and Michael, 17, were arrested and

Ogun communities protest colonial bridge collapse

Segun Adewole

SOME communities in the Obafemi Owode Local Government Area of Ogun State have lamented the collapse of a bridge reportedly constructed during the colonial era which connects them to the rest of the state.

According to the residents, the Oke Ipa Bridge, which collapsed on July 7, 2022, due to torrential rainfall, has hampered commercial activities, as farmers, traders and other business owners have not been able to function well.

Our correspondent, who visited the scene of the incident, saw a makeshift bridge constructed by residents to allow the passage of humans and motorcycles only.

During a peaceful protest on Saturday, the residents called on the state Governor, Dapo Abiodun,

they have been moved to the SCID, Yaba, for further investigations. The victim was reasonably suspected to

have been poisoned based on the report of a team of detectives that visited the scene."



• The protesters

to come to their aid, saying the makeshift bridge would not withstand the coming rainy season.

The residents carried placards with different inscriptions, including, 'Please, come to our aid, Governor Dapo Abiodun,' 'The bridge is important to our children's education,' 'Help us fix the Oke Ipa bridge that has cut us off from other communities,' among others.

Some of the affected communities included Oloke Sote, Magbon, Pakuro, Imedu Nla, Imedu Oloro, Magboro, Kara Nla, Kara Enumi.

but by white men who came to explore gold in the time of our forefathers. Since its collapse, we have not had any government intervention," he added.

A community development chairman, Samuel Babalola, said the construction of a new bridge would not cost more than N10m.

"What is N10m to the government? We are pleading with Governor Dapo Abiodun to come to our aid," he added.

The Vice Chairman, Pakuro Community Development Association, Olatokunbo Odedyia, said, "Since this bridge collapsed, economic and academic activities have collapsed. We had to construct a makeshift bridge to have access to the Mowe Market."

The Pakuro CDA Chairman, Olufermi Omokoso, said the state government claimed to have approved the reconstruction of the bridge.

N13bn drugs, military hardware