

Family blames husband for

Uthman Salami

THE family of a three-month-old pregnant mother of six, Deborah Fawolere, who died at the Gbagada General Hospital in the early hours of Tuesday, has accused the husband of having a hand in the death of his wife.

PUNCH Metro learnt from the sister of the late wife, Toluwalese Adedoyin, that the husband, Idowu Fawolere, did not at any point in their relationship resist the urge to physically assault the wife, even while she was carrying his seventh child.

Although the husband denied the allegation during an interview with PUNCH Metro that he had never physically assaulted his wife, Adedoyin claimed that her late sister had left Fawolere's house on account of assault and violence at different times in the past.

Adedoyin said, "My younger sister died this morning. The husband had been beating her before she died today. He used to beat her up. We believe the physical assault caused damage to her health, considering her

condition. She had given birth to six children for this man. This was her seventh pregnancy before she died. She died during the pregnancy.

"Just yesterday (Monday), my late sister told one of our sisters that her husband and his elder brother used to beat her up. She alleged that she didn't have peace of mind in the house and that both of them were making life miserable for her. That she could no longer walk.

"Before she made her complaint known yesterday (Tuesday), there had been several complaints that the beating was too much. I told my parents that they should take her away from the house. But whenever she left her husband, she would return the second day."

While reacting to the accusation in a telephone interview with PUNCH Metro on Tuesday, the husband, Fawolere, described the claims as "cooked-up stories," noting that his late wife fed her family with lies.

He said, "It is not true. I was the one who took her to the hospital. She wasn't feeling



•Late Deborah

well. When we took her to a private hospital, they were the ones who transferred us to the General Hospital. I didn't beat her. The only issue that took us to the police station earlier was between her and my mother. She fought my mother and my younger siblings. And this was not even when she was pregnant.

"I was not home when they

fought at the time. I told my mother at the time that she could not send my wife out because she had children for me. My brother didn't touch her at all. It was even my brother and I who were taking her to the hospital when she started feeling unwell.

"Despite the way she used to insult my brother, he still followed us to the hospital. The

pregnant wife's death

People are just saying all these things just because of the issue that came up between us a long time ago."

Speaking with PUNCH Metro, the Divisional Police Officer, Oworonsoki, Bello 'Taofeek, confirmed to our correspondent that the matter was reported to the division.

He said, "Yes, it has been reported. We have asked the Investigating Police Officer to visit the hospitals. We have yet to see the husband. We have asked them to bring the husband along."

The state Police Public Relations Officer, Benjamin Hundeyin, was not available for

comment at the time this report was filed.

Meanwhile, the spokesperson for the Lagos State Domestic and Sexual Violence Agency, Joke Ladenegun-Oginni, said the agency had yet to receive any information regarding the issue while urging the family to report the case.

She said, "There is little we can do if you don't report it. If people don't report incidents of violence, how would the agency know? If people don't report them, it will be difficult for us to know. We have toll-free lines that people can call when they see incidents like these."

Continued on www.punchng.com

Three Ogun cops detained over alleged extortion

Bankole Taiwo

THE Ogun State Police Command on Tuesday said that three of its officers caught in a viral video involving alleged assault and extortion at a checkpoint in Ijagun near Tai Solarin University of Education have been identified and detained for orderly room trial.

The spokesperson for the Ogun State Police Command, Omolola Odutola, disclosed this in a statement on Tuesday.

The complaint, as reported by one Soyemi Abidemi Funmilola, aged 24 on January 13, 2024 was said to have led to a thorough investigation conducted by the State Criminal Investigation Department which unmasked



•Ogun PPRO, Odutola

these officers.

The statement partly reads, "The Ogun State Police Command Headquarters has taken decisive action against the police officers caught in a viral video involving alleged assault and extortion at a checkpoint in Ijagun junction near Tai Solarin University of Education.

"The complaint reported by one Soyemi Abidemi Funmilola "F" 24 years, on the 13th of

January 2024 led to a thorough investigation conducted by the State Criminal Investigation Department.

"The investigation was able to confirm the officers' misconduct including tracing the account number into which money extorted was deposited.

"The money has been recovered and marked as exhibits. The Inspector, Rank and File have been detained for orderly room trial, and the officer involved have been issued an official query, as directed by the Commissioner of Police, CP Alamutu Abiodun Mustapha psc, with the Provost department overseeing the disciplinary proceedings.

"The Ogun State Police Command has made it clear that it will not tolerate any form of misconduct that breaches the ethical standards expected of police officers.

"The Commissioner of Police, CP Alamutu Abiodun Mustapha psc, also emphasised the importance of respecting fundamental human rights of citizens at different lectures conducted for officers and men of the Command, and will sanction any officer that infringes on the rights of the members of the public.

"The family of the complainant have been contacted and are in communication with the Commissioner of police who has also assured that the officers will be held responsible for their failure to act in accordance with the rules and regulations of the force, noting that Ogun State Police Command is committed to ensuring the safety and security of residents and their properties.

"The outcome of the orderly room proceedings will be made public as soon as investigation is concluded.

NSCDC nabs man planning to sell son for

Gift Habib, Abuja

quest for a higher bid rejected the buyer. The transaction was

N20m

Speaking with journalists the