

Student dies after night terror attack in Ogun

24th January 2024

| By Uthman Salami

A Higher National Diploma student of the Gateway ICT Polytechnic, Sapaade, Isara Remo, Femi Olukokun, has reportedly died after allegedly making a loud scream while asleep.

According to information made available to *PUNCH Metro* on Monday by a police source, the incident, medically termed night or sleep terror, occurred in the early hours of Saturday when the deceased and his girlfriend, identified simply as Adeniyi, were sleeping in Olukokun's apartment in the community.

According to the website of the US clinic, Mayo Clinic, screaming or crying, intense fear, and sometimes waving arms and legs when not fully awake, could also lead to sleepwalking are night or sleep terrors.

Although sleep terrors may be frightening to those around the person, experts believe they should not be a cause for concern and last from seconds to a few minutes, or a little bit longer.

Meanwhile, during Saturday's attack, *PUNCH Metro* gathered that Olukokun was said to have experienced sleep terrors in the past and would regain consciousness once he was tapped or touched during the encounter.

His girlfriend was also said to have told the police that Olukokun said he had at different times made frightening screams during his sleep and that such behaviour had been recurring.

"But if I touched or tapped him with my hand when he made the frightening scream, he would come back to his senses and wake up. He repeated the same thing this morning (January 19, 2024), but when I tapped him, he could not wake up," Adeniyi was quoted as having said by a *PUNCH Metro* police source.

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Our correspondent further learnt that Adeniyi was said to have rushed outside to draw the attention of their neighbours to what was happening to Olukokun, but that before she and others could return to the room, he had stopped breathing.

When contacted, the command Public Relations Officer, Odutola Omolola, confirmed the incident and told *PUNCH Metro* that there was no mark of violence on the deceased's body.

"There was no mark on his body that indicated any violence was carried out. As such, no foul play was suspected. The family was contacted, and the body was buried according to Islamic rites," Odutola stated on Tuesday.

The Chief Medical Director of Lagos State University Teaching Hospital, Prof Adetokunbo Fabamwo, said in an interview with *PUNCH Metro* on Monday night that the deceased might have had an underlying medical issue that he didn't take care of, noting that such a moment could not have led to his death.

Fabamwo stated, "The way I reason as an experienced doctor is that he might have had an underlying condition that reacts during sleep, which he didn't look after and eventually led to his demise.

“I do not think that having nightmares alone such as his would make somebody die. Nightmares are the result of having bad dreams. And you don’t die just by having dreams. I believe that he might have had an underlying medical condition that he didn’t look after.”