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## Outrage as guardian beats 14-year-old boy to death over missing N1000

13th July 2024



## Uthman Salami and Tolulope Fasuan

A yet-to-be-identified woman and her son, known only as Chukwuemeka, have allegedly beaten a 14-yearold boy named Testimony to death at their home on Delta Street, Ayanre, off Ibiye bus stop, Badagry, Lagos.

Our correspondent gathered that the deceased was reportedly beaten for allegedly misplacing N1,000 note given to him by one of the suspects to buy items at the market.

Multiple sources who spoke with our correspondent said that the deceased teenager was allegedly beaten for several hours starting at 11 pm on Wednesday, before succumbing to his injuries around 1 am on Thursday.

One of the neighbours who spoke with our correspondent on Friday said, "This young boy was beaten to death by his guardians, who were not his biological parents. The neighbours tried to intervene, but the doors were locked from the inside.



"Around 6 am this morning (Thursday), he (the deceased) wasn't responding to his name, so they rushed him to a nearby hospital. The hospital didn't have oxygen therapy, so they brought him back home, which aggravated the boy's condition.

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"The woman then called her prayer partners in the church to start praying for miracles to happen before the boy finally gave up the ghost. The police came exactly around 5.10 pm on Thursday to pick up the woman, who was the main suspect in the brutalities shown to the deceased."

Meanwhile, Benjamin Hundeyin, the spokesperson for the state police command, said he could not confirm the incident when our correspondent inquired about it.

"I cannot confirm that now," Hundeyin wrote in response to our correspondent inquiry on Friday.

However, a one-minute and 32-second video shared with our correspondent by another eyewitness, who chose to remain anonymous due to the sensitivity of the matter, showed the lifeless body of the boy with severe bruises, covered with a cloth in the apartment.

One of the men suspected to be behind the camera was heard saying, "This is the dead boy with bruises," while others were screaming in disbelief.

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