## Man arrested for stabbing girlfriend to death in Lagos



By Johnson Idowu

The Lagos State Police Command has confirmed the arrest of a Benue State man, Lintex Ogale, who reportedly stabbed his girlfriend, Deborah Okwori, to death in her apartment located in the mainland area of the state.

The command's Deputy Public Relations Officer, Babaseyi Oluseyi, confirmed this in an exclusive telephone interview with *PUNCH Metro* on Sunday.

Our correspondent had earlier gathered from the victim's cousin, Laff Ijuo, that the suspect and the victim's romantic relationship had gone sour about two years ago.

ljuo, in an interview with *PUNCH Metro* on Sunday, said Deborah had on several occasions reiterated her unwillingness to continue the relationship with Lintex, a decision the suspect was said to have continued to resist.

Ijuo noted that the situation between the duo went wild on Wednesday after Lintex allegedly disguised himself as a dispatch rider to enter his estranged girlfriend's apartment.

Ijuo said, "The victim's name is Deborah Okwori, and the accused is Lintex Ogale. Both are from Benue State. They were dating, but Deborah ended things about two years ago. Since then, the guy has been insisting that they should reconcile, but she refused.

"He started making threats that she cannot move on with another man and that if he can't have her, no one will. Deborah had to block him on all platforms so that she could have her peace, but he tried every means to lure her out and meet him with different phone numbers. However, she declined.

"Knowing where she lives, he gained access to the estate on Wednesday night, disguised as a dispatch rider. Her compound gate was locked, so he used another compound through the fence to gain entrance. He came along with a knife."

The cousin alleged that Lintex, armed with a knife, had forced his way into Deborah's apartment before stabbing her in the stomach.

He continued that the neighbours who heard the ensuing noise stormed the scene, overpowered the suspect, and called the police.

He added, "The main door was not closed, but the net was locked. He broke the net and went in. He cut off the gas supply hose in an attempt to trigger an explosion, but that didn't work.

"He then overpowered her and stabbed her multiple times. The cuts were so deep that her lungs were perforated. Through the neighbours, the guy was disarmed, and the police were called to pick him up."

Ijuo appealed to the authorities to ensure that justice is served in the matter.

"We want justice to be served accordingly. We have seen how similar cases were carried out," he concluded.

Confirming the arrest, Oluseyi said that the matter had been transferred to the State Criminal Investigation Department for further investigation.

"I can confirm the incident involving Deborah. The suspect has been arrested, and the case has been transferred to the SCID for further investigation," the DPRO said.

This incident added to the number of domestic violence and assault cases involving lovers and couples alike.

The trend, which often stems from unresolved disputes and misunderstandings, often results in injuries for victims and, in some cases, death.

In January, a 22-year-old lady identified as Iyanu Adedeji allegedly stabbed her husband, Funsho Jimoh, to death in the Gbonogun area of Abeokuta, Ogun State capital.

*PUNCH Metro* had learnt that the duo, who were married with two children, argued over alleged extramarital affairs, which degenerated into a scuffle.

During the scuffle, Iyanu had allegedly stabbed Funsho in the chest, leading to his death.

Similarly, in February, the Bauchi State Police Command arrested one Salamatu Danjuma, a 25-year-old resident of Nadabo village in Tafawa Balewa Local Government Area, in connection with the death of her husband.

According to the command's Police Public Relations Officer, Ahmed Wakil, preliminary investigations revealed that the couple had been facing an

ongoing domestic dispute regarding the custody of their six-year-old daughter.

## <u>Johnson Idowu</u>