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BY OUR REPORTER ON JANUARY 15, 2015

SOUTH-WEST MAGAZINE

FROM SEGUN OLATUNJI, ABEOKUTA

Madam Toyin Olubode went to bed on January 1 filled with the joy of witnessing the New Year and hoped to wake up the next day to continue the celebrations that normally characterise the festive season amongst her kinsmen in Ibefun-Ilado, Odogbolu Local Government Area of Ogun State.

Madam Olubode, a former street sweeper with the Lagos State Waste Management Authority (LAWMA) did not have the foreboding that her 32-year-old son, Kayode Osikoya, would, without any provocation cut short her life at dawn.

But as the time day broke, Kayode who had slept in the same room with her 60-year-old mother woke up with a start, looked menacingly at her as she laid on the bed, suddenly ran berserk and reached for a nearby empty beer bottle and smashed it on her head.

And Madam Olubode died!

Also within a twinkle of an eye, Kayode came to his senses as he was confronted with the gory sight of his mum's corpse lying stone-dead. At this juncture, it dawned on Kayode that he had just committed an abominable act! Matricide!

Confused about the next step to take, Kayode, whose hands were now bleeding, following the injury he sustained when the bottle he smashed on his mother's head broke into smithereens, became transfixed. He could not run away. Still at a loss about the incident, he sat beside his mother's dead body looking distraught and dejected.

Few hours later, some members of his late mother's family summoned courage to enter the room where he had been holed up with her dead body, overpowered Kayode and took him to the Odogbolu Police Station.

Speaking with our correspondent at the office of the State Anti-Robbery Squad, Kayode had yet to come to terms with the reality that he killed his own mother. He spoke incoherently as he could still not explain the circumstances that led him to committing the crime.

The suspect now being held at the state Police Command Headquarters, Elewera, Abeokuta said he could not have



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deliberately carried out the unprovoked deadly attack on his mother.

Kayode, who claimed to have been undergoing treatment for mental illness at a Psychiatric Hospital in Ijebu-Ode for over four years, claimed he must have been hypnotized by certain evil forces to kill his mother. He said he had never had any problem or disagreement with his mother before the incident that claimed her life occurred.

According to him, "It happened in the morning of January 2. I did not deliberately hit the bottle on my mother's head. May God not allow one to fall victim of hypnotism. There was no disagreement or quarrel between us. She had been the one taking care of me in the past four years. We ate and lived together in the same room. My maternal grandfather built that house. Honestly, I don't know how the incident occurred; I don't know what pushed me into hitting the bottle on my mother's head that morning.

"I was not drunk and I don't even take alcohol and I don't smoke Indian hemp. I was a spray painter, but I had to quit when I fell ill. I had some mental problem and it was my mum that was taking me to a hospital in Ijebu-Ode where they treat people with mental illness. The hospital is in the NTA area in Ijebu-Ode.

"It happened in the early morning. I cannot say this is what really happened, it's like I was hypnotized. The broken bottle injured me and the family members had to tie my hands after they had taken me outside. My two brothers brought me to Eleweran Police Command Headquarters. My mum's relations first took me to the police station immediately after the incident. I'm not married and I have no children. I have been undergoing treatment for over four years now. After the incident occurred, I stayed inside the room with my mummy's corpse. I did not feel anyhow and by daybreak, my mummy's relation, Orlando Olubode, brought policemen from Odogbolu Police Station and three days after, I was transferred to Eleweran."

The state Commissioner of Police, Ikemefuna Okoye, confirmed the incident. Okoye said that the suspect would be charged to court after thorough investigation of the case.

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