

Crimewatch

HORROR IN IMO

Son stabs father to death over *ogogoro*

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A 37-year-old man rattled residents of Owerri, Imo State, when he allegedly stabbed his father dead for refusing his mother local gin (*ogogoro*). The suspect, Udeme, who resides in Nekede, a suburb of Owerri, with his parents, is being interrogated at the State Criminal Investigation Department (SCID).

He was said to have told the police that he killed his father for refusing his mother from partaking in a drinking spree of local gin brought to his father by a family friend.

He told *CrimeWatch* that he did not intentionally kill his father: "I will say it was a satanic manipulation. My father's friend came to pay homage to him for the good things my father had been doing for him. He came along with a bottle of local gin (*ogogoro*). I was outside when my dad poured libation and did some prayers. He and his friend started drinking. You know, my mother used to partake in the drinking of gin whenever my father was taking it because she likes it a lot.

"She went to my father to join in the drinking spree but my father refused her. My mother was angry over the way my father humiliated her. So, she started shouting at my father and he got angry and started beating her. My mother, being a strong woman, faced my father squarely, perhaps she was having upper hands, my father got angry picked a knife and stabbed her on the chest.

"When I heard the agonising cries from my mother, I rushed to save her but my father still wanted to stab her again. So, I started struggling with him. It was during the struggle that the knife got him in the stomach and he fell down.

"Our family members rushed him to a hospital in Akwa Ibom State where he died four days later. As I am talking to you, my mother also is still receiving treatment in a hospital in Akwa Ibom. We are from Akwa Ibom.

"I want to say it was not inten-

tional. It was satanic manipulation to destroy our family, my parents were living in peace. They were jolly fellows. They used to drink together. I can't comprehend why my dad would go to the extent of stabbing her, even after humiliating her before his friend by refusing her to partake in the drinking. I am begging the government to spare my life. It will be a double double for our family if my mother and I will be charged to the court for manslaughter. Please, forgive me."

The Commissioner of Police, Mr. Mohammed Katsina, told *CrimeWatch* that preliminary investigation had shown that Udeme killed his father over a minor quarrel between him and his wife, Comfort, who is the mother of Udeme.

He said after stabbing his father, Udeme rather than rush him to the hospital abandoned him in the pool of his blood until sympathisers rushed him to a hospital in their home town in Akwa Ibom State.

"The suspect told us that his accomplice, Comfort, was in the hospital in Akwa Ibom. My men have gone to the state and searched the whole hospitals and she was not in any. She has refused to come out from her hiding place. We need her to explain her side of the story."

The CP said the police had declared a manhunt for her but would soon charge the son, Udeme, to court. He said SCID had been ordered to carry out the investigation.

Meanwhile, residents of Nekede community were still in shock as at press time over the terrific experience since the incident happened.

A community leader, who simply identified himself as Nwokike, said it was the first time the community was experiencing such a gruesome act.

"Son stabbing a father to death? It was unbelievable. The quarrel was a very shameful one, that a married woman was struggling over *ogogoro* with her husband. What were they teaching their children?"



• Suspect