

Farmer stabs wife to death

...Says, 'I thought she was a snake'

BY NGOZI UWUJARE

Edo State Police Command is still investigating a 47-year-old man, Godwin Okeikhoa Idon who killed his wife, Mrs. Maris Okheren Idon, 40. Idon killed his wife by stabbing her severally. He said he thought his wife was a snake, adding that anytime he was beating his wife, it would look as if he was beating a snake. Idon said like any normal human being would want to kill a snake if he sees one, it was the way he felt when he killed his wife. According to the man, he used a stick to beat his wife after a quarrel ensued over the whereabouts of his cheque book and some documents in their home in Uzeba town, Owan West Local Government Area of Edo State.

The Commissioner of Police, Edo State Police Command, Mr Folusho Adebajo told *Sunday Sun* that the suspect, Godwin Idon, killed his wife by stabbing her with a knife and clubbed her with a 2-by-2-inch plank.

Adebajo said the suspect, Godwin Idon, confessed that when he was killing his wife, he thought he was killing a snake and used the stick to beat her before he used the knife to stab her.

He accused his wife of stealing his cheque book and some other documents, an allegation, which the deceased denied. It was because of this, the commissioner said, that a misunderstanding between them degenerated and the suspect (hus-

band) stabbed the wife to death.

The incident happened last July and the suspect immediately reported himself at the Sabongida-Ora Police Station shortly after.

Idon who spoke to *Sunday Sun* said "I didn't know when I killed my wife. I used a stick and I thought it was a snake I was killing before I used knife to stab her to death. "We have been experiencing different spiritual battles. My late wife suggested that we should go back to the herbalist for protection, which I rejected. I told her that I could not worship idols, but God.

"Suddenly I requested for my cheque book and my document and my wife lied and dodged them. She said she didn't know where they were."

He confessed further that "she was the one who prepared my food that fateful day and even the water, which I used to bathe. Suddenly, I started beating her. I thought I was beating a snake with the stick. After beating her, I used knife to stab her to death.

"Immediately I found out I have killed my wife, I went and reported myself at Sabongida-Ora Police Station and the police arrested me.

"We got married in 1999 and we have three children. I am a farmer.

It was the cheque book that I was looking for that I used to withdraw the sum of N18,000 before the ugly incident happened."

Idon added that, "since we experienced



•Suspect

spiritual battles, we found out that different animals came into our compound to attack us, which prompted my late wife to suggest that we should go to the herbalist and I rejected the suggestion."

The suspect who hails from Owan West Local Government Area of Edo State



•Adebajo, Edo State CP

stressed, "I thought that my wife was a snake before I stabbed her to death. "I want my wife's family to forgive me. If I knew that this is what could be the result and that it would bring shame to me, I wouldn't have done that to my wife but I thought she was a snake," he said.

A member of the deceased's family who declined to volunteer his name said, "We want justice to be done. Can you imagine that your wife is a snake and you used stick to beat her up and you used knife to stab her to death? It is uncalled for. It is a devilish act. We have lost our own sister who gave him three children. God will judge him."

Adebajo said "We recovered the knife from him and investigation is still ongoing and very soon, the suspect will be charged to court."