

I told her to send the girl back before I return

# Taxi driver held for alleged murder

BY CHRISTOPHER OJI

**A** taxi driver has been arrested for allegedly killing his passenger in Ikorodu area of Lagos.

The driver, simply identified as Akorede, is being interrogated at the State Criminal Investigation Department (SCID), Panti, Yaba,

A police source told *Crime Watch Today* that the suspect has named another person, one Sunday, as the mastermind.

The source said, the yet-to-be identified victim was found dead in the pool of his blood in an abandoned vehicle. The vehicle was dumped in a swampy area where it was believed the suspect wanted to dispose the corpse.

"The corpse has several cuts on the body with a large slit on the neck while his hands were tied with ropes."

Akorede had told the police, "one Mr Emmanuel bought the vehicle on hire purchase and handed it over to him in August, 2014. And since then, he had been paying N4,000 daily to Emmanuel."

Speaking to *Crime Watch Today*, Akorede said: "I used the vehicle for commercial purpose in one of the parks in Ikorodu area. On the fateful day, one Sunday pleaded with me to allow him use the vehicle for a trip. I agreed because we worked in the same park and I was so tired that evening. Unknown to me, Sunday, currently on the run, had ulterior motives. After waiting several hours for him to return with the vehicle and he did not, I knew something was wrong.

"My fear was that maybe he had been arrested by the police or LASTMA officials. I also tried to contact him through his phone but it was switched off. I called Mr Emmanuel to notify him of what was happening because each day after the close of work, I took the vehicle back to him.

"The next morning, two members of the park where I worked informed me that they saw the vehicle at Agbala area in Ikorodu. Immediately, I rushed to the scene only to discover a corpse inside the vehicle that was in the marshy area. I don't know the victim or what happened or led to his death."

Confirming the incident, Lagos state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) Mr Kenneth Nwosu, said the case was still being investigated at SCID.