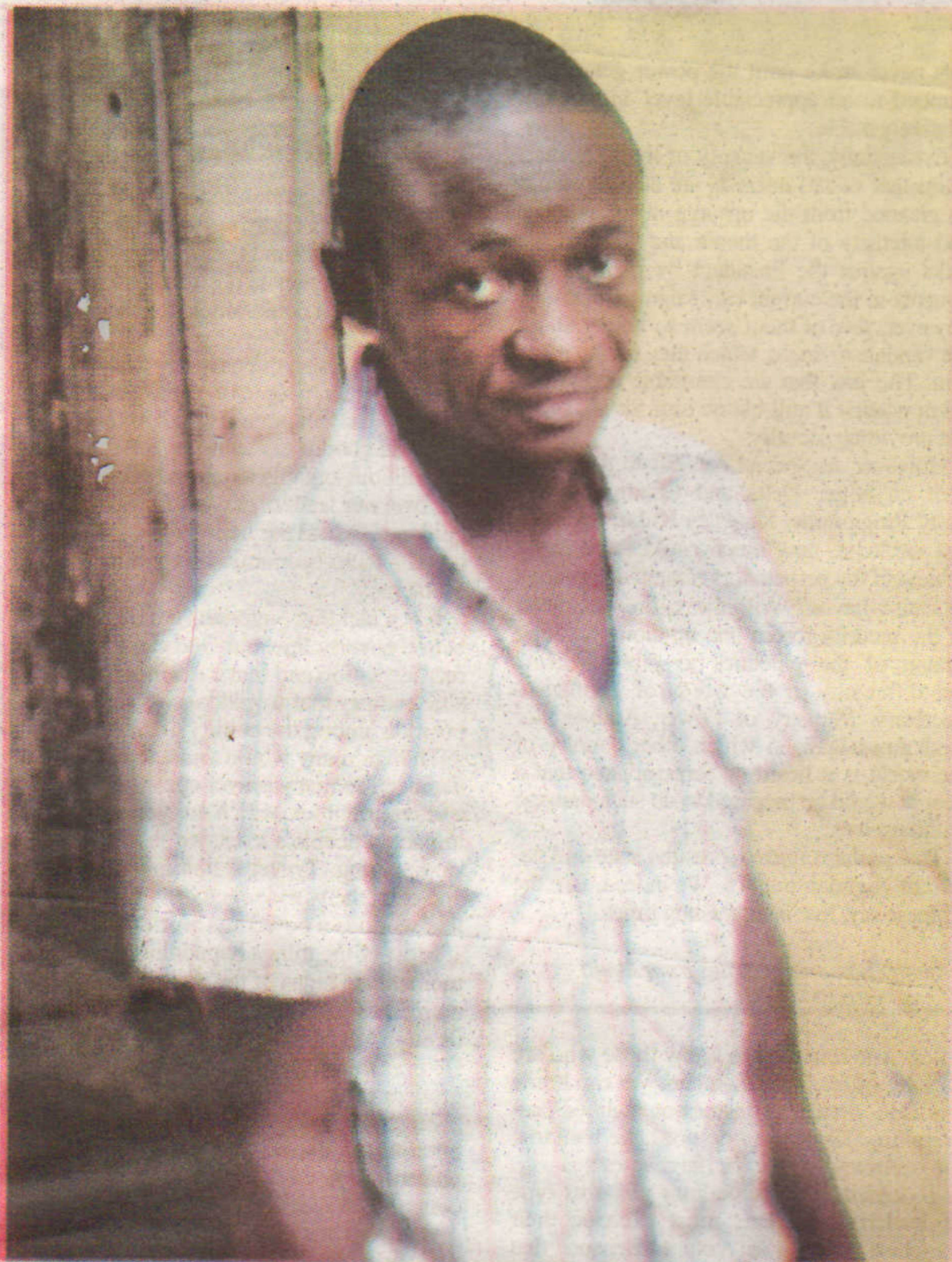


Everyday PEOPLE



Alaba



Michael

BY CHIOMA IGBOKWE

It was supposed to be a party to usher in the New Year. An event which started on a merry note later turned to a free-for-all when two men, Alaba Adesina and Samson Ibrahim who could not agree over who should take charge of a prostitute at the event decided to take each other's lives.

The fight ended after some of those at the party had been badly wounded and soaked in their own blood. Days after the bloody fight, one of the lovebirds, Samson Ibrahim died while the others Alaba Adesina, Samuel Micheal, Kabiru Abdulahi and Segun Olowopeju were arrested and currently detained at the Lagos State Criminal Investigation Department (SCID), Panti.

In tears, Samuel, 30, who was alleged to have stabbed the late Samson begged God to save him from the trouble.

"I am a member of APC in Alimosho Local Government Area and happily married with children. One woman popularly called Lady Show who is also our coordinator invited us for the New Year all-night party.

"I was there with my younger brother, Alaba. We were enjoying ourselves when he started arguing with Samson over one prostitute. The lady in question was smoking heavily and I was even wondering why my brother had interest in such a lady. He said that he liked her and would want to marry her if she would change. Samson, who was obviously annoyed with my brother, broke a bottle and started a fight. He stabbed my brother severally and I could not take it. I joined in the fight and was also badly wounded. We were later stopped and asked to go and treat our wounds. Because my brother was badly wounded, I reported the matter at Idimu police station, and we were initially arrested and later released to go and treat our wounds. Three days later the police arrested us that Samson was dead."

Continuing, he lamented: "I only intervened to save the life of my brother. I never knew that it would escalate to this point. I know that I cannot bring back the dead but it was not intentional. I was also badly wounded." The man started the trouble, Alaba said the woman in question does not belong to anyone. "I am aware that the late Samson is

Fight to death

Man kills friend over prostitute

"I learnt that he was fighting with a man over a girl that they met at the party. He was stabbed and the assailants ran away when they discovered that he was badly injured. We rushed him to Ikeja General Hospital and they asked us to bring N2 million for the surgery. We could not afford it. We moved him over to Ikeja Medical Centre, Allen Avenue, where we paid N1.2 million for the surgery. After the surgery, there were complications."

a married man with three children. I did not understand why he should be dragging a free woman with me. I saw the lady at the party drinking and smoking heavily. She is such a beautiful woman and a wife material. I wanted to convince her to stop smoking and gradually win her over as a wife.

"When I tried to take her telephone number, Samson, who was already drunk, charged at me with a bottle of beer. He stabbed me severally and I blanked out. I woke up in a hospital in our area. It was then that I learnt that my brother came to my defence. We did not run, we even reported the matter to the police. I know that we cannot bring back the dead, but we asking for forgiveness. I am single and felt that I have seen my wife, I never knew that it would lead to anyone's death. Am still recovering from the wounds that I sustained during the fight," Alaba stated.

The deceased's brother, Babatunde Alagbe told *Saturday Sun* that his family did all they could to save the life of Samson. His words: "My brother, Samson was married with three kids. On January 1, he told his family that he was to attend a New Year party at Paiko, Idimu, Lagos.

"I learnt that he was fighting with a man over a girl that they met at the party. He was stabbed and the assailants ran away when they discovered that he was badly injured. We rushed him to Ikeja General Hospital and they asked us to bring N2 million for the surgery. We could not afford it. We moved him over to Ikeja Medical Centre, Allen Avenue, where we paid N1.2 million for the surgery. After the surgery, there were complications. We had even concluded arrangements to move him over to Togo for another surgery. We did everything possible to manage it but at the end of the day he died."