

kiners. People suspected to be ritual

A week earlier in Ikeja area of Lagos, a corpse of a middle-aged man was found dumped by the road side, with the vital organs missing. (3)

Also on December 24, 2014 along Igando road, in Alimosho Local Government Area of Lagos, another body was also dumped on the road with the vital organs missing; a clear indication of ritual killing. (4)

Late last year, one 35-year-old Salaam recounted how he slaughtered and drained a teenager's blood for money ritual.

Salaam who was an apprentice at Aketegbo community in Seme, Badagry area of Lagos, gave a shocking account of how he slaughtered a 13-year-old boy, Rilwan Amuda, for money rituals. He regretted that biting economic hardship, which forced his wife to abandon him and disappeared with his two children, lured him into the evil act. (5)

In his confessional statement, he said: "I was alone in the video shop club owned by my master when one of my friends named Nuru came and said he knew someone who could make us rich. He told me that all we needed was just the blood of a boy of about 17 years of age. He said all I needed to do was to get the person since he had already contacted an herbalist. In my desperation, I told him we would take Rilwan, Mama Elewa's son, since I had easy access to him because he usually ran errands for me and sometimes I gave him money and used clothes. We felt it was useless to go out and get someone else since Rilwan stayed in the same area with us. I made him understand that getting someone was not the problem but taking him to the herbalist's shrine where he would be killed.

"When we told baba our constraint, he gave Nuru a ring and instructed us to just touch whoever we wanted to bring with it and that the person would follow us without hesitation. On that fateful day, I called Rilwan and touched him with the ring. To my surprise, he became dumb and followed us to the shrine. We kept him there until it was dark.

"When it was midnight and there was no one in sight, we took him away from the shrine and laid him on the ground. While Nuru slashed his throat with a knife given to us by the herbalist, I held a bowl close to his neck for the blood to pour into it. Rilwan did not put up any resistance as promised by baba because he was hypno-

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