

COVER *Story*

CONTROVERSY OVER EXTRA-JUDICIAL KILLING

- Lady allegedly uses police boyfriend to murder younger brother
- Victim's mother cries for justice, accuses SARS of violating her



DECEASED: DANIEL AGORI

From TONY JOHN, Port Harcourt

MONTHS after the Vice President, Prof. Yemi Osinbajo ordered the complete overhauling of the Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS), following rampant reported cases of extra-judicial killings and extortions by its operatives, the reformation,

seems to be heading the way of the world-acclaimed French critic, journalist, and novelist, Jean-Baptiste Alphonse Karr's timeless observation: "the more things 'change', the more they stay the same."

Nothing typifies 'this truth, perhaps, like the recent cold-blooded murder, in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area of Rivers

State, of a 21-year-old young man (he celebrated his last birthday in April), called Daniel Agori, and the alleged violation of his mother, Evangelist Victoria Ebi Agori, by men of Special Anti-Robbery Squad.

The unwarranted killing followed a family squabble in which their 25-year-old daughter and elder sister to the deceased, Felicia or Blessing as she is sometimes called, was said to have framed up her younger brother as a cultist and gun-runner, as well as accused her parents, especially her mother, of supporting him in his criminal career, and subsequently reported them to her SARS-operative boyfriend, who, in the company of his colleagues, swooped on the family and whisked them away to the police station, where, in the course of interrogation, they shot and killed Daniel instantly.

Not only that, his highly traumatized mother who watched them kill her son in her presence has also accused the SARS operatives of dehumanizing her by using the nozzle of their automatic rifle to violently prod her private parts and thereby causing her severe bleeding from the wounds inflicted on her during the sordid process. Please, read, below, the chilling story the Bayelsa State indigene who lives with her family at No. 4, Gbe Road, by Frajocy Hotel, Nkpulu T-Junction, in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area of Rivers State, shared with *Saturday Sun*.

From family squabble to disaster

"On that day (Saturday, May 10, 2019), I travelled to Bayelsa (state). My daughter, Felicia, who also answers Blessing Agori, told me to buy fresh fish. Her brother, the one she killed, Daniel Agori, told me to buy banana for him.

"I bought the fish for them. I came back in the night with my female pastor, Patience Peters. I was too tired. Their father was in the corridor. Pastor Peters went to the boys' quarters where the children were and called Felicia. When she (Felicia) came, she hissed at me.

"She refused to prepare the fish and asked why didn't I prepare it. My female pastor was surprised and asked her if she knows the kind of suffering I passed through that day. Felicia ignored us and went back to the boys' quarters, where they were watching television. From there, she started insulting me for no reason. Embarrassed and annoyed, I said for insulting me before my pastor, she would not enter the house that night because I gave birth to her. I locked her out.

"She picked her phone and called her elder one in Abuja to report that I sent her and her son out of the house. She has a child that is about nine years old at home, which she gave birth to out of wedlock. From pregnancy till date, I am the one who has been taking care of them. Felicia asked why didn't I give the fish to Daniel and his girlfriend, Silver, to prepare. Before I knew it she started abusing them. When I confronted her and I asked her to stop, she accused me of supporting them and said that it was the money I gave Daniel and his girlfriend that they used in buying gun. I asked her which money, which gun? She alleged that, in case I don't know, my son had threatened to kill my husband and me with it.

"Before then my husband had gone to report the matter to police. But when they came, Daniel denied ever making such a threat. Felicia too denied telling us that Daniel made such a threat. We were surprised that Felicia could deny what she told us. The police later left. This led to a big altercation between Felicia and Daniel. My son cried and knelt down at the altar in prayers, asking God to vindicate him. In the course of their exchanging words, my daughter told her younger brother that she would set us up with her SARS boyfriend. We thought she was joking. We wondered why she should use her SARS boyfriend to threaten the family.

"Before we knew what was happening, she invited him and his colleagues. The next thing I heard was shooting into the air everywhere in our compound. We were afraid and did not know where to run to or to hide. One of the policemen gave me a hard blow on the nose and I started bleeding. He called me a bad mother, accusing me of supporting evil. I didn't know what I did wrong. It was then that I realised that my daughter had lied against me somewhere.

"The policeman brutalized me. He dehumanized me before my children. He hit me with pestle. Others broke into our house. They ransacked the rooms and shot into the air severally. I don't know what crime I committed or my children committed. Felicia sold us out. They handcuffed the boy (Daniel) and handcuffed my last child.

"The police also carried away the pot of fish soup, took my sons' pairs of shoes, canvass,