

Ogun: 4 internet fraudsters held over murder of 20-year-old boy

From **Laide Raheem**,
Abeokuta

OPERATIVES of Ogun state police command have arrested four suspected internet fraudsters, otherwise known as 'Yahoo boys', over the murder of a 20-year-old boy, Alexander Uzoma.

The suspects were arrested following a report lodged at the Adigbe Divisional Police Headquarters, Abeokuta, by the mother of the victim, one Ogechi Alexander.

Spokesperson of the police command, Abimbola Oyeemi, in a statement, yesterday, said Ogechi had reported that Alexander left home on November 20, 2021, and did not return home.

She reported further that her son had informed her that he was going to visit some of his friends whom she didn't know.

A case of missing person was subsequently lodged at the Adigbe Division, but when the whereabouts of the victim could not be known after some days, the Commissioner of Police, Lanre Bankole directed that the case be transferred to the State Criminal Investigation and Intelligence Department for discreet investigation.

"At the SCIID, the DSP Nurudeen Abdul-Gafar-led Modus Operandi Section embarked on an intelligence and technical investigation which led to identification of one Babatunde Owoseni as the person who was last seen with the victim, and he was promptly arrested.

"The said Babatunde later led policemen to arrest his accomplices, namely, Azeez Oye-banji a.k.a Biggy; Ayobarni Adesina and Balogun Sulaiman.

"On interrogation, they confessed that the victim came to their house to learn about internet fraud, and after eating food, they all took a substance known as Colorado which made them fall asleep. They confessed further that when they woke up at about 8pm, they met the victim on the ground vomiting all over his body and when they tried to

lift him, they discovered that he was no longer breathing.

"At that point, Azeez Oye-banji, from whom they bought the drug, was invited, and he advised that they should throw the corpse away. It was then that Ayomide and Gafar arranged for an Uber driver to come. Ayomide then collected

the vehicle from him and used it to carry the corpse to the top of Kuto overhead bridge where it was dumped. The corpse was later removed by the state health workers and buried as an unknown corpse.

"Preliminary investigation revealed that there was a mark of violence on the head of the

deceased as shown in the picture taken by the health workers before it was buried.

Meanwhile, CP Lanre Bankole has ordered the investigating team to expedite action on the investigation and charge the case to court as soon as possible," Oyeemi stated in a statement.

FG destroys 1.6m doses of expired COVID-19 vaccines

From **Fred Ezeh**, Abuja

THE Federal Government, yesterday, destroyed 1,066,214 doses of expired AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccines.

The destruction exercise was conducted by officials of the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC), National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA) and Abuja Environmental Protection Agency (AEPB), in Abuja.

Executive Director, NPHCDA, Dr. Faisal Shuaib, in his remarks, explained that the expired vaccines were part of the 2,594,100 vaccine doses received on October 11 and 29, 2021, of which only 1,527,886 were administered.

He described the situation as unfortunate, noting that the vaccines came with a short life span with some as short as two weeks to expiration.

He said: "The quantities of short life vaccines that we brought initially which were going to expire by the end of November was over two million, but we were able to utilise over 60 percent of the vaccines.

"Over 10 million Nigerians have been vaccinated, and it's evidence that the vaccine doesn't cause death nor make someone magnetic or robotic. The media should continue to promote information around vaccination and good vaccination practice."

NAFDAC Director General, Prof. Mojisola Adeyeye, described the destruction of the expired vaccines as a means of quality control, thus, marking the end of the journey for a product.

She explained: "These vaccines did not expire before we

took the decision to withdraw them.

"We had the option, if we were to take the advice of some experts, to use these vaccines even beyond the labeled expiry date, but we took the decision to destroy the vaccines at the point they expired.

"This is an opportunity for Nigerians to have further faith in our vaccination programme because we have lived up to the expectations of all Nigerians.

"They deserve the best in terms of the quality of medicines and vaccines, and that was the basis of the meeting between NPHCDA and NAFDAC.

We have been working night and day together.

"Vaccines coming with short expiration dates are a challenge to us as a country, but because of the love of country, we decided to work late to meet the challenge."

She said that NAFDAC has kept strictly to its core mandate by ensuring that vaccines are properly tested before usage, adding that the agency was one of the few agencies in Africa that test vaccines before their usage.

She lamented the short shelf life of vaccines being shifted to Africa and other developing countries, suggesting that production of vaccines in the country remains the best option.

"Because we wanted to satisfy and protect Nigerians, we offered to accept these vaccines with short life, worked collaboratively with NAFDAC to ensure that the agency tested and made sure that the vaccines were in good condition before we rolled them out

under very difficult circumstances.

(Continued on www.sunnewsonline.com)



Nzuko Ndigbo Hamb Germany, congrats Professor Chukwuma Soludo on his emphatic victory recently conducted Anamb gubernatorial election.

We are deeply pleased and thank God, the Almighty Father that passed off without the much violence and destruction.

It is a testament that Ndi Ana yearning for and committed to

God

HIGH CHIEF NZE EBERE F. OBIOHA
Okaa Oburuzor. Onye Ndu Nzuko Ndigbo
Hamburg e.V Germany.