

Teacher held for allegedly flogging 19-month pupil to death

From **Paul Osuyi**, Asaba

DELTA State Police Command, yesterday, confirmed the arrest of a teacher in one of the private schools in Asaba, Arise and Shine Nursery and Primary School, for allegedly flogging one of the pupils to death.

The deceased, identified as Obinna, a 19-month old pupil, was said to have fallen into a coma after receiving 31 strokes of the cane from the suspect.

Confirming the arrest to Daily Sun, yesterday, Public Relations Officer of the command, DSP Bright Edefe, said the matter was being investigated.

Edefe also confirmed that the victim died on Saturday, adding that the suspect was the school proprietor's son.

"We have the suspect who is the son of the owner of the school in our custody. He is a teacher in the school.

"But, I wonder how a teacher would flog a pupil with 31 strokes of the cane. I am only hearing from the media that it was 31 strokes of cane.

"The question is was anybody there to count the strokes while the flogging was on?" Edefe wondered.

A section of the media had alleged that the flogging was allegedly perpetrated by the school proprietor herself.

A human rights group, Advocates for Children and Vulnerable People Network, had stated that the deceased pupil was allegedly flogged for playing with water and getting wet.

(Continued on www.sunnewsonline.com)