

# Togolese-born Nigerian Butchers Grandma, Hacks Aunt over Rent

Adibe Emenyonu in Benin City

A 23-year-old man, Solomon Bakoma, yesterday hacked his grandmother to death and wounded his aunt over alleged deprivation of rent from his mother's building in Benin City, capital of Edo State

Consequently, angry neighbours allegedly descended on and beat him to commiseration for the dastardly act.

The tragedy, THISDAY gathered, occurred at 13, Igubor Street, Off Technical College Road in the state capital.

The victim, Mrs. Janet Ogbeifun, 55 was allegedly attacked by her grandchild identified Bakoma said to have been born to a Togolese father by her daughter who

died in Morocco on her way to Europe.

Reliable source disclosed that Solomon who has a sister in Togo was brought to Benin City by his paternal uncle, in September last year.

A 12-year-old boy, Hassan Stephen told newsmen that he was in the house with his grandmother preparing for school about 7:30a.m yesterday when his cousin Solomon cut his grandmother's head with a sharp cutlass.

Not only that, Joy Frank, 17 year-old lady also told our reporter in Benin City that Solomon had severally threatened to kill her grandmother for not allowing him to collect rent from the three flats occupied by tenants in the four flats built by Solomon's mother.

She alleged further that he had last Wednesday threatened to kill her grandmother, a threat that prompted the woman to invite her other children to the house.

Joy Frank disclosed further that that her cousin Solomon took time to sharpen the cutlass on Thursday evening under the guise of clearing grasses with it yesterday.

"I heard my grandmother scream once, when I rushed to the sitting room I saw Solomon cutting my grandmother with cutlass.

"He cut her in the head and neck, turned to my mother and was about to cut her when I held his hand, but he cut her in the leg", she narrated.

A visit to the building by newsmen shortly after the

tragedy showed a blood-stained sofa and cemented floor.

It was gathered that operatives of Okhoro and Ugbowo police divisions took the corpse and the injured away.

A neighbour hinted also that the issue of house rent collection took another dimension few days ago when one of the deceased children told Solomon Bakoma he was not a child of their late sister.

He was said to have also been told that the house was built for the family members and not for the children in Togo.

The public Relations Officer for Edo Police Command DSP Osifo Abiding said that the suspect was mobbed and was in critical condition in a hospital.