

Man Stabs Co-Landlord To Death

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A 45-year-old poultry farmer, Mr. Segun Irien, has been arrested by detectives attached to the Homicide Section of the State Criminal Investigation Department (SCID), Panti, Yaba, Lagos, for allegedly killing his co-landlord, Mr. Idowu Sholaja.

The incident occurred on Babs Lawal Street, Itamaga, Ikorodu area of Lagos on Monday. It was learnt that Irien and Sholaja had been at loggerheads for a long time over alleged offensive odour emanating from Irien's pig poultry close to the latter's house.

Friends and relatives of the 50-year-old victim said yesterday that they were yet to come to terms with the reality of his death. They gathered at Sholaja's house to sympathise with his wife and children.

The widow, Dupe, said her husband and some elders in the community had warned Irien to stop operating his poultry in the area and evacuate his pigs to another place to stop the odour.

She said: “On Monday morning after two of my children had gone to school, my husband and I waited for our last child’s school bus to come but it did not come, so he decided to take her to school himself.

“Immediately he came back from my daughter’s school, he stayed outside the gate to attend to one of his younger brothers, because we were planning to go out. I was preparing inside when someone rushed in to inform me that Irien and his wife were fighting my husband outside.

“Unfortunately, before I got to the scene they had stabbed my husband in the face and he was already bleeding profusely. “I persuaded my husband to leave the scene and we were going to Igbogbo Police Division to make a formal report when the culprits trying to escape. I held the wife but the husband escaped.

“While I was holding the wife from escaping, my husband was already coming with policemen from Igbogbo. The police arrested Irien’s wife. After the matter was settled at the police station, we went to the hospital for treatment.

“When returned from the hospital, we were in the sitting room eating when light was restored; we both went into my daughter’s room to rest because of the functional air condition in the room.” Dupe said that hardly had they settled in bed that her husband started complaining of waist pain. She added: “We left for our room immediately.

We were about to enter our room, when he went into the toilet. While in the toilet, he started behaving strangely. He stood up and held the edge of our bed and started

screaming that he hoped he was not going to die. “He died on the way to the hospital.

His death was too sudden. All I am demanding is justice, because I don’t want my husband to die in vain. He left four children for me to cater for. Lagos State government should come to my rescue.”

Sholaja’s elder brother, Mr. Suraju Agbatogun, also called for justice. He said: “We are appealing to the state Commissioner of Police to do justice in the case.”