



0 policeman kills passenger, hides body

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March 22, 2017 Julia Francis and Morenike Adetunji

A policeman in Abia State has been arrested for shooting dead a man in front of Christ the King Cathedral (CKC), Asa Road, Aba and hiding his body. The state Commissioner of Police, Mr. Leye Oyeade, ordered the arrest and detention of the policeman. The victim, Chinedu Peters, was described as the bread winner of his family. He was killed on March 11, while returning from an eatery with his girlfriend.

The policeman that killed Peters was on duty with others in front of CKC. It was learnt that the alleged killer cop, Ibe Uchenna, would have got away with the murder but for Peters' girlfriend, who witnessed the crime.

When contacted, Oyeade said he was already briefing journalists on the matter. The state Chairman of Campaign for Democracy (CD), Chukwu Jude, a human rights activist, said Peters' journey to the grave started after Uchenna and his colleagues flagged down the passenger bus conveying the victim and others. He said: "All the passengers in the bus were ordered to step out. They obeyed and all came out.

They were asked to lie down on the floor, which they also did. A few minutes later, the policemen asked the only Hausa man in their midst to stand up and leave. The deceased, Chinedu, out of anger, stood up and demanded to know why the Hausa guy was released.

"He insisted that everyone should be allowed to go since no incriminating item was found on them. One policeman among, Ibe Uchenna, ordered him to lie down or he would shoot him. Chinedu still insisted that the Hausa man should be brought back. And just like that; in the blink of an eye, the policeman shot him.

That was how the policeman, who was supposed to protect Chinedu, killed him." According to Jude, the most shocking aspect of the whole drama was that the policemen refused to take Peters to hospital, even though he cried and earnestly begged them.

"He was on ground, crying and begging them to take him to hospital. Instead, they took him in their van and dumped him in a location they thought people wouldn't find out. They took their van to car wash, to remove traces of blood in order to cover their crime. They didn't know that one of the silent passengers was Chinedu's girlfriend." Peters' body was found on Saturday. Peters' girlfriend returned home and disclosed how he was shot dead. The following morning, Peters' brother reported to the police.

He was told that they were not aware of the incident. When the girlfriend insisted that the incident happened, policemen, who were posted to that area on that fateful day, were invited. The lady immediately identified the faces of the policemen that were at the scene on the day Peters was killed. She also identified Chinedu.

When they asked what has become of the victim, they claimed to have taken him to the hospital after he was shot. They also claimed that he was responding to treatment. Peters' family sensed something was wrong when the policemen refused to take them to the hospital.

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