

Farmer, son hack herdsman to death

April 27, 2020 Kunle Olayeni Abeokuta



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Police in Ogun State have arrested a 45-year-old farmer, Kolese Womiloju, and his 25-year-old son, Taiwo Womiloju, for the alleged murder of a herdsman, Abubakar Sidi Usman.

The suspects, who were residents of Gbagba Elewure village in Odeda Local Government Area, allegedly hacked the 32-year-old victim to death.

The duo accused the herdsman of grazing his cows around their farm and conspired to kill him after ignoring their warnings, police said yesterday.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Abimbola Oyeyemi, disclosed that the suspects committed the crime last Wednesday.

According to him, the suspects dumped the victim into an abandoned well inside a bush after hacking him with machetes.

Oyeyemi said the Divisional Police Officer in charge of Odeda Division, CSP Ajayi Williams, led detectives to the scene where the victim was found with deep machete cuts all over his body.

He said: "The suspects were arrested following a report by one Usman Bello who reported at Odeda Divisional Headquarters that the deceased, who was his younger brother and has a cattle settlement at Gbagba Elewure village has gone missing. Upon his report, a search party was organised for him.

“Later in the evening, the corpse was found in an abandoned well in the nearby bush where he was thrown into after killing him.

“The DPO Odeda Division, CSP Ajayi Williams, led his detectives to the scene where the victim was seen with cdeep machete cuts all over his body.

“Having confirmed that the deceased was murdered in cold blood, the DPO and his men commenced an intelligence-based investigation into the case which led to the arrest of the father and his son who also live in the same village with the victim.

“On interrogation, they both confessed to the killing of the deceased because they saw him grazing his cows around their farm. They stated further that the deceased was warned to take his cattle away from the area and when he refused, he was beaten with a charmed ring which made him to be unconscious after which he was ‘macheted’ to death.

“He was then dragged to an abandoned well about one kilometre to the place and dumped there.”

Oyeyemi stated that the Commissioner of Police, Kenneth Ebrimson, had ordered that the suspects be transferred to the Homicide Section of the State Criminal Investigation and Intelligence Department (SCIID) for further investigation and diligent prosecution.

The PPRO quoted Ebrimson as saying that “those who are in the habit of taking laws into their own hands will not find it easy with the command because jungle justice has no place in our laws”.