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Police arrest pastor over death of female church member in hotel room

Emmanuel Ifeanyi,
ABA

The Abia State Police Command has confirmed the arrest of Bishop Timothy Otu, General Overseer of the Agape Evangelical Ministry, situated at the Obikabia Junction in Obingwa Local Government Area of Abia State.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), ASP Maureen Chinaka, said Otu checked into a hotel in Obingwa with a 43-year-old woman, Mrs Happiness Echieze, from Isialangwa Local Government Area of the state, but her dead body was later found, naked, in the room.

According to sources in Obingwa, Otu who hails from Ugep, Cross River State, allegedly checked into the guest house to have sex with Mrs Echieze, an

Evangelist in his church, who was confirmed by sources to be a mother of three, whose husband is based in Bayelsa State.

According to the police, "On the 13th of August, 2023, at approximately 09:30 am, Mr Godwin Akpan (male), residing at Jubilee Guest House in Ovom Village, Obingwa LGA, reported to the Isialangwa Police Division that an incident had occurred.

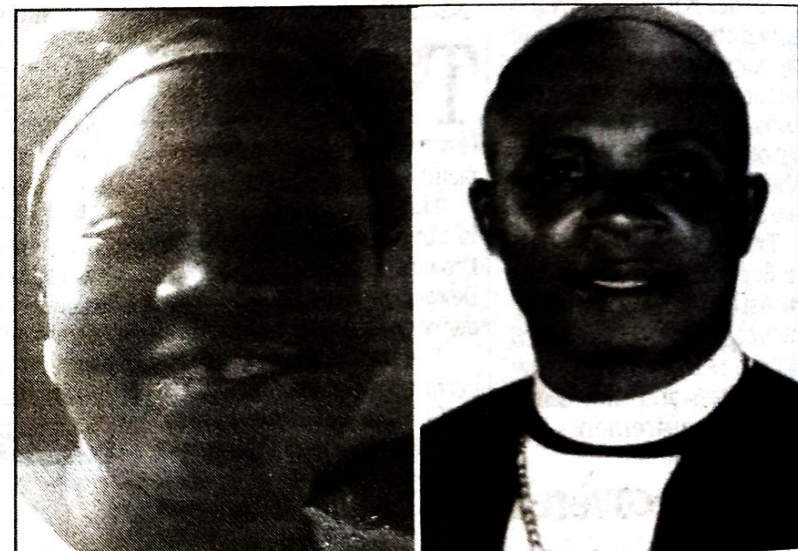
"It was revealed that on the evening of the 12th of August, 2023, around 09:25 pm, a clergyman named Timothy Otu (male), associated with Agape Evangelical Ministry at Obikabia Junction in Obingwa LGA, had checked into the guest house along with a woman, named Happiness Echieze (female), from Isialangwa LGA, Abia State. Happiness Echieze was 43-years of age.

"Further details provided by Mr Akpan indicated that on the same date, around 12:00 am (midnight), he entered the hotel room of the aforementioned clergyman and discovered the lifeless body of Happiness Echieze.

"She was found unclothed, and a white substance was emanating from her mouth and nose. Regrettably, the clergyman was absent from the scene.

"We hereby inform the public that immediate preliminary investigations have been launched into this matter. The deceased's body has been transported from the location and is currently at the SDA Mortuary in Aba, awaiting an autopsy examination."

Chinaka also added that Otu has been apprehended and the case has been transferred to the State Criminal Investigation Department (CID) for discreet



Evangelist Happiness Echieze and Bishop Timothy Otu

investigations

"Additionally, we wish to convey that the suspected individual in this case has been ap-

prehended. The case has been transferred to the State CID for discreet investigations," Chinaka said.

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