

# How man stabbed girlfriend to death over money

Taiwo Jimoh

...she was killed for ritual purposes- brother

## MURDER

A middle aged man, **Fatai Mogaji**, has allegedly stabbed his girlfriend, **Opeyemi Soyinka**, to death in the Ladegeboye area of Ikorodu, Lagos State.

The deceased, it was learnt, went to spend the night with the suspect when argument ensued between them at the middle of the night and Mogaji allegedly stabbed her multiple times.

The suspect was said to have stabbed the lady about 30 times on different parts of her body including her eyes and covered her with his bedsheet, dragged her into his kitchen and then escaped from the house, since then he has been on the run.

## Genesis

On July 9, Soyinka went to Mogaji's house at Number 19, Unify Zone, Ladegeboye Community around 9pm and she was said to have told her co-tenant at Komina Street, that she would be back the following day on Wednesday, July 10, 2024.

Unfortunately, she was stabbed to death by her boyfriend. Her jeans and the shirt she wore to the suspect's house was soaked in blood, as seen in a viral video after the incident. It was learnt that it was an argument over money that led to the fight between them.

The Chairman of Ladegeboye Community Development Association, Mr. Hameed Rasak, said it was a dastardly act and a cruel one.

He said, it was the landlord of Soyinka's boyfriend that called him on phone around 5am, that there is problem in his house, that one of his tenants have killed a lady he brought home.

Initially, the landlord never knew the lady was dead. Before I got to his house he had already gone to the police post in our community, it was from the post that he was directed to Igbogbo Police Division to make a formal report. Policemen from Igbogbo division followed him to his house where the incident took place.

"It was when the policemen got to his house that they discovered that the lady was dragged from the bedroom to the kitchen and covered with bedsheet. The policemen had to break the suspect's door before they could access the apartment, because Mogaji lock the door before he ran away.

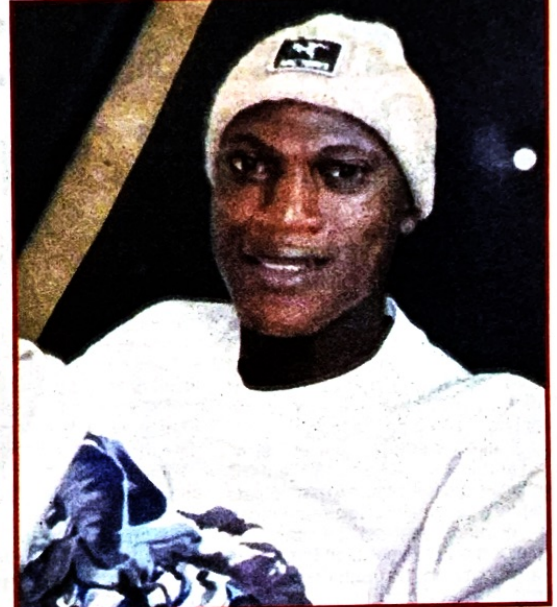
"The policemen however broke the door and evacuated the lady, some fetish items were found in the apartment of the suspect, black soap in calabash with cowries on it and the knife he used to stab the lady was also recovered."

Mr Rasak said the policemen told them the lady was used for ritual by the suspect. The corpse of Soyinka was later taken to the police station at Igbogbo, accompanied by the landlord and some members of the community.

He added that it was some boys in the community who helped them to bring her corpse out from Mogaji's room and identified her as



Late Opeyemi



Mogaji

someone who lives in the community.

"Why we needed her name was because she was about to be deposited at the mortuary and we are working with the police to get the suspect arrested. On our own side we also escalated the information about the suspect on the social media with his picture, we want him arrested.

"We purposely took the picture to know where she lives in the community and her parents. Immediately I sent the picture to our community Baale to check the lady's picture if probably he knows her parents, it was the Baale that helped us to locate where she lives and called her landlord. It was through her landlord we were able to get her parents and siblings."

"On Thursday, July 11, the matter was transferred to homicide section of the State Criminal Investigation Department, Panty, for further investigation of the matter. She was stabbed severally on different parts of her body, she was also stabbed on the chest, breast and her head."

## Screaming

The lady it was gathered, screamed for help around 4am, on the fateful day while in Mogaji's apartment, but nobody came out to rescue her; it was later in the morning that the landlord and other tenants came out to check what happened overnight and peeped through the window and saw a body wrapped up and dragged into the kitchen of the apartment, it was he, the landlord, who, raised the alarm and started calling people in the community about what happened in his apartment.

## Baale speaks

The Baale of Ladegeboye Community High Chief Joseph Giwa, said he didn't know on time that someone was killed until when police evacuated the remains of the lady, "that was when I was called

upon by the CDA chairman."

"I was told she was about to be deposited at the mortuary and they needed her name and as the Baale, I am the only person who could help them, that was why they called me. After much investigation in the community I was able to get her landlord who gave me her name and some of her siblings.

## Victim's landlord

The deceased landlord, Mr. Adedamola Daniel, said she was his tenant and was a hairdresser and also relocated from Maryland to their community early last year.

Before I allowed her move in, I told the agent that brought her to get all her details before letting out the apartment to her; when I was satisfied I told the agent to go that I would also interview her which I did and it was through that I got to know her brother who was my friend in Ebute-Meta.

"It was when I interviewed her that I got to know what she does for a living. It was her and my grandma that were staying together. When I came to check on my grandma it was then I was told that Ope had been killed at her boyfriend's house.

"On Tuesday, she was telling me someone sent money to her and she didn't receive the alert and she was worried. I told her to wait till the following day and if she didn't get it she should go back to the bank to check her details.

"She was an adult, my grandma and I cannot restrict her movement. I also called her brother to inform him that his sister had been killed, her brother screamed and promised to call me back, Ope was a nice girl."

## Deceased elder brother

The deceased elder brother, Mr. Wahab Soyinka, told New Telegraph that he lives at Agric area of Ikorodu, he only received the news about the incident from one of his brothers.

"Immediately after receiving the information we all moved including her mother to the police station, it was at the station we were told the case had been moved to Panty for further investigation.

We were also told the suspect had been declared wanted, my prayer is that the suspect is arrested, because he's the only one who can tell us why he stabbed her to death."

He said: "I am suspecting it was a ritual issue, because why would he stab her severally. Her two children are also with her mother-in-law. We were asked to come back next week at Panty. We want justice for her, I don't want her to die in vain."

## Mogaji

It was also gathered that the suspect has called a lady in the community to come to his house three times but she refused.

The source said it was when the lady didn't answer him that he decided to call the deceased who then obliged him and went to his house. She was also said to have borrowed money to take bike to the suspect house.

"It was just unfortunate the manner she was killed, because she was a nice person relating well with everyone in the community."

The source added that she called her around 5am on the fateful day that Mogaji had started again, that I should help her and also he didn't want to give her money.

"There was no way I could go out at that hour of the night, because my place is far from hers. I have warned her several times to leave him, because he's a violent and jealous person. It was unfortunate I lost her."

## Police

When contacted, the Lagos State Police Command Public Relations Officer (PPRO), SP Benjamin Hundeyin didn't respond to the message sent to him to get his reaction on the matter.

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