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Man Sets 4 Persons Ablaze

By Eugene Agha, 04.03.2009

Lagos State Criminal Investigation Department (SCID), Panti Street, Yaba, are presently battling to unravel circumstance surrounding the setting ablaze of four persons by one Obafemi Spencer, at Shomolu Bariga, Lagos State.

The suspect, who is detained at the homicide section of SCID, was arrested by a team of police detectives who stormed his No 31 Feluga Street, Ladi-Lak, Shomolu.

In a statement issued by the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Superintendent of Police Frank Mba, the suspect was alleged to have poured substance suspected to be petrol on the four victims whose identities were given as Toyin, Bello, David and a Pastor whose names were unknown, and set them ablaze.

The incident occurred at Palmgrove Bus Stop, along Ikorodu Road, almost brought business and vehicular activities to a halt, as passers-by scampered for safety.

"Nobody could say what transpired between the victims and the suspect, all the police were able to gather was that the man just emptied a gallon of fuel on the four persons and immediately set them on fire.

Mba said all four corpses have been deposited at the Lagos State University Teaching Hospital mortuary for autopsy, while investigations continue.

Mba also revealed that the Police in Lagos intend to carry out psychiatry test on the suspect, to ascertain his state of mind as at the time of the offence.

He said there were so many angles to it, but that the bottom line is that the man was arrested for setting four persons on fire.

"From the look of things, the incident is an outright murder, no matter the degree of provocation," he stated.

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