

Juliana Francis

**O**utraged has greeted the intervention of an Investigating Police Officer (IPO), identified as Mr Arome, who, rather than investigate the death of a six-month-old girl, urged the grieving parents to 'forgive and forget.'

The baby, Michelle Enenu Onoja, was said to have died on January 11 in her school in Abuja, where her mum used to keep her. The parents alleged that the baby was murdered.

Michelle was registered in the day care facility of the school, which is just a walking distance from her parents' home.

The story of how Michelle died has gone viral since it was shared on social media. The story was shared after the IPO, rather than commenced a full scale investigation, allegedly told the grieving parents to forgive the school and forget the case.

The baby's mother, Mrs. Onoja, who dropped off the baby before leaving for work, said: "At the time of

## My baby was murdered in crèche, mother cries out ...says 'police asked us to forgive, forget'

dropping her, there was nothing wrong with her. She was hale and hearty. About 2.18p.m., I called the nanny taking over from the first caregiver of the kids at school to know their welfare so I can go and pick her, she didn't pick the call. At 2.19p.m., I received a call from the school secretary's number, she is a woman, but it was the voice of a man I heard, asking me to come over to the school. When I got there, I saw about five women and two men praying over Michelle, who was in bed. I asked what the matter was, but nobody gave me any response. When I carried her, I noticed blood stains on her nose and food particles around her hair and nostrils."

Onoja rushed to take the baby to hospital, but one of the staff said that had already been done. Onoja was shocked that Michelle had been taken to hospital

without her being notified.

On getting to the Federal Medical Centre (FMC), Jabi, Abuja, Michelle was received at the emergency unit and the doctor attended to her, but to no avail. The doctor remarked that the

baby would have been saved if she had been brought in earlier.

Following the circumstances surrounding Michelle's death, Onoja lodged a complaint at the Divisional Police Station, Apo, where

Arome was detailed to investigate the matter.

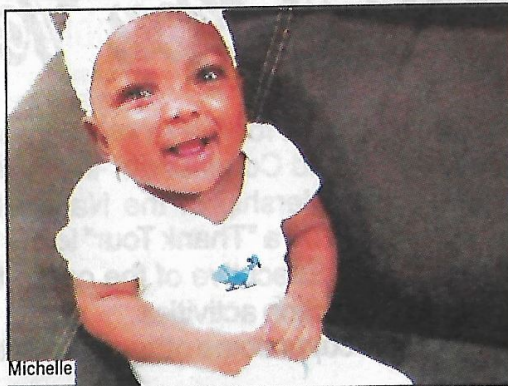
"Based on the blood stains, I advised the police to demand a preview of the CCTV to enable them unravel the circumstances surrounding the death of my daughter. To our greatest shock, Arome demanded the CCTV on 12th January 2019, but he was told that the camera has been wiped out," said Onoja.

Since the IPO could not access the CCTV, the parents decided an autopsy be conducted on Michelle.

The IPO and parents went to FMC, Jabi, where they paid N250,000 for autopsy test. Onoja alleged that she was informed that officials of the school made attempts to compromise

the result of the autopsy, but were resisted by the hospital.

Onoja added: "Consequently, when the result came out, it was discovered that both blood and feeds were oozing out of the mouth and nose of Michelle. The result also indicated that Michelle died as a result of asphyxiation. Alarmed by this result, the parents demanded a full scale investigation from the police with a view to bringing any culprit who is connected to the gruesome murder of baby Michelle to justice. Rather than commence full and proper investigation into the matter, Mr Arome suddenly lost interest in the matter and has since then been pleading that we forgive and forget about this matter."



Michelle

### Driver, two others injured as trailer crashes in Minna

**Daniel Atori**  
MINNA

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A trailer laden with

(FRSC) said the commission's ambulance had taken the victims to the Minna General Hospital for medical attention.

### Farmer kills two in Ogun, flees

**Kunle Olayeni**  
ABEOKUTA

4 police have launched a

Iloro Police Division.

A source, who pleaded anonymity, told our correspondent yesterday that Nureni, whose house is a