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Entertainment

Who threw 7-year girl into lagoon?

Written by Evelyn Usman Sunday, 16 March 2008

Business

•Mother did after oath of secrecy - Step father

Sports

· 'He disappeared with my daughter'

'PLease tell him to disclose the whereabouts of my daughter to the whole world. This is a child I suffered to raise single- handedly without financial support from anywhere". This was the statement that greeted Sunday Vanguard, last Thursday, as this reporter approached a couple who were paraded alongside twenty- nine robbery suspects that had been causing untold torment in Lagos State.

A mild drama unfolded as the couple traded blames over the sudden disappearance of seven - year-old Yetunde on February 10. While the husband, Mr Idowu Adeyinka, a furniture maker, said that he accompanied his wife to the 3rd Mainland Bridge where he said Yetunde was thrown into the lagoon by his wife, the wife claiming that she had left the house on that fateful day only to return without finding the girl..

The problem dates back to sixteen years ago when Adeyinka tied the nuptial nut with Safiat Akeem, precisely 1992. But three years into the marriage, the couple reportedly had a misunderstanding which led to separation. However, eleven years later, they were-united after intervention by both families. With this re-union came an additional baby which Sefiat had for another man. Unfortunately today, that child's sudden disappearance has become an issue which detectives at Lagos State Criminal Investigation Department (SCID), Panti, Yaba, are trying to unearth

Adeyinka explained thus: "On February 9, 2008, my wife came home with a liquid substance in a bottle and requested I drink from it. On further enquiry, she said I had to drink first before any explanation, that we were going to take an oath of secrecy. I reluctantly drank it because I had earlier asked her to borrow me N180,000 with which to purchase a parcel of land.

I thought she wanted to use that to ensure I paid the money. But, to my surprise, she said I would accompany her the next day to the 3rd Mainland Bridge that she wanted to throw Yetunde into the lagoon. She emphatically stated that her action must be kept secret as failure to do so would result in the death of anyone that would let the cat out of the bag. Before now, there had been a tussle over the paternity of Yetunde. Infact, three men have been arguing over the paternity.

"So as early as 5a.m. the next day, being Sunday, I followed her and when we got to the 3rd Mainland Bridge, we alighted from the commercial bus we boarded on the pretext that she wanted to excrete. After the commercial bus left, she threw the baby into the lagoon and we left for home. She......" . "It's a lie", Sefiat interrupted, shaking her head in disagreement to her husband's allegation. Instantly she betrayed emotion, as tears freely flowed down her cheeks.

She narrated, "All he had said is nothing but pockets of lies. I had left home as early as 5 a.m. that Sunday for the market, leaving my three children, two of whom I had for my husband, with him. I returned home later about 10 p.m. only to find that Yetunde was not at home. Upon enquiry, I was told that my husband went out with her. But an hour later when he came back, he said he did not go out with her.

Immediately, I sensed there could be danger because he had warned me three days before that fateful day to take Yetunde back to her father, that he did not want to set his eyes on her again".

On how the controversial baby came about, she explained: "After we got married, I had my first child Tope, a female and two years later I had Joke, another female. But when Joke was seven months old, my husband drove me out of the house after a misunderstanding. I left with Joke who was barely seven months old and rented a room apartment at Oshodi. After waiting for years without him seeking for

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