

Herbalist arrested over murder of 13-yr-old girl

By Peter Duru

MAKURDI — A 32-year-old herbal medicine practitioner (names withheld) has been nabbed by men of Benue State Police Command for the alleged murder of a 13-year-old Miss. Nguavese Mtaghergah.

Vanguard gathered that Nguavese had accompanied her grandmother, who was sick, to a herbal home jointly owned by the alleged killer and another herbalist for treatment.

But to the chagrin of family members the herbalist absconded with the teenager to an unknown destination.

According to family members, all efforts to trace the duo did not yield any positive outcome as the herbalist's partner feigned ignorance of his whereabouts.

the woman, the abductor resurfaced to tell the family members that their teenage girl was in his custody some where in Nasarawa State.

According to the nephew of the abducted girl, they were informed by the herbalist that their daughter, whom he absconded with, has been down with a strange ailment and that when he consulted a soothsayer, he was informed that the girl was bewitched. He added that it would take the intervention of the family members to get her well again.

However, before help could reach the sick girl, the news of her death got to her family members who went to Nasarawa State to discover that the body of the girl had already been deposited at a

morgue in Lafia.

Relatives suspect ritual murder

Family members of the deceased got the police informed and are alleging that the teenager died in mysterious circumstances, hence they are not ruling out ritual murder.

According to one John Yegho, who spoke to *Vanguard* on the matter, "we believe that this could be a case of ritual murder especially when you consider the manner the girl disappeared and her sudden death. That is the reason why we are demanding for justice in this matter," he said.

Meanwhile, the Police have apprehended the suspects while investigation into the matter is ongoing.

Gov Sambo lauds traditional