

Herbalist nabbed

BY DAUD OLATUNJI

ABEEKUTA—A herbalist identified as Chief Dandola Owotomo aka Amuludun Isese has been reportedly caught with human tongue, arm and a woman's private part in Ijebu-Igbo, in Ijebu-Igbo North-East Local Government Area of Ogun State.

He was said to be one of the three suspected ritualists arrested by police in the state in connection with the disappearance of a 70-year-old Kehinde Rabiw, who was declared missing at Idode-Imomo in the area.

Vanguard findings revealed that Owotomo, 65, was arrested at his residence in Oke Agbo, Ijebu-Igbo in Ijebu North Local Government Area by policemen from Atan Police Division following a tip-off.

A police source from Atan Police Station, who pleaded anonymity, told *Vanguard* that the man was picked up by policemen after his house was searched where a shrine was

with fresh human tongue, arm in Ogun

uncovered with fresh human parts.

The source further said the police got a tip-off from a member of the Idode-Imomo Community Development Association, CDA, in the area.

It would be recalled that a kidnappers' den was uncovered in the same area recently after the mysterious disappearance of the aged man which led to the arrest of three suspects.

According to the police source, "we went to Ijebu-Igbo with the support of the CDA member after we got a tip-off from the people. When we got to the man's house, it was an eyesore. We discovered a calabash in one of his rooms where a fresh human tongue, human palm and a woman's private parts were kept in a shrine drenched with blood assumed to be human blood.

"We transferred him to Elewera on Sunday and the Commissioner of Police has shown much interest in the case and had ordered that investigation should commence into the matter and he has promised to get to the root of the matter."

When contacted, the police

spokesman in Ogun State, Muiwa Adejebi, who confirmed that some people had been arrested, said he was yet to be briefed on the latest happening.

Meantime, residents of the area have begun deserting their houses to neighbouring towns such as Atan, Eruwon,

Odosimadegun and Ijebu-Ode following the fear of kidnappers and ritualists in the area.

Vanguard gathered that the residents believed their lives were no longer safe in the town following the discovery of the underground kidnappers' den.

2 injured as bus crushes tri-cycle in Lagos

BY BOSE ADELAJA

LAGOS — TWO people narrowly escaped death, yesterday, in Lagos, during an auto crash involving a tricycle popularly called *Keke Marwa* and a commercial bus with number plate Lagos YA525 MUS.

The incident happened around 12.30 p.m at Balogun bus-stop, Obafemi Awolowo Way, Ikeja when the tri-cyclist and driver of the 22-passenger bus tried to outsmart each other as they journeyed along Allen-Ikeja axis of the road.

According to an eye witness account, the driver of the fully

loaded bus was maintaining a slow speed while the tri-cyclist who was carrying only one passenger tried to overtake him, unfortunately, he miscalculated and rammed into the bus.

The *Keke Marwa*, however, skidded off the road leading to severe injuries by the operator and his only passenger.

As soon as the incident occurred, the passengers in the bus disembarked and joined other sympathisers who had already gathered to assist the victims.

The incident caused a gridlock for a while until the arrival of some concerned citizens who helped to ease off the traffic.

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