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TRANSLATE

22-yr-old surrenders to police after killing cousin over girlfriend

ON FEBRUARY 4, 2016 11:25 AM / IN CRIME GUARD / COMMENTS

By Tom Moses

Just like Macbeth, in Shakespeare's play of same name, murdered sleep and could no longer sleep, 22-year-old Ndifreke Joseph Clement, disturbed by sleepless nights and traumatic experiences after murdering his 23-year-old cousin, Ubong Edet, surrendered himself to police six months after the crime.

Clement, a native of Akon Itam, Itu Local Government Area, Akwa Ibom State, who handed himself over to police at Ikot Akpan Abia, Uyo, said he slashed his cousin's throat after beating him to coma because Edet slept with his girlfriend in August 2015.

He told *Vanguard*: "I cannot remember the exact date now, but it occurred in a night in August 2015 in the one room apartment we shared. On that day, I returned from work to meet the door locked.

Clement... I don't have peace of mind anymore.

"I knocked on the door and waited for over five minutes before my cousin could come to open the door. When I went into the room, I saw my girlfriend weeping and blood running from her nostrils.

"I asked her what happened and she said Ubong beat, wounded and forcefully had sex with her. But after opening the door for me, Ubong went away and did not come back until very late in the night.

'We fought for a very long time'

"When I asked him why he did what he did to my girlfriend, he started punching me and I retaliated.

"We fought for a very long time before I could subdue him. I then picked my cow-butchering knife and cut his throat, carried his dead body and dumped it in the bush very close to the house and threw the knife into the pit toilet.

"I have brought myself to the police even when nobody knew that I killed him. I have come to plead for forgiveness because since I killed my

cousin, I no longer have peace of mind. I am always disturbed in my mind and dream."

The Akwa Ibom State Police Public Relations Officer, PPRO, ASP Cordelia Nwawe, said the suspect would be arraigned for the court to decide whether he had any right to take the life of another person.

FEMI AJASA

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