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Stolen phone leads to arrest of chef a month after killing female lodger

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By Esther Onyegbula

a victim's stolen phone has led to the arrest of the chef of a popular restaurant in Victoria Island area of Lagos by detectives of the Homicide Section, State Criminal Intelligence and Investigations Department, SCIID, Yaba.

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Knife stab

Alleged murder: 6 stab wounds on Udeme were self-inflicted— Witness

The chef allegedly snuffed life out of a female lawyer, who lodged in a hotel in Opebi area of Lagos.

The lifeless body of the 34-year-old female lawyer identified as Feyitayo Obot was discovered by a staff of the hotel in one of the rooms last Tuesday. The deceased, as gathered, was in Lagos for a meeting.



On closer observation, it was discovered that her throat was slit and she was stabbed in the stomach.

Vanguard learned that when report of the incident reached the Commissioner of Police, Lagos State Police Command, CP Zubairu Muazu, he directed the Deputy Commissioner of Police in charge of SCIID, to carry out a discreet investigation on it and get the perpetrator arrested.

Police hinted that the suspect, Joshua Usolor, was traced to a restaurant in Victoria Island area of the state, where he worked as a chef last Thursday, through the phone stolen from the deceased.

During preliminary interrogation, he was discovered to have lodged in one of the rooms in the same hotel with the deceased.

Asked why he carried out the murder, he said he needed money to pay for his lodging.

According to him, "I am a chef. I receive N60, 000 as salary. I lodged at the same hotel for two nights. But I only paid for a night which was N30, 000 and needed to pay the balance of N30, 000 and check out the next day.

"That day, I sneaked into her room with aid of one man, solely for the purpose of stealing her money to pay the hotel bill. But she started struggling with me."

Vanguard learned that Police are on the trail of his alleged accomplice, who is on the run.

Spokesman for the Lagos State Police Command, CSP Chike Oti, who confirmed the arrest, said: "In the course of the struggle, the deceased was overpowered by the 21-year-old suspect."



“He stabbed her with a sharp knife in the stomach and used the same knife to slit her throat. Satisfied that the woman was dead, he made away with her phones and N26,000.

“Sequel to the report, the Command sent its homicide detectives to the scene of crime at Opebi, Ikeja, where they collected important exhibits for forensic analysis.

“The body, which had multiple stab wounds on the abdominal region and throat slit open with a sharp object, was recovered for autopsy.

“The autopsy result revealed that the following factors led to the death of the victim: Exsanguinations which implies excessive loss of blood (b) Disruption of the left jugular vein and (c) sharp force trauma.

“The suspect will be charged to court for murder. Meanwhile, the CP has directed that the case file be duplicated and forwarded to the Directorate of Public Prosecution (DPP) for legal advice.

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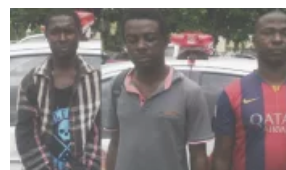
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