Man robs, kills Taxify driver; nabbed by FSARS

ON MARCH 27, 2019 7:14 AMIN NEWS15 COMMENTS



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A 29-year-old robbery suspect, Ikechukwu Ozorumba, who allegedly escaped after strangulating a Taxify driver and stealing his car, has been arrested by operatives of the Federal Special Anti-robbery Squad, FSARS, at Adeniji Adele, Lagos Island, Lagos.



Cross session of Special Anti-robbery Squad Commanders after an interactive session with Inspector General of Police, Ibrahim Idris in Abuja Thursday. Photo by Gbemiga Olamikan.

Ozorumba, who hails from Obolo Uku, Delta State and resides at 16 Yaro Street, Okokomaiko, Lagos, allegedly conspired with his friend simply called Nkelechi, aka Sun Shine under false pretence boarded the Taxify, around 11 p.m. from Bode Thomas in Surulere to Okokomaiko.

The suspect and his accomplice, who is now at large, immediately, they got to their destination between 12 am and 1 am, robbed the driver, Ebenezer Olotu, of his Camry Car with number plate, SMK 980 FM at Okokomaiko area of Lagos and allegedly killed him and drove the car to Imo State for sale.

The Operatives also arrested one Chima Chukwuemeka, 38, a palm oil farmer in Oguta area of Imo State from Amaraku, Isiala Mbano, Imo State for allegedly harbouring the robbery suspect in his farm to evade Police arrest.

Police alleged that nemesis caught up with the robbery suspect after the family of the late driver petitioned the Deputy Commissioner of Police, DCP in charge of FSARS, Lagos Island, Mr Kola Okunola that the deceased, who works with Taxify Car hiring services in Lagos left home for work on December 26, 2018 and had yet to return home.

Following the petition, Okunola directed his team led by SP Festus Olaniyi to do everything possible to locate the missing driver.

Meanwhile, a Police source alleged that after days of intelligence gathering in Lagos metropolis, the Police team following a tip-off found the corpse of the late driver dumped at Jimoh Street, Okokomaiko, Ojo, Lagos.

The Police evacuated the corpse and deposited it in the mortuary.

The source further alleged that the Police team later tracked the robbery suspect through the phone number of the victim to Imo State where they arrested the oil farmer, who led the Police to his farm in Oguta, Imo State to arrest the robbery suspect.

After his arrest, the robbery suspect led the Police to recover the stolen car at a hideout in Imo State and they brought the two suspects and the recovered car to FSARS office in Lagos.

During the investigation, according to the Police, the robbery suspect allegedly confessed to the crime and said that he and his accomplice, Nkelechi, now on the run did not intend to kill the driver, but just to rob him of his car and that the driver's stubbornness led to his death.

In his confession to the Police, Ozorumba allegedly stated: "We ordered the driver to surrender his car key to us, but he refused and started struggling with us and in the process, we used an iron rod to hit him, strangled him to death and dump his body at Jimoh Street, Okokomaiko and drove the car straight to Imo State to look for a buyer," the suspect told the Police.

He also told the Police that when he got home, the wife asked him why he had blood stains on his body and an injury on his finger.

Ozorumba said: "I told my wife that I was involved in a fight at a club, where I sustained the injury and got the bloodstains on my clothes. So she didn't suspect anything."

However, the Police source said the suspects would be charged to court after completion of investigations.

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