

Man sells 60-year-old hunchback mum to ritualists for N7m in Ondo

By Dayo Johnson

AKURE—DETECTIVES in Ondo Police Command are on the trail of the son of a 60-year-old fishmonger in Ondo State, Rukayat Abodunde, who allegedly sold her to suspected ritualists for N7million.

Police sources said the deceased son, who is now on the run, sold her to some alleged ritualist for N7million having convinced them that she has a natural hunchback.

After the deal was sealed, two of the ritualists reportedly stormed her residence located at Ayetoro Street, in Ondo town at about 10pm and pretended that they wanted to buy fish.

While the old woman was attending to them, reports had it that one of them pulled out his gun and started shooting sporadically into the air and in the process the victim was abducted.

Sources said the deceased son deceived the killers that his mother had a natural hunchback, hence her kidnap and murder for rituals.

Botched hunchback

The bubble reportedly burst when the ritualists after paying the son of the victim the N7million requested for and after killing her, discovered that she was not born with any round lump.

The deceased reportedly had an injury from birth at her back, which looked like a hunchback.

Her assailants reportedly contacted the son of the deceased, accused him of defrauding them and requested for a refund.

The son of the deceased reportedly told them that he

renovate the deceased house and bought some clothes for his mother before they abducted her.

Vanguard was informed that the son of the deceased told the ritualists that he would refund their money if only they bring back his mother alive.

The whereabouts of the deceased son remained unknown since the disappearance of his mother.

Contacted, the police spokesperson, Femi Joseph, confirmed the abduction of the 60-year-woman.

Joseph said two suspected kidnappers invaded her home and whisked her away at about 10pm.

He said: "The incident was reported at the police station by one Omotola Oseyemi, while the police swung into action to ensure the release of the abducted woman.

Joseph claimed ignorance that the kidnapped woman had been killed for rituals by those who are in need of a victim with natural hunchback.

He said: "We interrogated the people in the area but it was unfortunate that members of the family are not showing enough interest in the disappearance of the woman.

"Some family members visited the station to notify the police that they are no longer interested in the case but will like to handle it in a traditional way."

Gunmen kill 10, injure 5 in Katsina

By Bashir Bello

KATSINA—TEN persons were reportedly killed and five others sustained injuries, Sunday evening, when some gunmen attacked Yar-Centre, Sherere village in Kankara Local Government Area of Katsina State.

Local sources disclosed that the gunmen stormed the area on motorcycles, shooting sporadically, leading to the death of 10 villagers, though police confirmed nine dead, and five injured.

The source said the five injured have been transferred from Kankara to Federal Medical Centre, FMC, in the state capital.

Another source disclosed that the gunmen also set ablaze shops and vehicles belonging to residents.

Katsina State Police Command, SP Gambo Isah, insisted that nine persons and not 10 were killed and that bodies of persons killed have been evacuated by the police and members of the community.

According to SP Isah, "Yes, nine persons not 10 were killed. They have been evacuated by combined efforts of police and community members.

"Operation Puff Adder has been deployed to the area to restore sanity, trace and apprehend the perpetrators.

"The command is appealing to members of the public to always assist us with timely information about the movements and whereabouts of the bandits, including their willing collaborators.

"The CP condoled with the families of the deceased and promised to do all he could to avert the recurrence of such