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Man beats wife to death over N2,000 in Edo

By Ozioruva Aliu

BENIN CITY— A 45-yearold menial worker, simply identified as Christopher, weekend reportedly beat his 39-year-old wife to death over her refusal to give him a N2.000 loan.

The death of the mother of three, identified as Isoken, occurred Saturday night at 1, Agbontaen Street, beside Ebvareke Secondary School, off Agboniro Street, Uselu, Benin City.

The couple's 13-years old son, Augustine Christopher, explained that his father always beat his mother at the slightest provocation.

According to him, the event that led to his mother's death started with a phone call from the father requesting N2,000 from his mother, but "my father later came home at about 9 pm and started beating her as he accused her of always embarrassing him each time he requested for money.

"After the beating, I was trying to give my mother paracetamol and water she asked for when my father took the water and drug from me and threw them away, she went out to pour water on her body and later lie down outside.

"My father locked us, the children, inside the room and went out to pounce on my mother where she was lying down already weak from the beating.

"That was when neighbours rushed her to two different hospitals where she was pronounced dead on arrival."

The young boy said his father smokes and was always drunk.

A neighbour to the deceased, Mrs Florence Obahiagbon, said it was the noise from the beating that drew their attention outside, adding: "We rushed her to two hospitals within the neighbourhood where they both said she was dead on arrival.

"We invited vigilantes that responded swiftly and they apprehended the husband, who was then trying to escape after committing the crime.

Mrs Obahiagbon said she and the deceased had both attended a party earlier in the day where the deceased participated in serving guests at the party.

The body of the deceased was said to have been evacuated by the police.

Contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer, Bello Kontongs, confirmed the incident but said he was waiting for details from the Divisional Police Officer, DPO, in the area.

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