

# Saturday NEWS

## ① Suspected herdsmen kill, behead Ondo farmer

By Dayo Johnson, Akure

• *His killers not known — Police*

**F**EAR has gripped residents of Ago Panu Community in Owo Council area of Ondo state, following the gruesome murder and the beheading of a farmer, Unaha Enesi, by suspected herdsmen.

Sources said that the middle aged victim was killed on his farm located at Ago Panu in Upenmen, Owo, along Owo/Ikare road, and the killers went

away with his head.

Reports had it that the deceased who hailed from Kogi state had been farming at Ago Panu for years until his untimely death.

An eyewitness account said that "A search party was organised by his family members after they waited for him to return to the house after the day's farming. But, unfortunately, the

search party only discovered his lifeless body in a pool of blood with his head cut off."

Speaking on the ugly incident, a friend of the deceased, who is also a farmer, Ibrahim Adeiza described him as "a hardworking young man, an easy going man who never quarrelled with anyone."

His gruesome murder, according to Adeiza, has raised

serious fear among the people living in the community.

He said that "the people are now apprehensive of going to the farm for fear of being killed."

To douse the anxiety, the council chairman of Owo, Chief Samuel Adegbegi, who visited the community, commiserated with the family over the death of the young man. Adegbegi urged the people to use this period of Ramadan fasting to pray to God to expose the perpetrators.

He however, assured the people of adequate security of their lives and property.

Contacted, the state police spokesperson, Funmi Odunlami confirmed the killing of the farmer.

Odunlami however, pointed out that "nobody is sure of who actually killed and beheaded the victim. What was discovered was the deceased body without the head."

## ② Married woman butchered by boyfriend in Ondo

By Dayo Johnson, Akure

• *Akeredolu's wife intervenes, pays hospital bills*

**A** married woman, Funmilola Osundare escaped death by whiskers in Akure, the Ondo state capital, after her yet to be identified boyfriend butchered her.

**Saturday Vanguard** gathered that the timely intervention of neighbours saved the victim from being hacked to death by the boyfriend at a rented apartment in Ijapo, GRA, Akure.

The victim reportedly sustained varying degrees of machet cuts on her face, shoulders and hands.

Sources said that the boyfriend said to be a footballer took the victim to the house three days before the ugly incident to pass the night.

The suspect reportedly attacked her at midnight but her distress cries attracted the neighbours who invited operatives of the state security outfit codenamed Amotekun.

It was gathered that the suspect fled while the neighbours rushed the victim to the Police clinic for treatment where she was rejected and referred to the University of Medical Sciences, Teaching Hospital, Akure.

The Executive Secretary of the State Agency Against Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (OSAA-GBV), Bar. Mrs. Bola Joel-Ogundadegbe, explained that she was informed about the incident by the police and the agency quickly notified the First Lady, Chief Mrs. Betty Anyanwu-Akeredolu, who im-

mediately ordered that the victim be taken to an hospital and, consequently, settled the emergency bills.

Joel-Ogundadegbe said that "the victim was on oxygen in the Trauma centre Ondo but yet to regain consciousness and strength to talk."

Ogundadegbe noted that no one had been able to identify the boyfriend of the

victim, but that his neighbours said he is a footballer.

She said that Funmilola needed to be referred to the Federal Medical Centre for the service of a neurosurgeon, due to the deep wound on her head.

The state Commander of Amotekun, Chief Adetunji Adeleye, said his men rushed the victim to the hospital.

## DEPRESSION: Middle aged man rescued from committing suicide in Ilorin

By Demola Akinyemi, Ilorin

**A** middle age man was yesterday morning rescued from committing suicide at NASFAT area, along Airport, road Ilorin having lost his job and help was not forthcoming from anywhere.

The state police command therefore urged residents to avoid committing suicide even in the face of depression because if the person survives the attempt, it is punishable under the law. The man identified as Olayinka Owolabi from Osun State was said to be heavily depressed and so decided to commit suicide as the only way out.

One of the neighbours who spoke with **Saturday Vanguard** said that some good Samaritans sighted him afar while he was preparing to hang himself.

"Two women who were passing by saw him with a rope tying it on the tree and therefore stood to see what he was trying to do. It was at the point of dragging a nearby stool that they suspected that he wanted to commit suicide following which they raised alarm and some men around ran to take him away from the spot," said Amuda Aliyu who spoke with **Saturday Vanguard**.

Contacted, Spokesman of Kwara State Police Command, Ajayi Okasanmi confirmed the incident in a statement later made available to journalists in Ilorin.

According to the statement, "passers-by sighted what looked like a man hanging on a tree very close to the main road at NASFAT area along checking point bus stop, Ilorin. His report at the Police Station elicited a quick

response by policemen that rushed to the scene, the rope around the neck of the victim was loosened. He was rescued and rushed to Tobi Hospital, Taiwo Ilorin where he is responding to treatment.

"On interrogation after regaining consciousness, the man who was later identified as Olayinka Segun Owolabi 'm' of No 54, Ile Alagbede Abutu Oyan, Odo-Otin L.G.A. Osun State, stated that, he was tired of life, having lost his job, lost both parents, no help was forthcoming from anywhere without any assurance of the next meal prompted him to decide to end his life."

The Commissioner of Police, Cp Tuesday Assayomo in the statement advised citizens against taking one's life. The CP reiterated that any attempt to take one's life, apart from being against God's injunction, is also a crime punishable by law if the offender survives the attempt.