

ONDO: How apprentice killed master, dumped corpse in well

By Dayo Johnson

AKURE—FRESH facts have emerged on how a 20-year-old apprentice, Josiah Godwin, murdered his 27-year-old master, Saviour Joseph, and dumped his corpse inside a well at Imafon community in Akute, Ondo State.

A competent Police source told *Vanguard* that the victim had repeatedly complained that the apprentice was always in the habit of being distracted with his phone instead of working whenever they are at the construction site.

According to the source, the late Saviour had seized his phone several times because, while others were busy working at the site, the suspect was busy on social media and fiddling with his phone.

The source said: "One of the apprentices confirmed that it has become habitual of Godwin to abandon work and resort to fiddling with his phone when others, including our master, are busy working at the site."

Vanguard was informed that the victim, who could no longer stomach the excesses of the suspect, seized the phone and smashed it on the ground.

The suspect was alleged to have waited for other apprentices to leave the site before he reportedly attacked his master.

The Police source further disclosed that the suspect hit the deceased with an object on the head, which led to his death.

The suspect later dumped his corpse inside the well located at the site.

For four days, he joined others and the deceased family members to search for his master.

The elder brother of the deceased, Odey Julius Ogbaji, said that the body of his younger brother was found four days after in a well at the site where he was working.

Julius said: "Last week, the deceased called me in the morning and we spoke for some minutes.

"But on Wednesday, I tried his number but

couldn't get through; I thought he had a flat battery, until Saturday that I was called by another younger brother of mine that efforts to reach the deceased had been abortive.

"Afterwards, the suspected apprentice was contacted. When they got the boy, they asked him about the whereabouts of his master and he said his boss woke him up at night, collected his phone smashed it on the floor and began beating him.

"The following day, he decided to leave the site but we asked how he could leave the site without seeing his boss. He said he thought his master went to the toilet when he left."

Also speaking, an in-law to the deceased, Mr Ogar Julius, said the suspect has been arrested and transferred to the Police Criminal Investigative Department, CID, at the Police headquarters in Akure.

The state Police spokesperson, Funmi Odunlami, confirmed the death of the master.

Odunlami said: "The suspect claimed his master beat him up and he became angry, killed him and dumped him inside the well."

Odunlami said that police detectives have arrested the suspect, who would be charged to court for murder after a thorough investigation.



The murdered Saviour Joseph