

SOUTH WEST

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By Rotimi Ojomoyela

THURSDAY, June 8, started like every other day in Erijiyan Ekiti, an ancient agrarian community tucked inside the rolling hills of Ekiti West Local Government Area of Ekiti State, without any inkling among the inhabitants of what the day forebodes.

Thursdays are regarded as the market day in the community and it usually comes and ends in fanfare.

Shortly after the market, every one will return to their homes and celebrate the day with local palm wine under the shed usually located in the central of the town.

Unknowningly to the people of the community, this particular Thursday had hidden in its belly, sorrows, gnashing of teeth and wailing waiting to unfold, just at the closing time of the market, around 4pm, a loud shout from a particular section in the town enveloped the entire community, making the traders to hurriedly pack their wares and rushed toward the direction of the loud wailing.

What they saw befuddled them, a dead boy lying in the pool of his own blood, a dane gun placed carelessly on the ground near another weeping teenager, rolling on the floor, unable to explain the calamity that attracted the onlookers.

Vanguard gathered that a teenage son of a local hunter and community security guard had snuffed the life out of his playmate and friend, Adewale Ajayi, a JSS 2 student of Erijiyan Community High School over alleged plan to test a charm known in local parlance as "ayeta" laced on the deceased.

The unfortunate incident which threw the entire community into mourning occurred at a popular street called Eyon-Ogbe quarter in the ancient community.

According to a source from the community, the father of the suspect, who was a local hunter and a private security guard in charge of the ancient community, had on the fateful day placed his dane gun at the corner of the house shortly after returning from the day's work.

The late teenager had accompanied the victim, who was said to be a good friend of the suspect to the house, picked the dane gun where it was kept at the corner of the

Charm efficacy gone awry: Tears as teenager shoots friend to death in Ekiti

- Incident unfortunate —Community leader
- Teenager, father in our custody —Police

house and was said to have demonstrated and tested the gun before he allegedly shot the victim to death.

The victim was said to have been found in the pool of his blood after being shot by the suspect when some people in the community arrived the scene of the incident.

As at the time of filing this report, the source disclosed that the suspect and his father are currently detained at the Aramoko divisional police station, while the corpse of the victim had been deposited at the Morgue in an undisclosed Hospital in the area.

Case under investigation —Police source

A Senior Police officer at the station, who did not want his name mentioned said: "The late Secondary School Student was murdered with a dane gun by his colleague. The case is under investigation at Aramoko-Ekiti Divisional Police headquarters."

"The corpse of the deceased had been deposited in the morgue at Aramoko-Ekiti general hospital", he stated.

The source added that the Commander of the Special



•Ogundare Emmanuel: Commissioner of Police, Ekiti Command.

Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS), Mr. Marcus Ogundola, had led a team of operatives to the

scene to prevent break down of law and order.

Incident unfortunate —Community leader

Similarly, a community leader in the town, Chief Cornelius Omotoye, described the incident as unfortunate, noting that he was in his house located few meters away from the scene of the incident when he had about the incident and on getting to the scene he met the deceased on the ground in his own pool of blood.

While the suspects, who had realised the failure of the charm and the consequence of his action was wailing, crying and rolling on the ground, he was immediately prevented from hurting himself and handed over to a detachment of police officers from the Aramoko-Ekiti, divisional police station.

The father of the suspect, who was said to have owned to the dane gun, which the suspect used to shoot his colleague, was arrested alongside his son and were whisked away to Aramoko, a neighbouring community.

They were handed over to the operatives of the Special Anti-Robbery Squad, SARS, attached to the Ekiti State Police Command.

Teenager, father in our custody —Police

When contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer, Mr Sunday Abutu, confirmed the incident and disclosed that the teenager and his father are cooling their heels at the Homicide section of the command.

He added that the remains of the victim has been deposited at morgue of the Specialist Hospital, Aramoko-Ekiti, while investigation into the matter has commenced.

Satellite residents stranded as Assembly Road collapses

•Residents seek Sanwo-Olu's help, slam LG chair

By Dickson Omobola

RESIDENTS of Satellite Town in Oriade Local Development Authority, LCDA, of Lagos State have been left stranded following the collapse of a major road, Assembly Road, in the community.

The road, which connects many areas in the community, is now impassable, making for

vehicular and human movements.

Briefing newsmen, yesterday in Lagos, the President of Satellite Interest Group, Mr Taye Mudashiru, accused the leadership of Oriade LCDA of abandoning the road for years.

He added that the rains have worsened the road which commences from Stepping Stone and terminates at the entrance to the Nigerian Navy

sector players. There is no major multinational and national firm that doesn't have an estate here. Satellite was a paradise until the government did the unthinkable by citing tank farms here. But the major problem now is the total neglect of the area by the local government leadership. Lagos State government has performed its responsibility by reconstructing Marwa Road, but the feeder roads that

problem. What we have here is total neglect and absence of governance. Could you imagine that when some people visited the LCDA leadership, they were saying that we didn't vote for them? Does that make any sense? Is that leadership? Isn't that wickedness? We know that the state governor is a good man. He is a man of wisdom and peace. We are appealing to him to come to our aide.