

Why I killed my cousin, 4 others for rituals

—Suspect

By Dayo Johnson

AKURE—A 39-year-old fruit seller, Dolapo Babalola, has narrated how he killed his cousin and four others for rituals at Okeigbo, in Ile-Oluji/Okeigbo Local Government Area of Ondo State.

Babalola, who was paraded alongside 18 other suspected criminals, confessed that he used their body parts for rituals.

His herbalists and accomplices were also paraded by the police at the police headquarters in Akure, the state capital.

In an interview with newsmen, the suspect narrated how he killed his victims and dismembered their bodies for rituals.

The suspect said he always attack motorcyclists by snatching their bikes from them and thereafter, killed them when his victims recognise him. He said he attacked his victims with stone and stick whenever they recognise him after dragging their motorcycles with them.

The suspect, who confessed that he had been in the illicit business since 2021, said they carried out their operations within the town and the neighbouring states.

Babalola said: "I have killed five



The suspects.

persons, including my cousin and my friend and snatched their motorcycles. I killed Opeyemi, who was my friend and sold the motorcycle to one man at Ibadan called Toheed.

"I do not sell human parts but I took part of one of my victims' bodies to an herbalist in Ondo, who promised to give me an Ifa Oracle.

"At the point where we snatch motorcycles, anyone who struggles with me in the process gets hit on the head with a big stone and a

stick."

Parading the suspects, the state Commissioner of Police, Abayomi Oladapo, said: "Sequel to the arrest of one Babalola Daniel, who led police detectives to a shallow grave at Okeigbo where the corpse of Opeyemi Oyelakin, a commercial motorcyclist was exhumed, other suspects have been arrested in connection with the case.

"Further investigation revealed that the suspect had killed four persons in various locations and stole their motorcycles.

"In April 2023, he killed a motorcyclist in Kabba, Kogi State and life along Ilesha road in Osun State, removed some parts from the corpse for rituals.

"In June 2023, he killed another motorcyclist at Ondo town and dumped the corpse in a farm at Oboto bush along Bolorunduro road, Ondo town while in October 2023, the suspect and one Sikiru Mutiu aka S.K deceived his childhood friend by name Joel Olagoke to take them with his motorcycle to a location where he was killed, his body dismembered and handed to herbalists: Mugeeb Lawal and Shina Ojo (both in police custody), for rituals.

"The duo of Abiola Toheeb and Ayegbajeje Michael, who are receivers of stolen items and one Oyediran Olaitan, who helped in the production of fake documents to aid the selling of the stolen motorcycles have been arrested.

causing increase in death rates at work

in Igbo, Yoruba and pidgin English.

"This communication tool was adopted at the NSITF, Agege branch to disseminate the message down to the grassroot, because health and safety are not limited to one state.

the United Nation/ILO identified that 2.41 billion workers are exposed to excessive heat at work, which is about 70 per cent of workers and this leads to increase in death rates at work, occupational injuries and diseases.

diseases, pesticides also affect their effectiveness and productivity.

"Conclusively, the negative impact of climate change in the work place can be managed by drinking sufficient water, access to good ventilation, avoiding a congested work environment