

S Man held over disturbing the dead

KIBAALE

By Andrew Musinguzi

The Police in Kibaale are holding a 34-year-old man on allegations of attempting to exhume the body of a woman buried a week ago.

David Otabong, the Kibaale district Police commander, identified the suspect as Brasio Byabazaire, a resident of Kicunda village in Kyebando sub-county, Kibaale district.

"We have arrested Byabazaire for allegedly exhuming the body of a woman who died a week ago. We recovered sandals that he is said to have abandoned at the graveyard. Our sniffer dogs tracked him and we have him in our custody. He will be charged with disturbing the peace of the dead," he said.

Byabazaire, together with others still at large, is alleged to have used a hoe to exhume the body of Joyce Tubihwa Kicunda village.

Peter Kyamaywa, the Kyebando sub-county chairperson said Byabazaire exhumed the body on Tuesday morning at about 1:00am and was unearthed by sniffer dogs at a hideout.

Grace Katusabe, the vice-

chairperson of Kicunda village, said Byabazaire is a suspected wizard, who has shrines near his home. Local council officials and Kyebando Police recovered fetishes, such as hair, horns and herbs at the shrine.

"Byabazaire is a problem in our village. He is suspected to have been bewitching people in Kicunda and Kasanda villages. We want the Police to ensure he is prosecuted," she said.

Byabazaire denied allegations and said he is hated by lazy people who are against his developmental programmes in the area.

"People are jealous of my business activities. The sandals recovered by the Police are not mine. I don't know the owner," he said.

Meanwhile, Steven Semusu, a resident of Kitutu village in Karama sub-county, Kibaale district, handed over all his fetishes to the Faith of Unity leaders after escaping lynching by angry residents.

He allegedly handed over horns and animal skins to Omuhereza Tom Businge, a leader in the Faith of Unity Church after being prayed for by the Rev. James Twesige, a parish priest at Kitutu Church of Uganda.

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