

Man died after release from police station

Postmortem report shows cook also sustained multiple injuries on the body

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A man who was arrested in Marigat and released, only to be found dead later was strangled, a post-mortem report shows.

Mr Edward Ochieng Ochola also had multiple injuries on the body, including the private parts.

He had differed with his girlfriend, Ms Naomi Kibon, and was accused of having assaulted her, leading to his arrest by officers from the Lobo Administration Police camp on July 26.

He was then taken to the Marigat Police Station, where he was placed into custody at 8.25pm, according to an occurrence book entry.

He was released the following day but did not report to work.

Committed suicide

On July 30, he was found dead, about 3 kilometres from the police station, and the body was taken to the Kabarnet Hospital mortuary on the same day.

Police initially suspected the man had committed suicide.

On a postmortem form taken to the pathologist, Constable Zebedayo Wawire of the Directorate of Criminal Investigations in Marigat wrote: "The deceased was found with his shirt around his neck, tied on a tree in a manner suggesting that he hanged himself. Please, examine to ascertain the cause of death."

Contacted for comment yesterday, Baringo County Police Coordinator Peter Ndung'u said his office would make a follow-

up on the matter. "We receive many reports of such cases. Let me follow up the matter with my officers. I will get back to you," Mr Ndung'u told the *Nation* on the phone.

Mr Ochola was an employee of the Lake Bogoria Spa Resort since December 2012. He was declared the best creative and innovative employee of the year in 2013.

The man worked as a cook after undergoing training at the Kenya Utalii College. He hailed from Kokwanyo Location, Kabondo Kasipul Sub-County, Homa Bay County.

According to the postmortem report, the body had bruises on the upper neck. There was also clotted blood around the mouth and nostrils.

DNA analysis

Dr Wangari Wambugu, a pathologist at the Baringo County Referral Hospital, on Monday conducted the postmortem, which revealed that the cause of death was "Asphyxia due to strangulation by another person, with head injury due to blunt force trauma".

Findings

WHAT PATHOLOGIST DISCOVERED

- Scratch abrasions on upper limbs, right forearm, right knee and upper front chest.
- Thorn prick marks on the palm of the left hand and forearm.
- Man suffered subgaleal haemorrhage, bleeding in the space between the skull and the scalp.
- There was also blood at the back of the head, between the skull and the brain.