

Oyo herder arrested over colleague's death during N4,000 dispute

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| By Johnson Idowu

The Oyo State Police Command has confirmed the arrest of a herder, Sheu Aliu, for allegedly killing his colleague, Jombo Isa, during a dispute over a N4,000 debt.

PUNCH Metro learnt that the incident happened at about 4 p.m. on Sunday at the Zakari Forest Reserve in the Igboho area of Oyo State.

A counter-insurgency expert, Zagazola Makama, who shared details of the incident on his X page on Monday, disclosed that an argument between the duo had turned violent and, in the process, Aliu allegedly struck Isa with a cutlass.

Makama disclosed that the police were alerted to the incident and promptly arrested the suspect and recovered the cutlass used in the attack.

Makama wrote, “Sources reported that the incident occurred on October 12, 2025, at approximately 4:00 p.m., following an altercation between the two herders that turned violent. Aliu reportedly attacked Isa with a cutlass, inflicting fatal injuries.

“The suspect was later arrested and, upon interrogation, confessed to committing the crime. The cutlass used in the attack was recovered as an exhibit.

“The body of the deceased was evacuated and deposited at the General Hospital, Igboho, for preservation and autopsy.”

When contacted for a reaction on Monday, the Oyo State Police Public Relations Officer, Adewale Osifeso, confirmed the incident in a telephone conversation with our correspondent.

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Osifeso noted that the suspect was in custody and an investigation had commenced into the matter.

“Investigation is in progress, with the suspect currently in custody. Further updates will be provided accordingly,” the PPRO said.

This is not the first time a dispute over a meagre amount of money has turned fatal in Oyo State.

PUNCH Metro reported on September 7 that a tenant, identified as Olayeni, lost his life following a heated dispute with his landlord over rent payment in the Oriyangi area of Ibadan, Oyo State.

The police had said that the landlord had invited a friend to intervene during the confrontation, but the situation turned violent.

The landlord's associate had allegedly struck the Olayeni, leading to his collapse.

These patterns show that minor disputes can often escalate to fatal violence when not carefully managed.