

Forest Guard Kills 14-Year-Old Boy At Osun Funeral Party

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A 14-year-old boy (name not disclosed) has been shot dead after a security guard on duty fired shots in the direction of attendees at a funeral party in Ilesa, Osun State.

The spokesperson of the Osun State Police Command, Abiodun Ojelabi, who confirmed the incident in an interview yesterday, said two people had been arrested in connection with the incident, which occurred last Saturday at Oke Ero Area, Ilesa.

Ojelabi said those arrested in connection with the incident had been moved to the command headquarters in Osogbo, where a probe into the remote and immediate causes of the shooting was being handled. He said, "One person was shot dead. The deceased is a 14-year-old. It happened at a funeral party in Ilesa.

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"A guard was allegedly involved in the shooting. Three other people sustained injury. But two of those injured were discharged from the hospital this morning. "The two people arrested are in our custody, and the investigation is ongoing into what happened at the event."

However, while speaking under condition of anonymity, sources close to the scene of the incident in separate interviews explained that the guard who fired the shot is a member of the Nigerian Forest Security Service who was on guard duty at the event.

They said the shooting was an accidental discharge, adding that the funeral ceremony came to an abrupt end, following the shooting. One of the eyewitnesses said: "The incident was an accidental discharge because the man involved, an operative of the Nigeria Forest Security Service, was on guard duty with some of his colleagues when he released the shot.

"One person was hit, and he died immediately. Some people were also injured. The shooting led to serious panic as people ran in different directions. The event came to an abrupt end after the shooting."