

Dispute over cigarettes sends man to early grave

A dispute between two friends over the choice of cigarettes to smoke has led to the death of one and a murder charge against the other.

An Ibadan Chief Magistrate's Court heard yesterday that while Basiru Olanlokun and Nurudeen Odunyemi, both 28, were returning from a party at Lalupon village, near Ibadan, on April 27, the former gave the latter N40 to buy some sticks of Benson and Hedges cigarettes from a roadside retailer.

Odunyemi, a tailor, however, decided to buy another brand, a development that Olanlokun, a poultry attendant, did not take kindly to. Police

prosecutor Benjamin Akindoyin told the court that an angry Olanlokun allegedly dealt his friend a heavy blow on the nose.

According to the prosecutor, Odunyemi bled profusely from the nose and was subsequently rushed to a hospital where he died on May 5. Akindoyin said the accused was arraigned for committing an offence contrary to Section 316 and punishable under Section 319 of the Criminal Code. Chief Magistrate A. Bolaji, however, ordered the accused to be remanded at the Agodi Prison to allow for further investigation into the matter.

The case was adjourned till May 27. (NAN)