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Nigeria: Suspected Armed Robber Dies in Police Cell

BY HOPE ABAH, 19 OCTOBER 2012

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Makurdi — Police in Benue State yesterday confirmed the death of a suspected armed robber in its cell at the command headquarters in Makurdi.



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The suspect, Terkula Chaka, was said to have died following a fight that ensued between him and other cell inmates on Wednesday.

Police spokesman, Daniel Ezeala, said the deceased was arrested at the weekend for robbery, adding, "He got involved into a fight with cell inmates on Wednesday and was beaten up".

Ezeala said the suspect collapsed in the process and was taken to the police clinic from where he was referred to the Federal Medical Centre, Makurdi, only to be confirmed dead on arrival.

According to the spokesman, seven of the inmates have been arrested in connection with the suspect's death and would soon be charged to court as investigation was ongoing.

Samuel Changba, the cell chairman and Terlum Ukilo, said the deceased on that fateful day, sighted his sister through the cell window and shouted at the top of his voice that they should come and bail him or he would commit suicide.

According to them, when he did not get any response, he started to hit his head on the wall and at the same time marching on other inmates until he slumped. "The next thing we saw was excreta all over him. It was at that point that we called the police who took him away", they said.

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