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2 killed in Suleja over stolen handset

By Ahmed Tahir Ajobe (Minna) & Adam Umar | Publish Date: Nov 22 2016 2:00AM

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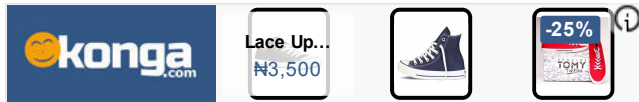
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Two people lost their lives in a clash at Kantoma near Dawaki area of Suleja, headquarters of Suleja local government of Niger state over a stolen handset yesterday.

One of the deceased, whose name could not be immediately ascertained, allegedly stole a handset from a dealer, who also lost his life, at the market and took to his heels.



The dealer, one Usman Garba Babaginda, according to witnesses, pursued the suspect who was already fleeing the scene.

The suspect was said to have been stopped in his track by some youths following an alarm but he allegedly stabbed one of his captors in the process.

Consequently, the suspect was said to have been mobbed by a group of people who eventually beat him to death, having seen the first victim slump. Another version of the story however had it that the problem started after Babangida, described as a GSM phone repairer in this version, was trailed by two persons to the roundabout area of the town who stabbed him to death and fled immediately on a motor cycle.

There was contemplation about the reason that led to the action. While some sources related the matter to a misunderstanding between the victim and the persons over a work on phone given to him by their master, another source maintained that the problem had a relationship to a recent political showdown between the member of the House of Representatives from the area, Abubakar Lado and the Suleja Area Council Chairman Ahmad Dikko Kassim, who is now under suspension from his councilors said to be loyalists of the House of Representatives member.

Following the action, some mob allegedly headed to the area where Babangida's killers fled to and killed them before reaching a drama house around Rafin-sanyi area, Suleja, where they were said to have hailed from. The Niger State command Police Public relations Officer, DSP Bala Elkana confirmed the incident, adding that two wounded victims rushed to a nearby hospital later died.

Elkana said the stolen handset had been recovered from the victim by the police and appealed to the relations of the victims not to resort to reprisal as the police were sorting out the situation.



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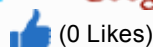
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