

From Rakiya A. Muhammad,
Sokoto

It was a mystery and a sad tale for a father whose son bade him farewell and went to school only to be the last he will see the 13-year pupil alive. The lifeless body of the child was found hanging from a pillar in an uncompleted building in Sabbin Zama in Danbuwa village of Dange Shuni Local Government Area of Sokoto State.

Indeed, the incident had thrown the community into confusion as residents kept asking whether the Junior Secondary School II student, Mubarak Aminu, committed suicide or was murdered.

Commenting on the horrid incident, the 35-year old father of the deceased, Malam Aminu, an automobile technician, recalled that, "I saw him preparing for school and he greeted me and prayed for my safe return from my place of work while he went to school along with other boys. That was our last meeting."

The father added it was in the evening while he was closing for the day, that he was told to come home immediately. It was during the Isha'i prayers that I arrived home and met many people by the entrance of our family house. Police later evacuated the corpse and the family awaits their decision."

Daily Trust on Sunday gathered that Mubarak was said to have returned from school, ate and then went out and what happened thereafter was still a mystery. He was described by family members as a simple, peace-loving and obedient. Mubarak's uncle, Malam Babuga said his nephew was in the habit of playing close to the house with few little children or sometimes alone.

Babuga recalled that, "On

that day, I noticed his absence which was unusual and I wanted to inquire about him before some issues made me to forget until I was alerted by the incident. One cannot but wonder how he can terminate his life in such a situation since he was not someone who loiters around the streets with other naughty boys. You can always see him next door rolling on sand or just whiling away time."

Also his teacher, Malama Bello Abdulrazak said he was one of the most brilliant boys in the class. "He was the class prefect. Anytime I wanted to go out, I assigned Mubarak to control the class and he did it to my satisfaction," she revealed. The teacher added "We were conducting our promotional examination and on Thursday March 23, he was among the pupils who sat for the last paper, Social Studies and he did well, his script is still with me." He maintained 1st or 2nd position in all the examination he sat for," the teacher asserted. She said that there was nothing unusual about him on that day as he remained calm and simple.

One of his classmates who was also his closest friend, Mustapha

The building where Aminu's body was found

Ibrahim Kwannawa, also that recounted they attended school as app usual and sat for the examination along with other pupils. He said he c after the paper, he asked me to and unt come and play with him and he unt settled for storytelling. I noticed. wer

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