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Youth kills teenager over trousers in Maiduguri

By Isiyaku Bara'u Zakka, Maiduguri | Publish Date: May 31 2017 2:00AM

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A 20-year-old son of a ward head in Maiduguri, the Borno State capital, has been arrested by the police for allegedly beating a 17-year-old almajiri to death for refusing to sell a pair of trousers to him.

Bakaka Bunu, who is said to be residing with his Arabic teacher at a Qur'anic school at Jajeri, Layin Maihoto area in Maiduguri, was said to have gone out to hawk second-hand clothes after closing from school.

An eyewitness, Hussaini Bana, told this reporter that the son of the ward head of the area, Goni Fannami, showed interest to buy a pair of trousers from Bakaka but Bakaka insisted that someone had already declared interest to buy the trousers and so he would not sell it to him.

"Goni blocked Bakaka, insisting that he must sell the trousers to him. In the process, Goni hit Bakaka in an attempt to collect the trousers from him. Bakaka fell unconscious and was rushed to hospital where he was pronounced dead," the eyewitness said."

When this reporter visited late Bakaka's school, his teacher, Malam Baba Goni La'ani, said, "I was in the school when some scholars came to tell me about the incident. My worry is his senior brother who was also a pupil here was picked by soldiers at the peak of the insurgency in 2013 and has not been seen since then. Now, the younger brother is dead.

"I was with him here about two hours before his sudden death when he was writing some verses of the Qur'an as part of his contribution to the graduation ceremony of his friend coming up soon."

When Daily Trust visited Goni's father, Bulama Goni Manga, said he was aware of the matter. He blamed the incident on the devil, saying his son did not use any object or weapon in killing the almajiri.

When this reporter visited late Bakaka's family house at Limanti village, about 15 kilometres away from Maiduguri, his aged and blind father said he had been briefed about the incident, and that whatever the teacher decided on the matter was over.

When contacted, a senior police officer at the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) told this reporter that the case had been transferred to them from Ibrahim Taiwo Police Station where it was initially reported.

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