

**BENUE**

# Suspected motorcycle thief, cultist killed

From Hope Abah Emmanuel, Makurdi

A suspected motorcycle thief and an alleged cultist have been killed in two separate incidents in Makurdi metropolis of Benue State.

Witnesses said the suspected motorcycle thief met his Waterloo on Friday night after snatching a commercial bike from its owner around the Demekpe axis in the Wadata suburb of Makurdi.

A witness simply identified as Ipole said the suspect had already dispossessed the owner of the motorcycle and sped away with it, adding that the alarm raised by the victim led other commercial bike riders to pursue the alleged thief.

Luck, however, ran out on the suspected thief, according to the witness, who further explained that the pursuers caught the thief near St Augustine Catholic Church in Wadata, where they killed him and set his body ablaze.

The second incident was said to have happened at the Modern Market in Makurdi on Friday, where the victim, said to be a cultist, was hacked to death by a rival cult gang.

The spokesperson of the Benue police command, DSP Catherine Anene, confirmed the incidents and warned against jungle justice.