Teenager set ablaze over motorcycle theft in Edo

From Usman A. Bello, Benin

A teenager has been set ablaze by a mob at Auchi, Etsako West LGA of Edo State, allegedly for stealing a motorcycle.

It was gathered that the teenager was caught during a robbery operation with his gang members at Iyekhe area of Auchi.

A source told our reporter that, "Members of the robbery gang have been terrorising the area. On the ninth day of Ramadan, the gang came to rob in the area and killed a vigilante who attempted to apprehend one of them."

He further said few days after Sallah, the robbers came to rob and left a message that they were still coming for another operation.

He said, "On Friday, they came for another operation but luck ran out of them as the people caught one of them and set him ablaze. Before being burnt, the suspect confessed that they killed the vigilante."

Meanwhile, the Edo State Commissioner of Police, Abutu Yaro, has ordered investigation on the incident.

In a statement, the command's spokesperson, Bello Kontongs, described the act as barbaric and inimical to the laws governing the country.

He warned that the command would not allow disgruntled elements to take laws into their hands by killing suspects instead of handing him over to the police.

While appealing for calm, he said the police were already mopping up those responsible for the gruesome act.