Tension In Abuja Market Over Alleged Killing Of Trader



The market's manager and vigilante offices smashed by the protesting youth

By Adam Umar

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There was tension at the modern market in Kubwa, Bwari Area Council of the FCT yesterday morning over the suspected killing of a trader in the market.

A trader, Yusuf Abdullahi, said he spotted the deceased, identified as Shuaibu, who used to sell second-hand wears (Okrika), outside the market in critical condition, with some people pouring water over him.

"I proceeded into the market around 9 am, only to see some youths carrying the remains of the person and dumping it inside the office of the market manager," he said.

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He added that the youths went on to smash the window of the office and that of the vigilantes next to it.

Yusuf Salisu, another trader in the market, said he saw the manager being rushed out of the market by others to give him protection.

He said the youths later left the market to the 3rd junction, a notorious location for drug activities in Kubwa community.

"They threatened to return for reprisal against the killing of their brother. This has forced many traders that were already in the market to shut their shops and leave," Salisu added.

Sources in the market further disclosed that the deceased had allegedly had a misunderstanding with one of the leaders of the vigilantes at the market.

This, according to the source, had made members of the vigilante to locate him somewhere and beat him during the previous night.

When Abuja Metro revisited the market yesterday afternoon, traders had returned and reopened their shops, with the policemen stationed around a passage that leads to the manager's office, as well as one of the market's gates.

No vigilantes at the market was willing to speak on the incident when our reporter visited the market.

However, the Kubwa Divisional Police Officer, CSP Paul Lazarus, confirmed the incident, saying investigation into the case is ongoing.