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Police arrest principal for killing pupil

From Charles Ogugbuaja, Owerri

POLICE have arrested alleged trigger-happy secondary school principal for shooting his pupil.

The unnamed principal who heads a secondary school located at Oguta Local Council in Imo State last week allegedly shot dead his pupil, said to be writing this year's Senior School Certificate Examination conducted by the West African Examinations Council (WAEC).

Police Public Relations Officer in the state, Deputy Superintendent Isa Bala Mohammed, confirmed his arrest, adding that he was being detained by the command, pending completion of investigations.

"The said principal has been arrested. He is being detained by the command. We are also investigating the matter," he said.

The deceased, whose name was given as Johnbosco Okezue, before his untimely death, had allegedly been

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accosted by the principal to pay the sum of N600 that each pupil paid as examination fees, on the day the lad were writing his Mathematics.

The money was bribe for invigilators (N500) and the balance of N100 for "cost of examination proper".

But unwilling to pay, Okezue was instantly shot by the principal as a result of anger.

After the incident, The Guardian gathered that he immediately abandoned his Mercedes Benz car and escaped to his home, Mbaise. The pupils who could not hold their annoyance immediately left what they were doing and set his car ablaze while he was hunted by the rampaging pupils.

Mohammed said that the principal had confessed in his statement that the deceased was killed because he belonged to a cult, adding that he wanted to kill him along side with his colleagues.

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