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Girl, 9, stabs 5-year-old to death in Bayelsa



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By Igoniko Oduma / Yenagoa

Igbogene community in Yenagoa Local Government Area of Bayelsa State has been thrown into grief after a nine-year-old girl stabbed her five-year-old female playmate to death.

Sources said the tragedy, which occurred on Monday, shocked residents of the area, creating panic over the increasing incidences of domestic violence in some communities in the state.

It was gathered that there was a disagreement between both children who are related.

The cause of disagreement between the two minors could not be immediately ascertained, but it was said to have resulted in a fight leading to the brutal stabbing of one by the other.

It was learnt that the older girl felt slighted during the ensuing argument, grabbed a knife and stabbed the younger one.

"The girl died at the spot. We all rushed to the scene of the incident after the victim let out a loud cry. When we got there, we saw her writhing in pains. But she was dead before we could help her", said a source who did not want to be named.

According to the source, the police who arrived the scene arrested the suspect, whose skirt was reportedly stained by the blood of the victim, and took her to a police post in the community.

Crowd of angry residents were said to have throughd the police post asking for revenge on the suspect.

When the policemen at the post observed that the situation could result in chaos, they quickly reported the matter to the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) at the Akenfa police station calling for reinforcement.

"The crowd insisted that the girl must die the same way she killed her playmate. They surrounded the police post and mounted pressure on the policemen to produce the suspect. They even threatened to burn the police post", the source added.

He, however, said the quick intervention of the DPO who led the reinforcement saved the suspect and the police post.

Daily Independent learnt that the remains of the victim had been deposited at the Federal Medical Centre (FMC) mortuary, Yenagoa.

The suspect whose name was not disclosed was said to have been immediately moved to the Akenfa police station.

The Commissioner of Police, Hilary Opara, confirmed the incident, saying the two minors were fighting when one stabbed the other to death.

He added that the suspect was later taken to the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) and that the police were investigating the incident.

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