

The Nation: Herdsman kills man in Iseyin over N2,000 goat

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Bisi Oladele, Ibadan on 31/08/2012 01:08:00

There is tension in Iseyin, a farming and traditional textile making community in Oyo State, following the killing of a resident by a Fulani herdsman on Sunday.

It was learnt that the herdsman, who was identified as Mohammed Moto, killed the man, simply identified as Mufutau, at 7.30pm on Sunday at a farm after a disagreement between them.

The residents are afraid that a reprisal attack might occur between the residents and Fulani herdsmen over the death.

It was learnt that Moto bought a mobile phone for N3,500 from Mufutau and agreed to pay in two instalments. After paying N2,000 first instalment with a goat, the Fulani herdsman reportedly promised to pay the balance soon.

The Nation gathered that the animal disappeared a few days after Mufutau collected it from Moto.

Mufutau reportedly traced the goat to Moto, when he suspected that the herdsman might have removed it from where he tethered it.

He was said to have sighted the goat among Moto's herd and confronted him. This reportedly led to a fight.

It was learnt that Mufutau was enraged and attacked Moto with a knife.

Moto reportedly retaliated with a machete, resulting in multiple wounds on Mufutau's body.

Mufutau's body was taken to a private hospital in the town.

The police were said to have arrested Moto and transferred him to the state Criminal Investigation Department (CID) in Ibadan, for further investigations. Deputy Commissioner of Police, Clement Adoda, said the deceased did not find the goat with the seller.

The police chief explained that Mufutau only told the herdsman that he was looking for the goat he purchased from him.

After Mufutau confirmed that Moto was not in possession of the missing goat, Adoda said there was an argument over payment of the balance.

Mufutau reportedly attacked the herdsman, who allegedly hacked him to death.

The police chief said Moto has confessed to committing the crime, adding that investigation is ongoing.

The traditional ruler of the town, Oba Abdulganiy Salawu, has urged the government to intervene in the incessant attacks by nomads on his people.

He said the herdsmen have been attacking Iseyin residents and that only his intervention has prevented reprisal attacks.

The monarch, however, appealed to his subjects to remain calm and urged them not to take the law into their hands.