

CITYBEATS

Pupil 'stabbed to death' by mates

DECEMBER 8 will remain indelible in the mind of Razaak Akanbi Badmus. On that day, he bade Fatai, his 18-year-old son, who was going back to school, a painful final bye. Reason: He knew not that it would be the last day he would set his eyes on him.

Fatai had visited his father in Lagos and returned to Meteorite Standard School at Ayetoro in Ogun State, where he was a second-year Senior Secondary School student.

His father, a pool sub-manager at the Facility Department, National Sports Commission (NSC), said he got a distress call that students in his son's school had stabbed him to death.

"I was confused. I asked: 'Which Fatai?' I went crazy. I later received more information that some students in SS3 stabbed him on his chest and stomach. They stabbed him because he stopped a fight between SS2 and SS3 students."

It was gathered that stu-

By Jude Isiguzo

dents from SS3 allegedly stormed SSS 2A class. Fatai was in SS2A and a fight broke out. Though the school's authority later stopped the fight after Fatai rushed to alert the proprietor of the school, the SS3 students were aggrieved that Fatai intervened. They, therefore, lured him out of the school to where they stabbed him to death.

The proprietor, Mr Joseph Afolahan, said: "I got a call from the hospital where he was rushed to that one of my students was stabbed to death. When I got there, I saw Fatai and I was shocked. I learnt some students waylaid him, using his classmates to lure him to the back of a Complex (mall), where they stabbed him to death. The doctors tried but the wounds led to his death. I am very sad over this incident. I have invited the police to fish out the students who did this. This is

terrible.

"For secondary school students to become killers does not portend good for the community and it is unacceptable. I am supporting the police and they have arrested two of the students, but others have fled. We are in touch with their parents to bring them out to face the wrath of the law. Fatai was a loving boy. He was a peace maker and I told his father not to pay school fees next term because of his good behaviour. I'm grieving over him and those involved will not go scot-free. This is the first time such is happening and I have taken steps to prevent further occurrence."

Insisting that he wants justice for his son's killing, his father said: "Fatai was my second son; he was very responsible. He was the one organising prayers in the mosque. He was a peacemaker and it is sad that they killed him because of that. He trained as aluminium technician and he



• Agony dad...Badmus

was very good at his work, getting contracts from people. His killing is a big loss to my family and I will miss him." Sodding, the Fatai's father added: "He was a great child with promising future, but his school mates wasted him for me. I will get to the root of the killing and ensure all the students involved in killing him are arrested and made to face the law. I will fight for justice for my son."

The case is being investigated by operatives of the State Criminal Investigation Department (SCID), Ogun State Police Command.