Police arrest 23-year old for kidnap, murder of eight-year-old boy in Bauchi

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BAUCHI State police command has arrested one Ibrahim (surname withheld), a 23-year-old resident of Runjin Gani in Toro Local Government Area for the kidnap and murder of an eight-year-old boy, Kamal Aliyu.

News of the arrest was contained in a statement made available to newsmen by the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Ahmed Wakili, on Thursday.

Wakili revealed that the suspect is a next-door neighbour to the family of the deceased boy.

The police spokesperson said: "On August 4, Kamal Aliyu was reported to have been kidnapped by unknown individuals in Runjin Gani village in Toro Local Government Area.

"In response, the Division Police Officer (DPO) of Toro Division, launched a search-and-rescue operation in the area.

"Acting on credible intelligence and tip-off on August 15, the DPO apprehended Ibrahim (surname withheld), who is a close neighbour to the victim's family.

"During interrogation, the suspect confessed to have conspired with another individual, whose identity is still unknown, to kidnap Kamal.

"The suspect admitted to taking the young boy into a nearby bush, where they killed him and buried his body in a shallow grave.

"The suspect also disclosed that they had demanded a ransom of N200,000 from the victim's father.

"Although the father complied and took the ransom to the designated location, the suspects were unable to retrieve it due to the presence of security operatives in the nearby area."

Wakili added that the Commissioner of Police, Auwal Musa Mohammed, has directed the transfer of the case to the State Criminal Investigation Department (SCID) for a thorough investigation.