

Police recover corpse of suspected ritual victim

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Kaduna**

THE police, on Sunday, found the corpse of a young man alleged to be a victim of ritual killers under the bridge by the bank of River Kaduna, adjacent the Ahmadu Bello Stadium.

The body of the man, believed to be a commercial motorcyclist in his 20s, was later removed by policemen from Sabon Gari police station and deposited at the Barau Dikko Specialist Hospital mortuary.

Our correspondent gathered that the killers of the motorcyclist cut his throat for a ritual purpose.

A pool of blood was found where his corpse lied before it

was removed by the police. His motorcycle, which he was said to have newly acquired, could not be found.

An eyewitness, who simply identified himself as Malam Salisu, claimed he had seen the body before the arrival of the policemen and confirmed that the victim's neck was slashed open and his throat removed.

He said, "I saw the corpse of the man early this morning as I was passing by the bridge. His body was lying in a pool of blood at the bank of the river. He was slaughtered like a ram from one end to the other. His throat was also removed probably by his killers."

Salisu added that another okada rider identified the body

as that of a colleague from Rigasa village.

When our correspondent visited Barau Dikko Hospital, where the body was said to have been deposited, mortuary attendants confirmed that the police deposited the corpse at the hospital mortuary.

The Police Public Relations Officer, Mr. Sa'ad Yahaya, a deputy superintendent of police, confirmed that the police found the corpse under the bridge and had deposited it at the mortuary.

He said, "One of our men told an officer at the Sabo Gari police station that there is a corpse at the bank of River Kaduna."