Armed robbers kill final year student in Bayelsa

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Simon Utebor, Yenagoa

suspected armed robbers have shot dead a final year undergraduate student of Bayelsa State-owned Niger Delta University, Amasoma.

It was learnt that the victim, Obele Wilson, was an engineering student of the school.

Wilson was reportedly attacked on Tuesday along the Sani Abacha Expressway, Yenagoa, the state capital, where some branches of new generation banks are located.

The armed robbers were said to have stormed the premises of one of the banks and held customers hostage.

It was gathered that they dispossessed customers of their cash, mobile phones and other valuables.

It was learnt that before the incident, the victim was helping admission seekers process NDU screening forms for a fee.

A source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the deceased was at the bank to sell forms to admission seekers.

The source claimed that when the bandits stormed the place and started dispossessing people of their cash and other valuables, the deceased allegedly argued with them, adding that they became furious and gunned him down.

The source said, "The killing of Wilson is very painful. He was a final year engineering student who was in the business of processing screening forms for admission seekers.

"He was on the premises of the bank on Tuesday to look for customers among those who

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had purchased the forms.

"Some armed robbers stormed the place and started collecting people's valuables and

cash at gunpoint.

"Wilson argued with them and in the process, they shot him."

The source said after the shooting, some sympathisers tried to rush him to a hospital but

he died on the way.

The source, who blamed the incident on the ongoing strike in the university, said, "If not

for the strike, Wilson would have gone for his compulsory industrial training for final year

engineering students. He was processing the training when the strike started."

The deceased, who was described as a friendly youth from the Ogbia Local Government

Area, was the immediate past Vice-President of the National Union of Bayelsa State

Students and a leader of the Ogbia students' union.

Efforts to get the reaction of the Police Public Relations Officer, Bayelsa State Command,

Asinim Butswat, were unsuccessful as his line failed to connect.

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