

Soldier kills youth, sparks crisis in Kaduna

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Kaduna State Governor, Nasir el-Rufa'i

Godwin Isenyo, Kaduna

There was pandemonium in Sabo Tasha, Television Garage and Gonin-Gora in Chikun and Kaduna South Local Government Area of Kaduna State on Friday when a soldier shot and killed a 35-year-old man, Solomon Andy, for encroaching into Command Secondary School.

The school, owned by the Nigerian Army, is located along Kachia Road popularly known as ‘Command Junction’.

The incident created panic, forcing youths across the area, who dumped the corpse at the school’s main entrance to go on the rampage.

According to an eyewitness, trouble started when the deceased and few of his friends were scooping ‘sharp sand’ at a burial ground sharing a fence with the school.

The soldier on sighting them, opened fire, killing Andy in the process.

However, the situation turned more violent when the police insisted on taking the corpse away.

The move caused youths to start throwing stones at them, leaving three persons badly injured.

A statement signed by the Deputy Director, Army Public Relations, 1 Division Nigerian Army, Col. Kingsley Umoh, said, “The attention of the Headquarters 1 Division Nigerian has been drawn to tension arising from an incident that occurred at about 10:00am on June 9, 2017.

“A soldier of the Division Internal Security Force deployed at Command Secondary School, Kaduna opened fire on some youths suspected to have encroached into the school premises.

“One of the youths was hit and died on the spot. The matter is being investigated and details will be made available as they become available.

“The General Officer Commanding appeal to law abiding citizens to remain calm and go about their daily lawful activities, while assuring that 1 Division remains committed to security in its area of responsibility in conjunction with other security agencies.”