

Mob lynches Ekiti suspected kidnapper

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Ekiti State Commissioner of Police, Tunde Mobayo

Abiodun Nejo, Ado Ekiti

Angry residents of Omuo Ekiti in the Ekiti East Local Government Area of Ekiti State have allegedly beaten a middle-aged man to death for attempting to kidnap a seven-year-old boy.

A source told journalists on Saturday that the incident happened around 2.30pm on Friday when pupils were returning from schools.

The source said, “The man, who sighted the suspected kidnapper, raised the alarm as the suspect grabbed the boy and dragged him into the nearby bush. This propelled residents, who came out in large numbers, to pounce on the suspect and beat him until he fell unconscious.

“The suspect trailed the boy home from school. When he realised that the boy had reached a bushy footpath, he pounced on him and started dragging him into the bush. He would have been successful if not for a man, who was looking from afar and who raised the alarm. Residents

caught him in the act and beat him to stupor.

“It was later that the police arrived and took the suspect to the station with the aim of taking him to hospital for treatment, but efforts to save him were futile.”

The Police Public Relations Officer for Ekiti State Command, Sunday Abutu, who confirmed the incident on Sunday, said the suspect died immediately when he got to the police station.

Abutu stated, “When we got the information, the police rushed to the scene, but the man had already slipped into unconsciousness.

“The mob action was very thick, but the police tried and rescued him and the intention was to first take him to the station for cover before rushing him to hospital for medical attention. Unfortunately, he died in the station as a result of the beating.”

Abutu, who said the police had begun investigation into the incident, cautioned against jungle justice, advising, “Any suspect arrested should be handed over to the police for investigation and prosecution.

“The suspect’s corpse has been deposited in the morgue of the Omuo Ekiti General Hospital.” ,,