Man lynched for alleged child theft in Niger IDP camp

Aisha Wakaso, Minna

A 30-year-old man, Abbas Musa, who was allegedly caught stealing a three-year-old boy from the Internally Displaced Persons' camp in Gwada, in the Shiroro Local Government Area of Niger State, has been beaten to death by community youths.

The Chairman of Shiroro LGA, Mallam Suleiman Chukuba, confirmed the incident on Thursday.

He said, "The security people called to tell me that a man was killed for stealing a child from the IDP camp in Gwada, but I am yet to be briefed on exactly what happened. It is true that someone was killed, that is all I can say for now."

PUNCH Metro gathered that the suspect allegedly disguised as a woman before going to the camp to steal the child.

Musa was said to have been caught when the boy struggled with him as some residents, who suspected something was wrong, accosted him.

While being interrogated, the suspect reportedly dropped the child and took to his heels, which made more people chase him.

An eyewitness said the man was beaten to death by youths who were angered by his action.

The state Police Public Relations Officer, DSP Wasiu Abiodun, confirmed the report.

However, Abiodun said the suspect was found in possession of a baby suspected to have been stolen from the Jaga-Jaga area of Gwada.