



## 70-year-old butcher beaten to death in Ibadan

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Map of Oyo State

By Ademola Adegbite

A 70-year-old butcher, simply identified as Yekeen Alaja has been reportedly beaten to death in Ibadan, the Oyo State capital, on Thursday.

Investigations by *PUNCH Metro* revealed that Alaja was beaten to death by a fellow butcher known as Mutiu Balogun, aged 47, popularly called Mutiu Iroko.

Eyewitnesses told our correspondent that the incident, which happened at the Moniya Abattoir in the Akinyele Local Government Area of the state during an argument, threw the entire community into mourning.

One of the witnesses who spoke to *PUNCH Metro* on the condition of anonymity said the incident occurred in the afternoon inside the butchers' market.



The deceased's family member, Musiliu Alaja, who spoke with PUNCH Metro, said, "There was a misunderstanding between the suspect and the victim's younger brother, one Yisau Alaja.

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"So, the suspect went to lodge a complaint to the deceased as the head of the family around the market, and instead of the suspect to calmly state his position, he started raining curses and abusive words. This later generated an argument.

"It was at this point that the deceased cautioned him, but instead of him maintaining decorum, he bounced back and started punching the deceased until he collapsed. He was immediately rushed to a nearby hospital where he was confirmed dead and the corpse has been deposited in the morgue," he explained.

Another eyewitness, who did not want her name in print, told our correspondent, "The issue wouldn't have generated a controversy if they had listened to other traders who were trying to resolve the matter. Now, it has claimed one life. May God repose his soul."

The suspect, Mutiu Iroko, was said to have been arrested by the combined team of Amotekun operatives and the police from the Moniya Divisional Police Headquarters for interrogation.

As of press time, all efforts to get the state Police Public Relations Officer, Adewale Osifeso's reactions were not successful as his telephone mobile number was not reachable.

**Ademola Adegbite**

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