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## Schoolboy, Urchin Drown In Bauchi, Cross River



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CHARTING AND ANALYTICS*Posted on* Sep 8 2016 - 12:54am *by* Nankpah Bwakan And Clement James *Views:* 557[« PREVIOUS](#) | [NEX](#)

Bauchi

A 17-year-old student of Government Day Secondary School (GDSS), Jama'are, Lukman Lamara, on Tuesday got drowned in a river in Jama'are Local Government Area of Bauchi State.

This came as a street urchin, identified simply as Daniel, has drowned while swimming with his friends in a drainage channel popularly called 'Big Gutter' in Calabar, the Cross River State capital.

Sources said that when Lamara and his friend were returning from farm the friend stopped at the river to catch fish while the deceased went home. Lamara, it was learnt, took his bath and then returned to the river to meet his friend.

He, however, got drowned while trying to fish with his friend about 5p.m. The father of the deceased, Mallam Hassan Lamara, confirmed the incident. He disclosed the boy's body was later recovered and buried, according to Islam injunction.

Hassan said he received the news of his son's death with shock. He described the deceased as very respectful, hardworking and always ready to learn. Lukman was among the 40 selected students from GDSS who attended media training on "Open Minds Nigeria," organised by the Institute for War and Peace Reporting (IWPR).

Another student, who also attended the three-month media training, said Lukman exhibited determination to acquire knowledge, was nice and kind to everyone.

Daniel, who died yesterday, was one of the numerous street urchins in Calabar who had no home, parents or identifiable job. He was said to have joined the army of street boys last year.

The boy, whose age was put at 10 by one of his colleagues, reportedly got drowned about noon while swimming with others in the lower part of the drainage at Atu Street, where the volume of water was said to have been high.

“He did not know how to swim but those boys who came with him forced him into the water in the big gutter and he drank the water and died,” one of the urchins said.

After his death, four of the older boys carried his body on their shoulder on Target Street. They took the body to the Hausa quarters called Bogobiri where arrangement was made for his burial.



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