

**METRO AND CRIME**

# Protest in Edo as JSS3 student is electrocuted



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Protests yesterday rocked Muslim community at Eyea in Ughunmwode Local Government of Edo State following the electrocution of a Junior Secondary School (JSS3) student.

The protesters, who were mainly students of Eya Community Secondary School, Ey trooped out over the death of the student on the school premises. The victim, identified simply as Benedict, was said to have unknowingly touched a high-tension cable which came down. He was said to have been burnt beyond recognition. It was learnt that the incident occurred while the students were going home after school.

Witnesses said Benedict was going home when he touched a rod from a broken electricity pole when he was electrocuted. Further findings revealed that a vehicle had hit and broken the electricity pole which exposed the rod inside the pole, which had contacted the high-tension cable.

The ugly sight of the dead student had aroused the anger of other students as they blocked the Benin-Auchi highway, thereby causing gridlock which lasted several hours. The aggrieved students accused the management of the Benin Electricity Distribution Company (BEDC) of causing Benedict's death by not taking steps to fix the broken electric pole.

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company was yet to receive reports about the incident from its field officers. He said:

It is our people in the field that will give report on what actually transpired.” Comme the issue, the Public Relations Officer, Edo Civil Society Organisations, Mr. Leftist Os Edigin, said Benedict was electrocuted by naked wires which had fallen for more than hours. He said: “It is very unfortunate that this occurred at a time Edo Civil Society Organisations have been probing the privatisation process and efficiency of the playe distribution of electricity and the BEDC in particular. “Our Rapid Response Team is a the ground for on-the-spot-assessment and to ensure that justice is done in this mat

There is serious commotion in that axis as pupils have gone on the rampage with ser traffic situation. “There is a serious commotion in Aduwawa and Eyaen axis between protesters and police. Information available from our Rapid Response Team has it th set of police officers took to their heels having being over-powered by protesters. The of Eyaen hid the already overwhelmed police officers in his palace until a back-up car rescue.”

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