

# How Man Stabbed Cousin To Death Over Levy in Lagos



**Taiwo Jimoh**

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## Murder

A 43-year-old man, Jimoh Moruf has reportedly been stabbed to death by his cousin over levies at Igbokusu village in Eti-Osa Local Government Area of Lagos. Rauf, 41, mans a road block, collecting levies from articulated vehicles conveying goods in and out of their community. Argument was said to have ensued with articulated vehicles coming into their community.

## Residents narrate the cause

Mr. Kunle Adebayo, who was at the scene when the incident happened, said the cousins were at the bus stop collecting levy from vehicles, but suddenly argued. The two of them shouting at each other, but what prompted it I couldn't say and I stood up and went to them and pacified both of them and left to go back to work.

"I was working on a door when one of my apprentice rushed in to call me that Rauf has stabbed Moruf on the eye, chest and hand, I and some other resident medical doctor on duty. "Before we got to the village, Rauf was nowhere to be found. He had taken to his heel, fortunately, some youths of the community went to the police at Langbasa police division for appropriate prosecution. It is devil that entered him.

"Unfortunately, they are both cousins working for the community, it baffles me till date, what led to the clash to the extent of stabbing his brother to death. I can't repose his soul." Another resident, who didn't want his name in print, said he believed the cause of the clash will be money. "What else will cause it, he can't remember, "the spot where Moruf was lying after he was stabbed was full of blood.

When I pass through there, it always reminds me of him and his cousin." He said: "I was going out that fateful day, when I saw them shouting at each other in the evening that I was told Rauf had stab Moruf, I was shocked. "I was told they were fighting because of money. I don't know why a brother would decide to stab his brother in Nigeria.

The assailant is with the police. "What we usually face in the community was the issue of land grabbers, but for some period now, it has reduced before this because the deceased left behind. Because I don't know where the deceased mother will start from now to have a grown up man like him." He added that brothers should be careful.

"I believe it has dawned on Rauf now, because I heard some people in the community were persuading him to allow peace to reign that fateful day before he took you anywhere, we should always learn how to control our anger. It is a pity he would celebrate the Christmas and new year in detention."

## Visit to Victim's house

A source in the community said it took the intervention of the local vigilance and youths before he was arrested in the neighboring community and taken to the police station. The source said the suspect knew the gravity of his offence that was why he took to his heels to another community, so as not to be lynched by angry residents.

“Throughout the day, he was just weeping, he knew he had made a terrible mistake, that was why he was crying, at a point those of us who went to arrest him. But I pray the incident will not divide both families.”

#### **Police reaction**

Confirming the incident, the Lagos State Police Public Relation Officer (PPRO), SP Benjamin Hundeyin, said on Wednesday, December 13, at about 2:1pm identified as Lateef Rauf, 41 and Maruf Jimoh, 43, engaged themselves in a physical combat at Igbokusu community in Eti-Osa Local Government Area. They were in two vehicles, conveying goods into their community.

“During the scuffle, Rauf allegedly stabbed Maruf on his eye, chest and hand, which made Maruf to bleed to death, while Rauf took to his heels and the scene. When the deceased was taken, the corpse was immediately buried according to Islamic rites.” He, however, said normalcy was restored in the community and efforts to resolve the matter continued. On December 14, while investigation is ongoing on the matter.