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Three brother-robbers burnt to death

Dipo Laleye, Minna - 27.09.2009

Three brothers believed to be members of a four-men armed robbery gang have been burnt to death by irate mob in Gulbinboka village in the Mariga Local Government Area of Niger State.

Sunday Tribune learnt that the three brothers (names withheld) and a fourth suspect now at large, were said to have been responsible for series of robberies along the Bokani- Mokwa –Jebba road.

After an operation by the gang, the Iro brothers and the fourth member of the gang were arrested by members of the vigilante in the area, who eventually handed them over to the Police.

It was gathered that the Police were quick in carrying out investigations into the matter, which resulted in the suspects being charged to court.

However, it was learnt that two weeks after they were charged to court, the suspects regained their freedom in mysterious circumstances and they returned to the village where they boasted that nobody could deal with them.

They purportedly went after members of the vigilante group that arrested and handed them over to the Police.

The fourth suspect, according to the source, left for his village and went underground.

It was however gathered that irate youth rounded them up and set them ablaze near the Mabaho village market.

Police Public Relations Officer, ASP Richard Oguche, confirmed the story but informed that no arrest had been made.

Oguche said the Police was disturbed that those facing armed robbery trial could be released on bail only to return to harass members of their community.

"It was a mob action, but we will try to get those behind the killing of the three brothers," Oguche said.