

Students beat teacher to death for defiling Quran

MMUSLIM students at a secondary school in Gombe yesterday beat a teacher to death after accusing her of desecrating the Quran, police and witnesses said.

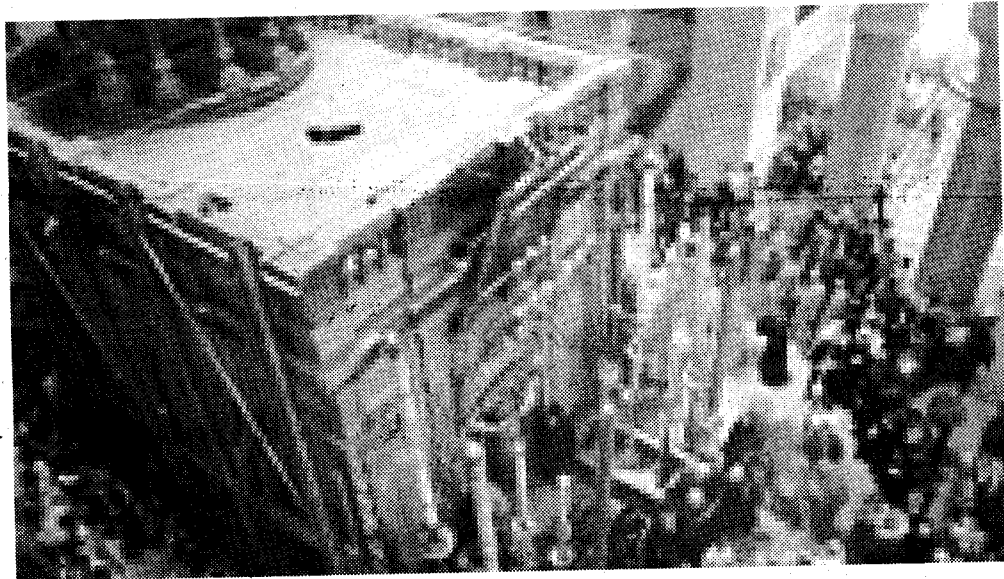
Oluwatoyin Olusase, a Christian, was invigilating an Islamic Religious Knowledge Exam at the school in Gombe State when the incident occurred. The students attacked her outside the school compound after the exam and killed her, witnesses said. It was not clear exactly what Olusase had done that angered the students.

Police confirmed the killing and said their intervention had prevented the incident from turning into a riot.

"We have received information that a female teacher has been lynched by her students. We are investigating the report," Gombe state police commissioner Joseph Ibi said.

At least five people were killed and several churches burned down in February 2006 in the neighbouring state of Bauchi by Muslims infuriated that a Christian teacher in a secondary school had tried to confiscate a copy of the Quran from a student who was reading it during class.

Word got out into the streets that the teacher had desecrated the Quran, infuriating Muslims who went on the rampage.



**Pilgrims in Jerusalem*

Bandits kill 9-yr-old boy

By Simon Ebegbulem

BENIN — A NINE-year old boy was yesterday murdered by armed bandits who attacked residents of Idahosa Street in Benin City.

It was learnt that when the robbers broke into the home of one Mr Edobor at about 2 a.m. after beating a night guard and tied him to a tree, they immediately shot the little boy who was sleeping in between the parents.

Vanguard gathered that after the killing, the robbers started celebrating while the parents

watched helplessly as they escaped without stealing any thing from their victims.

The father of the boy, Mr Dickson Edobor, a driver in a commercial bank, said: "three of them forced their way into our room and they immediately raised their gun and shot the baby who was sleeping together with us. After the shooting they started celebrating. But there was nothing we could do and they escaped leaving our baby in the pool of his blood.

"After they left, we rushed him to the Benin central hospital but before we got there, he was

already dead. I do not have problem with any body, I am just a professional driver in the bank where I work. Only God can unravel the people that did this to me and I want the police to investigate this matter seriously. This is just wickedness, how can you just shoot a baby like that" he lamented.

The state Police Public Relation Officer, ASP Ogboi who spoke to *Vanguard*, said the command had commenced full investigation into the matter, appealing to the public to furnish it with information that may lead to the arrest of the killers.