Mob set kidnapper ablaze in Gboko

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By Peter Duru

MAKURDI—A yet-to-be identified suspected child kidnapper, was yesterday burnt alive by a mob in Gboko after he allegedly stole a two-year-old baby from Tse Kucha village near Dangote Cement Factory.

A source said: "People around noticed that the boy was crying uncontrollably and at the same time struggling to run away from his supposed father. They got curious and confronted the man.

"He was asked to identify himself and where he was heading to with the boy. When he could not identify himself or give satisfactory answers to questions put to him concerning the child he was travelling with, that the people arrested him.

"Shortly after some persons identified the boy, then the man confessed that he picked him at Tse Kucha and was heading to one of the states, where the boy was to be sold.

"Enraged, the mob beat him to pulp, tied him up and set him ablaze in the middle of the road."

before police arrived."

The Benue State Police Public Relations Officer, Assistant Superintendent Moses Yamu, who confirmed the incident, cautioned members of the public against jungle justice in such issues, noting that an innocent person could easily be mistaken for a criminal and killed in such circumstance.