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THURSDAY 09 MARCH

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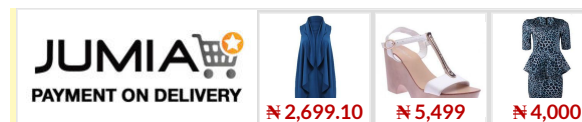
In Niger: Unknown men kill 4 students, drain their blood

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By Wole Mosadomi

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Minna—Four boys were reported to have been killed by suspected ritualists, who drained their blood in the Rijau Local Government Area of Niger State.



Three of [the boys](#), according to sources, are still in hospital, while the fifth is said to be recuperating in his hometown.



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The boys, who are said to be between the ages of eight and 13, had their throats slit, their blood drained into a container and taken away.

A mallam, [whose](#) two wards were among the victims, confirmed the incident in a telephone chat with Vanguard, disclosing that the boys were attacked in their sleep.

Contacted, the state Police Command spokesman, DSP Bala Elkana, confirmed the incident.

According to him, “those involved are suspected ritualists because they only took away the victims blood and left their bodies on the [spot](#) around 3a.m. yesterday.”

He said investigation is ongoing and assured that the suspects will be arrested.

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