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## Masquerade stabs 30-yr-old man to death over N50

By Dayo Johnson

**AKURE—OFFICERS** of Ondo State Police Command have arrested a masquerade for stabbing a 30-year-old man to death, over the deceased's refusal to part with N50 on Saturday.

It was gathered that Olu Olowokere, dressed in masquerade paraphernalia, allegedly killed 30-year-old Femi Makanjuola, who was to resume work with Dangote Cement Company in Benin, in Akure, the Ondo State capital, for refusing to part with the amount.

A Police source said: "Makanjuola resides with his brother. He had just secured a job with Dangote Cement Company in Benin, with the

hope of resuming work on Monday, October 8.

"He was preparing to cook beans and had gone to a nearby shop for ingredients to spice up the food, when he met his death."

**Victim went to buy food—Police**

Parading the suspect and his 75-year-old accomplice, Adaramola Ajuloko, the command's image maker, Femi Joseph, said the deceased was "stabbed to death for refusing to give money to Olu Olowokere, 35, a masquerade, and his followers."

Joseph said other suspects, Deji Dada of Jeje Street Danjuma and Sunday Adaramola of Olorunsogo Street, Gaga, Akure, are still at large.

According to the Police spokesperson, the incident happened at Olomoyeye Street, Oke-Aro, Akure, when the deceased went out to buy some food items before he was accosted by the masquerade, who demanded money from him.

Joseph said: "Five young boys were on an outing with one of them acting as a masquerade, and they got to where one Femi Makanjuola was. The masquerades demanded money, which the deceased refused to give and that did not go down well with them."

"The argument led to the stabbing of the deceased after he had been thoroughly beaten by the masquerades

and his followers. Investigation is ongoing towards apprehending other accomplices involved in the crime."

**I wasn't at the scene—Suspect**

In an interview, the suspect denied killing the deceased noting that "the act was carried out by one of his followers after the traditional outing of the masquerade in the town."

"I am not the one. It's one of the two masquerades that accompanied me that committed the crime. They went back to town after the outing, which I didn't authorise."

"It was when Police came to my house that I realised what the boys had done. They are currently on the run."



Newly-recruited teachers in Kajuru Local Government Area of Kaduna State protesting non-payment of their six months salaries in Kaduna. PHOTO: Olu Aiayi