

Pupil hangs self over school fees

Account. The boy, who had been sent home to bring the fees balance, was reportedly upset by his father's response.

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KOLE. A boy sent home by the school management to pick his outstanding school dues last Friday has committed suicide by hanging.

Reports indicate that the boy took his life after his father reportedly said he did not have the money to enable him return to school yesterday.

The body of the Primary Five boy, a pupil of Acankado Primary School and son of one of the prominent businessmen in Alito Sub-county, was found dangling on a tree at their home.

His father, Mr Albino Okani, runs a hardware shop at Anekapiri market.

The LC3 chairperson of Alito Sub-county, Mr Geoffrey Ameny, confirmed the incident to *Daily Monitor* yesterday.

"I am told when the boy approached his father and told him that he had been chased from school over outstanding fees balance, the father instead threw insults at the boy and he committed suicide," Mr Ameny said.

"Mr Okani separated with his wife,

who is the mother of the boy. He claimed that his wife hired gunmen who went to his home last year to kill him, but the boy was staying with the father," the LC3 boss added, implying this could have caused the rift between the boy and his father.

Mr Ameny said after the death, the father reported the matter to Alito Police Post, adding that police removed the body from the tree and handed it to the family for burial.

When contacted, the officer-in-charge of the police post, confirmed the incident but referred this reporter to the North Kyoga region police spokesperson, Mr David Ongom Mudong.

We were unable to speak to the boy's father by press time yesterday.

Last month, a student reportedly committed suicide after losing a bet in Ntungamo District.

Obadia Naturinda, who sat his Senior Six exams at Ntungamo High School, died at a clinic after he reportedly took poison.

According to the 2014 World Health Organisation rankings, Uganda was placed in 17th among countries with highest number of suicide cases.

The data showed that 18.67 per 100,000 deaths in Uganda are a result of suicide.

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