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## UK

### Student killed 'after racial taunts'

2:00pm Monday 21st September 2009

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A young Arab student was killed in a fracas that started after his friend was taunted for being black, a court heard.

George Austin, 22, of Barkworth Road, Bermondsey, south east London, is accused of the manslaughter of 16-year-old Mohammed al-Majed.

The teenager from Qatar died three days after suffering a serious head injury when he hit the pavement during the incident in Hastings, East Sussex, on August 22 last year.

Opening the case for the prosecution at Lewes Crown Court, Camden Pratt QC told jurors that the evening's events began after Austin's co-defendant Paul Rockett, was alleged to have racially assaulted Mohammed's friend, Peter Henworth, 17.

Mr Pratt said Rockett and another youth, believed to be Austin's younger brother, "picked on him, if the Crown is right, because he was black.

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