

# Three suspected armed robbers nabbed in Ibadan

## Police arrest two for murder of 20-year-old labourer in Saki

by Soji Ajibola

THE police have arrested three suspected armed robbers operating with tricycle in Ibadan, the Oyo State capital.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), DSP Dayinka Ayanlade, in a statement on Thursday, said the suspects were caught with a locally-fabricated single-barreled gun, modified into a short firearm suitable for concealment.

He added that the tricycle in which they were riding was stopped during a stop-and-search exercise by the operatives.

The search, according to the police spokesman, resulted in the discovery of the gun.

The statement reads: The Oyo State police command during a routine

stop-and-search exercise, successfully intercepted and apprehended three suspected armed robbers within Ibadan metropolis.

"This operation is part of the command's proactive policing strategies, which include roadblocks and stop-and-search measures, designed to deter criminal activities, prevent armed robbery and ensure the safety of residents across the state.

"During the operation, the operatives intercepted an unregistered tricycle, popularly known in local parlance as 'Keke Maruwa,' conveying two passengers, with the rider making it three occupants.

"A thorough search of the tricycle led to the recovery of a locally-fabricated single-barreled gun, modified

into a short firearm suitable for concealment.

"The immediate apprehension of the occupants was a direct result of the vigilance of the operatives and the effectiveness of the stop-and-search strategy.

"The suspects were identified as Abdulrahman (19), Biodun (18) and Muiz (18).

"Following the arrest, and recognising the need for discreet investigation, the Commissioner of Police, CP Femi Haruna, directed that the suspects and the recovered firearm be handed over to the Command's Monitoring Unit.

"This ensured that the investigation would be thorough, professional, and intelligence-driven, building on the initial success recorded during the stop-and-search operation.

"During interrogation by

the Monitoring Unit, the suspects confessed to having been involved in several cases of armed robbery in Ibadan and other parts of Oyo State.

"They further admitted to specialising in snatching mobile phones and motorcycles, as well as dispossessing residents of their valuables at gunpoint.

"These confessions confirmed the intelligence value of the initial stop-and-search operation and highlighted the importance of proactive policing in curbing violent crime.

"The suspects are currently in custody and cooperating with ongoing investigation, after which they will be charged to court accordingly."

In another development, two suspects have been arrested in connection with the murder of a 20-year-old la-

bourer, Abdulraheem Koni, in Budo Mosalasi village, in Saki. his body.

Ayanlade said there was an altercation between the deceased and his employer, which resulted in an assault.

The deceased, according to a statement by the police, sustained injuries during the attack, which led to his death.

The police said the suspects, Lateef and Quazim (surnames withheld), made useful confessions, detailing their roles and involvement in the killing.

Ayanlade said: "Preliminary findings indicate that Giwa was the employer of Koni, and during work, a dispute arose between them.

"The altercation escalated, and Giwa and his accomplice, Quazim, allegedly assaulted Koni, resulting in bruises and other injuries to

"The victim subsequently received medical attention but later succumbed to his injuries, prompting the command to take immediate action to investigate the incident and bring those responsible to justice.

"Examination of the deceased confirmed the extent of the injuries, necessitating a detailed inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the incident, including allegations of assault and possible conspiracy.

"In line with standard investigative procedure, the commissioner of police directed that the case be transferred to the State Criminal Investigation Department (SCID) for comprehensive and discreet investigation."