

Three suspected Plateau monarch's killers set ablaze

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File photo: Plateau State map

By James Abraham

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An angry mob on Friday evening set ablaze three persons suspected to be involved in the killing of the traditional ruler of Kwallak Community in Langtang North Local Government Area of Plateau State, Ponzhi Kwallak.

The monarch was reportedly killed on Thursday night when assailants stormed his residence, killed him, and made away with his motorcycle and mobile phone.

Multiple sources from the community, who confirmed the development to Saturday PUNCH in Jos, said the killing had thrown the area into mourning and heightened tension.

According to residents, the suspects were apprehended on Friday while allegedly attempting to sell the stolen motorcycle and reportedly confessed to the crime.

It was gathered that the suspects were being taken to security operatives when a mob intercepted them and set them ablaze not far from the Langtang North Local Government Council Secretariat.

A villager, Moses Yakubu, said the monarch was attacked after receiving a motorcycle, which was later traced to the suspects.

“It is true. The traditional ruler was given a bike some days ago. Some people followed him to his house, shot him, stole his phone, carried the bike and left,” he said.

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He added that the suspects were later caught while trying to dispose of the motorcycle and were burnt at the council area.

Another resident, Danladi Mark, described the incident as a reflection of growing frustration over insecurity and delayed justice.

He said the community acted out of anger over what it perceived as systemic failure to protect lives and property.

“They came for Ponzhi Kwallak. They silenced a throne. They broke a community,” he said.

He, however, noted that the development underscored deeper concerns about the breakdown of trust in the justice system, warning that jungle justice thrives where institutional justice is weak.

“This is not a celebration of violence. This is a mirror to a broken system,” he added.

Efforts to reach the spokesman for the Plateau State Police Command, Alabo Alfred, were unsuccessful as calls put across to his phone were not answered at the time of filing this report.