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Posted to the web 7 October 2008

[Email](#) This Page[Print](#) This Page[Comment](#) on this article**Lukkey Abawuru, Mansur Oladunjoye
Lagos**

A female bank manager and four others were yesterday killed in an armed robbery attack at a new generation bank in Ketu, Lagos State.

Among those killed were two youths and a secondary school student who went to the bank to pay her school fees.

A 12-year-old boy and a security man were injured in the incident that occurred about 9.00am.

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Daily Champion learnt that the female banker was rushed to a nearby hospital at Devies Street Ketu, only to be rejected and referred to the Lagos State University Taching Hospital (LASUTH) Ikeja. She died on her way to the hospital. One of the victims was hit by a stray bullet while watching the incident from a storey building near the bank.

Daily Champion learnt that the robbers carted away several millions of naira from the bank.

But the Lagos police comand's spokesman, Mr. Frank Mba, said the robbery was foiled by 'gallant' policemen.

As at press time, the identities of the bank manager and other casualties could not be ascertained but a reliable source said the woman incharge of the bank that was attacked.

An eye witness told our reporter that about 20 men, on corporate suits and T-shirts came to the bank with exotic cars and posed as genuine customers to gain entry into the bank.

The witness who pleaded for anonymity said, the suspects after gaining entry into the bank proceeded to the bank vault but were temporarily halted by internal security officials of the bank.

He added that some of the suspects later blocked the two major roads and held bank staff and customers hostage for over two hours.

The witness added that the suspects shot selectively to scare away security personnel who may confront them.

He noted that the robbery went on for over two hours without any slight challenge from the nearby police station located just 400 metres away from the scene of incident.

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sélect

"My brother, I've never seen the kind of police we have. The robbers operated for two hours and yet policemen serving under the nose of the branch could not challenge the robbers".

He noted that activities of the suspects caused pandemonium in the ever busy area as people scampered for safety.

But a police source from the station told our reporter that the gunmen came with explosives which frightened policemen at the station. "We heard the sound of explosives and dynamites and we were scared at first to challenge them."

Our source further said that the robbers left on their own after a successful operation.

However, Mba said a combined team of policemen confronted the robbers and chased them away from the bank.

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Mba, a Superintendent of police said the suspects escaped through a canal in the area, adding that investigations into the matter have begun to unmask the identities of the perpetrators.

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