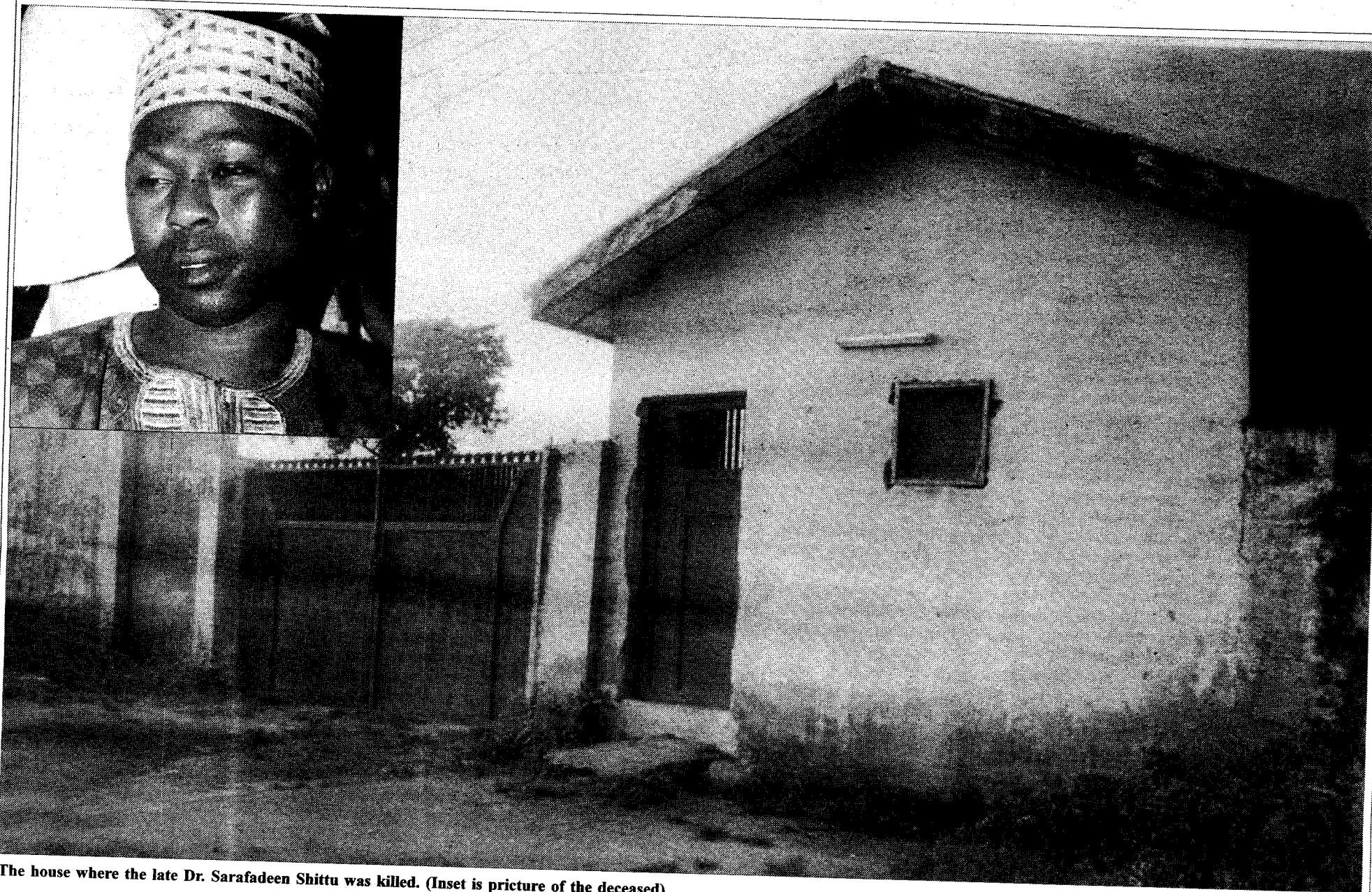


CITY NEWS



The house where the late Dr. Sarafadeen Shittu was killed. (Inset is picture of the deceased)

Family of slain doctor wants police to identify killers

By Mary Kunle

The family of a medical doctor killed at his residence in Ungwar Beri-Beri, Airport Junction, Jabi, Abuja has called on the police to unravel the true identity of the killers.

The unidentified persons, who wore police uniforms, were said to have killed the doctor in the early hours of October 3, 2006 while he was preparing to eat his meal to begin fasting.

Kazzem, the brother of the deceased, said they saw the flash of a torch and heard gun shots before somebody

ordered them to lie down or consider themselves dead.

"Baba and the late doctor tried to escape while we jumped into the next compound to take refuge," he said.

The brother said when they returned to the house at 6am, they saw blood in various places in the compound. "We also sought to know the whereabouts of doctor and it was at the Life Camp police station that we saw the dead body of my brother," he wept.

Another witness, Awwal,

corroborated Kazeem's statement. He saw the rechargeable lamp of the deceased on the floor and blood everywhere. "It was at the police station that we saw doctor's body. The police asked us to identify the man.

The late Dr. Sarafadeen Shittu was the owner of Stevan Hospital and Maternity, located in Vineegas building at Obafemi Awolowo Way, Jabi, Abuja. He was married to two wives and had three children.

City News reporter learnt that the corpse of the doctor

was released to his family on October 9, for burial according to Muslim rites.

The family's lawyer, Barrister A. A. Muhammad, has called on the FCT police commissioner to unravel the killers of the doctor. In a letter dated October 3, 2006 and entitled "Letter of complaint on the unlawful murder of Dr. Sarafadeen Shittu by armed robbers in police uniforms", the lawyer stated that few weeks before the doctor was killed, a group of persons in police uniforms raided the deceased house and robbed

him of his property.

He added further that a report of the incident was made to the Life camp police station and the deceased with the approval of the police employed two guards. The lawyer appealed to the police commissioner to investigate the properly so that the identities of the culprits can be unravelled.

Confirming the murder of the doctor, the FCT police commissioner, Mr Lawrence Alobi disclosed that the police are faced with conflicting stories of the murder and said

he is not aware that the robbers wore police uniforms. He also sought to know from the reporter where she got her information. "Who told you that they dressed like policemen?"

One of the robbers macete a policeman and it was the same robbers that carried out that operation," he said.

The police commissioner disclosed that investigations are going-on to apprehend the robbers and said it is premature to reveal the progress of the investigation.