

# News

## Robbers kill police woman, stab widow in Damaturu

Armed robbers stormed the home of a nursing widow in Damaturu, the Yobe State capital, stabbed her in six different places and killed her friend, a police woman, in the early hours of yesterday.

Late Fati Yakubu, also called Dorcas, was a constable with the Nigeria police serving in one of the commands at Ikeja, Lagos. She hailed from Mangu local government area of Plateau State and was in Damaturu to commiserate with her friend who lost her husband four months ago.

The widow, Fatima Adamu, popularly called Kyauta is a mother of two girls; one aged two years and the other two months old. Her husband, Umar Ciroma, died following a protracted illness. She still lives in her matrimonial home behind legislators quarters along Gujba road in Damaturu.

Widow Kyauta who is recuperating from the deep

**From Hamza Idris, Damaturu**  
knife injuries she sustained from the robbery attack said: "I just completed my midnight prayers (Tahajjud) and began to sleep on the prayer mat when one hefty looking man stormed into my room and instantly asked for mobile handsets and money".

Kyauta said she was terrified and completely confused. "I told him there was no handset or money and that I am a widow who does nothing. As he spoke in a thunderous voice, my friend Docas who was on the bed woke up. Immediately she saw what was happening, she lifted the pillow beside her with the intent of taking her cell phone; an action which captured the attention of the robber", she recalled.

She said the robber who brandished a dagger and a knife, instantly seized the

handset of the police constable and her own also even as he threatened that he will kill them if they did not give him money.

"As my friend sat on the bed, the armed robber trailed me to the inner room and ransacked our boxes and packed several cloths and our handbags. He then pushed me to the palour and insisted that we must give him money.

"When he realized that money was not forthcoming, he said he will smash to death my little daughter (who was on the baby's mattress). I suddenly realised that if I didn't do anything, he would actually kill her so I summoned courage, grabbed him towards the door and both of us fell outside", Kyauta said.

She said that was when the man stabbed her in the neck, below her breast and four other places, a development

which made her loss a lot of blood. "Unfortunately for my police friend, she took advantage of my ensuing struggle with the robber and rush outside where she shouted 'thief, thief, thief' and that was the last I heard from her. On hearing her shout for help, the thief left me in cold blood and crossed the fence. It was much later in the morning when neighbours brought me back from Hospital that her corpse was found in cold blood behind the house. I think it was the remaining robbers outside who killed her", Kyauta recounted.

The police public relations officer in Yobe, ASP Bulama Hussein, has confirmed the robbery attack and the killing of the police constable. "We would do our best to arrest the culprits and I believe God would expose them. It is barbaric to rob a nursing widow and kill a police woman", the PPRO lamented.