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LG boss fingered in murder of 3 yr-old

Thursday, 15 July 2010 00:00

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The trial over the murder of three-year-old Zainab Tanimu Ayuba took a new twist yesterday when the first accused person, Abubakar Abdullahi, told a High Court in Ringim, Jigawa State, that he was instructed to kill the little girl by the chairman of Gwaram Local Government, Alhaji Bala Sule Kila.

While being cross-examined, the suspect told the court, "Alhaji Bala Sule Kila asked them eight times to go and bring him a human head. In fact he was responsible for fuelling the vehicles we used for the operations.

"I was happy that I was arrested if not these three innocent people would have been cheated. The former chairman of Gwaram, Alhaji Auwalu Sule Kila, Kassim Ibrahim and Husaini Umar are all innocent. I am the only person who know the real people that carried out the dastardly act."

While also being crossed-examined, the second accused person informed the court that he was on his bed when suddenly he heard the movement of people within the premises of his family house and when he came out to see what was going on, Alhaji Bala Sule Kila, slapped him and held his trouser before finally dragging him out of the house.

In front of his family house, he added, two cars including the official car of Alhaji Bala Sule were parked and he was dragged into one of them, saying, "In the car I saw my elder brother, Mustapha, and together we were taken to the Gwaram Police Division where we were beaten up by the police".

Zainab Tanimu Ayuba was beheaded in Gwaram and her head taken to the residence of the present local government chairman, Alhaji Bala Sule. Zainab was sick for a long time before her murder in October 2009.

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