

Tuesday, Sep 14th | Last update 12:29:35 PM GMT | **Headlines:** Kogi hospitals not equipped for kidney diseases –NMA



HOME | NEWS | BUSINESS | CITY NEWS | SPORTS | COLUMNS | OTHER SECTIONS | EMAIL | OUR PAPERS | ABOUT US | ADVERTISING

VALUES

YOU ARE HERE:: [OTHER SECTIONS](#) ► [LEAD STORIES](#) ► [SSS OFFICER, WIFE, 3 KIDS SLAUGHTERED IN KANO](#)

## SSS officer, wife, 3 kids slaughtered in Kano

Tuesday, 14 September 2010 00:00

Jaafar Jaafar, Kano



[Share](#)



Kano State Governor Ibrahim Shekarau and others at the funeral prayers for the five family members killed in Kano yesterday.

An assistant director of the SSS, his wife and three of their children were slaughtered in the early hours of yesterday in Kano by unidentified assailants, while two other children escaped with injuries.

Garba Bello, 54, who had been bedridden for about a month with a liver-related disease, was until his death an assistant director of the State Security Service in Sokoto.

He was killed along with his 40-year-old wife Habiba, two daughters Hafsah, 15, and Murjanatu, 5, as well as son Khalifa, 14, at their Gandu Housing Estate home around 1.35 am, according to neighbours and relations.

The attackers gained entry into the family's house and killed five of the seven members around for a yet-to-established motive and they did not take away anything, the police said.

State police commissioner Mohammed Gana, who visited the house, told newsmen the police suspected that the culprits were hired assassins partly because nothing was stolen from the house. He said investigations have started to establish the motives and find the killers.

Shortly before she was killed, Habiba had put a distress telephone call to her elder sister Hajiya Jummai and told her that some people were trying to kill them.

Jummai told Daily Trust that she received the call at about 1.40am, and her sister was saying: "They are trying to kill us... They will kill me now..."

She said she hurriedly asked who were the attackers and Habiba muttered something that sounded like the name Baba. Jummai said after that, she heard some commotion in the background and then the line went dead.

A neighbour to the deceased, Hajiya A'isha Aminu, told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN): "We woke up this morning and found that my friend Habiba, her husband and three of their five children had been killed. It is a very shocking development." She said the remaining two children survived because they were able to escape when the assailants entered their home.

Neighbours said they heard some members of the family crying, but when they came to find out what was happening, everything was silent. The neighbours called them and there was no response.

"We knocked at the door several times around 2am but there was no sound again. When we knocked for a while and there was no response, we went back to our homes," one of the neighbours Abubakar said.

But no sooner had they returned to their homes than they heard the cries all over again. "We initially thought they were crying because the father had died. He had been sick for over a month and was even unable to even pray properly, but attend congregational prayers notwithstanding," he said.

Abubakar said when they came out for dawn prayer, they saw the eldest son of the deceased officer crying and running around the area.

The mystery surrounding the killing was yet to be unraveled by the police at the time of filing this report last night.

But some people in the area believe that the late security officer might have been killed by people who bore grudges against him. Other people linked the killing to thugs in the neighbourhood.

A family source told our correspondent that they suspect the involvement of one of the family members. "When the house was burgled a few months ago, the same person we are suspecting today was the suspect," the source said.

Attempts to get comments from spokesman for the SSS, Marylyn Oga, failed because she did not answer her calls and did not reply to a

### TOP STORIES

[Ribadu decries delay in getting](#)  
[New IGP pledges smooth elec](#)  
[SSS officer, wife, 3 kids slaught](#)  
[Jonathan undercuts Saraki, Ba](#)  
[Northern govts' meeting](#)  
[IBB, Saraki meet over 2011 po](#)  
[declares this week](#)  
[\\$6 billion debt:NNPC's paymen](#)  
[Oshiomhole sends SOS to FG](#)  
[AGF, CBN sued over \\$12.4b o](#)  
[Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, others m](#)  
[Adamawa PDP: Atiku didn't ge](#)  
[Eid el-Fitr: Imams defy Sultan](#)  
[Sack of security chiefs: Top m](#)

### Top Nigeria News

[Get Breaking Nigeria News](#)  
[Articles Now](#)  
[FT.com](#)  
[Rencontrez Joseph Daul](#)  
[président du Groupe PPE - L](#)  
[est entre vos mains!](#)  
[www.eppgroup.eu](#)  
[Find a Chinese Wife](#)  
[Leading Chinese Dating Site](#)  
[Soft Wife. Meet Her Now!](#)  
[www.Chnlove.asia](#)  
[Offre Paris -90%](#)  
[Bénéficiez d'Offres Incroyab](#)  
[Paris](#)  
[www.GROUPON.fr/Paris](#)

Attempts by our correspondent to trace the two survivors of the attack were unsuccessful. A family source said the SSS had put the two children under protection.

63282

Send

---

JComments

\_\_\_\_\_

- ☒ Web ☐ Daily Trust
- ☐ Weekly Trust ☐ Sunday

Search

**DO YOU THINK INEC HAS THE CAPABILITY TO CONDUCT A CREDIBLE ELECTION MONITORING MISSION IN JANUARY 2011?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not decided

VOTE RESULTS