

Gunmen kill Adamawa councilor

From Ibrahim Muhammad, Yola

UNIDENTIFIED gunmen suspected to be hired assassins early yesterday stormed the Namtari community in Yola South Local Government Area of Adamawa State and killed the councilor representing the area, Alhaji Abubakar Sadik Arabo.

A relation of the deceased who identified himself as Babangida told our correspondent in Namtari village yesterday that

the incident occurred around 2am when about 10 gunmen stormed the compound and shot him after entering his bedroom through the window which they removed.

Babangida said the family suspected the incident to be an assassination as the gun men left without taking anything.

"His aged mother was around and pleaded with them to take money and spare her son's life but they refused," Babangida said.

Commenting on the incident, the District Head of Namtari and Sarkin Kudu Adamawa, Alhaji Isa Mustapha, described it as an unfortunate development and the first of its kind in the area. He called for calm and urged the people to give necessary support to security operatives to arrest the culprits.

The chairman of Adamawa Councilors' Forum Alhaji Usman Maulud also condemned the incident and called for necessary

measures to arrest those behind it.

When contacted on the incident, the Police Public Relations Officer, ASP Altine Daniel, said she was out of town.

The killing of the councilor who left behind his aged mother, two wives and five children is the second of such incident in two weeks following that of Mubi North PDP chairman, Alhaji Umaru Tafida, who was also shot in his residence in Mubi town on December 15.



GOVERNOR Ibrahim Gaidam of Yobe State (left) receiving an award from retired Air Vice Marshal Al-Amin Daggash, Director, Imam Malik Islamic Centre, Maiduguri, Borno State, at the weekend.

NUJ calls for positive response to voters' registration

From Hisham Habib, Kano

THE National President of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) Comrade Ibrahim Garba has stressed the need for community leaders to support the forthcoming voters' registration exercise. He made the call when he visited the District Head of Rimin gado in Kano State, Alhaji Shehu Dankadai in his palace.

He said the role of traditional rulers in promoting peace and societal reorientation made it

necessary to plead with them in making their people accept the process of democracy through the registration.

He told the district head that for the first time the state governor Malam Ibrahim Shekarau had appointed a journalist as the sole administrator of the local government and that he and other colleagues had come to rejoice with Alhaji Ado Ibrahim DY over the appointment.

The district head, Magajin Rafin Kano, Alhaji Shehu

Dankadai, said journalists had a very important place in the society as they have been the source enlightenment.

He explained that with the elections approaching, they would have a task in ensuring that good leadership prevails in the country.

The sole administrator, Alhaji Ado DY, said the visit was historic and promised not let journalists in the state down by leaving behind a legacy worth the profession.

Muslim leader condemns Jos bombing, killings

From Mustafa Abubakar, Ilorin

THE Ameer of the Muslim Congress Mallam Luqman Abdurrahman yesterday condemned the recent bombing and killings in Jos.

The ameer who spoke at the closing ceremony of the 17th Islamic Training Programme (ITP) held at the Vanguard Academy, Ijebu, Ogun State, charged the audience to work assiduously to save Nigeria from the yoke of political gangsterism, immorality, sabotage, electoral and financial malpractices.

"ITP has given life to the dead faith of many Muslims, reawakened Islamic awareness and consciousness, promoted brotherhood, endurance and perseverance, rejuvenated Islamic cultures and traditions," he said.

He encouraged all Nigerians to register during the forthcoming voters' registration to elect pious, focused, disciplined and competent leaders.

2 die, others injured in Kano car crash

From Hisham Habib, Kano

TWO persons have died while three others were severely injured in a car accident at the weekend in Yar Kanya village near Bichi along Katsina road in Kano when a bus carrying cooking oil ran into a van after a burst tyre.

It was gathered that the bus

was on high speed from Katsina when its tyre burst and it somersaulted before hitting the Mitsubishi Space wagon coming from the opposite direction and a Honda Accord car.

Two men died on the spot including the driver of the bus while the bus conductor and the two men inside the Honda were

seriously injured and were taken to hospital.

Kano sector commander of the FRSC Shehu Ahmad Kagori who confirmed the incident, said they were conducting investigations into the accident and urged members of the public to ensure the quality of their tyres and avoid buying used tyres.