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7 die as hoodlum stabs Imam in Kaduna

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Isa Liman, Zaria & Ismail Mudashir, Kaduna



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Seven persons were reported yesterday killed as a result of a crisis that erupted after a suspected hoodlum attacked an Imam inside a mosque in Pambeguwa town of Kubau Local Government Area of Kaduna State.

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Reports said the suspected hoodlum whose name was given as Bisalla, was lynched to death by residents of the town when the news of the Imam' attack filtered into the town.

The Imam, Malam Alhassan, is receiving treatment at a hospital in the Pambeguwa. Witnesses said the deaths were recorded when the police intervened to restore law and order. Friends of Bisalla, who were protesting his death, attacked the police and as a result of which the police opened fire, reports said.

Apart from those killed, many people were injured. Reports gathered by Daily Trust from the Pambeguwa town showed that more than 20 people were arrested by the police as a result of the crisis. At the time of filing this report, there was no report on why Bisalla attacked the Imam.

Kaduna State Commissioner of Police, Ballah M. Nassarawa, confirmed the fracas but said the protest was as a result of the arrest of criminals in the area and that it had nothing to do with the stabbing in the Mosque as being speculated.

"Our men raided a criminal hideout in Pambeguwa on Monday night and 10 criminals were arrested and whisked away. However, this morning (Tuesday) their relatives took to the street, blocked the road and set bonfires."