



SSS PARADES ALLEGED KILLERS OF ALBANI

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The State Security Service (SSS) yesterday in Abuja paraded seven suspected Boko Haram members linked to the killing of Zaria Islamic cleric Sheikh Adam Albani Zaria.

Albani along with his wife and son were killed at Gwagwaje area of Zaria, Kaduna State while returning from a preaching session last month.

Spokesperson of the SSS Marilyn Ogar, while announcing the arrest to journalists in Abuja yesterday, said those arrested confessed to planning and killing Shiekh Albani.

She said the suspected killers were arrested between 13 and 21 February.

Among the seven arrested is Yakub Abdullahi who is said to be the mastermind of the killings and the Kaduna/Niger states sub-regional commander of the sect.

Others paraded were Ibrahim Shuaibu, Bilyaminu Usman, Sahabi Ismail, Umar Farouk, Yasir Ibrahim a graduate of English Literature from the Ahmadu Bello University, and Musa Abubakar.

According to the SSS, Yakub Abdullahi had been actively involved in the activities of the sect since the 2009 insurrection in Maiduguri, Borno State.

Fielding questions from journalists, Abdullahi, who spoke in Hausa language, confessed to planning the killings.

He said Albani was killed on the orders of the Shura Council of the sect. Also speaking, 35-year-old Yasir Ibrahim who hails from Kano Municipal Council, confessed to being a member of the sect.

Ibrahim said he did not participate in the actual killing but admitted to have been involved in the planning.

He said: "There was a time that Albani said he would kill any member of Boko Haram and he connived with security agencies... (inaudible)."

'There was a time that a conflict happened between Albani and some Al-ZakZaky students so they killed one local barber because they said whoever comes across their house they will kill that person. That barber was arrested by his students and he was slaughtered,' he said.

He said they killed Albani to avenge the death of the barber.

The suspects are to be arraigned in court while investigation is still ongoing to unveil other members of the sect operating in the Kaduna-Niger states Axis, the SSS spokesperson Marilyn Ogar said.

She explained that Yakub Abdullahi not only masterminded the killing of Albani and his wife but also procured the two AK 47 rifles used.

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Twenty-two-year-old Ibrahim Shuaibu from Rimin Gado, Kano State, joined the Boko Haram sect in 2008 as an active mobiliser in Zaria. He alongside Yasir Ibrahim transported the rifles used from Funtua to Zaria, it was revealed yesterday.

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