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# Man lynched over murder of Germans

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Written by Misbahu Bashir, Kaduna Hits: 487

A man suspected to be an accomplice to the rustlers that shot dead two German tourists in Abuja has been killed by locals at Jere Junction, Kagarko Local Government Area, Kaduna State.

Two German tourists working with a construction company, Julius Berger Nigeria, were murdered by cattle rustlers in Bwari Area Council in Abuja. The rustlers were said to have suspected the Germans to be vigilantes and opened fire on them. One of the tourists who did not die from the gun shots was later slaughtered by the thieves. Police and soldiers were said to have been searching the area for the killers since the incident occurred two weeks ago, but made no arrest.

A man believed to be an associate of rustlers in the area, Habu Kudiri, was killed by local herders at Jere Junction market on Thursday. He was alleged to have taken the stolen cattle to the market.

A witness, Lawal Bako, said: "Some herdsmen came to the market looking for their stolen cows and luckily, they identified them among the ones brought by Habu Kudiri. He was asked to explain where he got the animals but he could not. He was suspected to be close to several gangs of cattle thieves who either sell or give him stolen cattle to go and sell. The herdsmen stabbed him with knives and hit his head with a stool. Policemen took him to the hospital, where he was confirmed dead. He was buried in Jere."

He said before the incident, the deceased had already sold some of the cattle while about N200,000 was found on him.

He said Habu was allegedly a friend to cattle thieves and "most likely" the killers of the tourist in Abuja.

Police Public Relations Officer in Kaduna, Superintendent Aminu Lawan, said the identity of the man killed had not been established, adding that it was doubtful if he was an accomplice of the rustlers threatening pastoralists in the area.

"It is true, police found an unidentified corpse by the roadside around 7am with wounds in the stomach and head. No one has come forward to identify the body, but investigation is ongoing."

Superintendent Lawan said police would determine how the man was killed and those behind his death, adding that there was no evidence that could link the dead man with rustling.

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