

Suspected gunmen stab man to death in Abuja village

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

Residents of Pegni in Kuje Area Council of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), were recently thrown into mourning after a 28 year-old man, identified as Monday Istifanus, was allegedly stabbed to death by suspected gunmen in the area.

A resident of the community, Mr. Elisha Joseph, who disclosed this to our reporter on Tuesday, said the incident happened around 9:12 p.m. when the deceased, who was an indigene of the area, was riding a motorcycle to neighbouring Dafara village to visit a friend.

He said gunmen emerged from the bush and flagged him down, adding that one of them

stabbed him with a knife on the neck and stomach.

"A farmer, who was on his way to the farm, discovered the corpse and the motorcycle around 6 a.m. the following day by the roadside. He raised alarm and rushed back home to inform the family members," Joseph narrated.

He said relations of the deceased rushed to the scene, while policemen at Kuje divisional headquarters were alerted before his corpse was taken for autopsy.

Joseph said the police later released the corpse to the relations for burial.

He further disclosed that another indigene of the area was also attacked by suspected motorcycle snatchers, last

Thursday night, who escaped with his motorcycle along Pegni-Kuchiako forest in the area.

Joseph said the victim was also riding a motorcycle with his younger brother when the hoodlums came out from the bush with cutlasses and inflicted injuries on the rider.

"But his younger brother jumped down and ran home to report and some members of the family rushed to the scene to convey the victim to the hospital at Kuje," he added.

Reacting, the village head of Pegni, Etsu Irimiya Sarki, who confirmed the incident, decried incessant robbery attacks in the area, especially by the motorcycle snatchers.

"But the other man who was killed, his motorcycle was

abandoned at the scene. In fact, there is no day that passes without us receiving a report of robbery attacks on motorcycle riders along Pegni-Kuje town," the chief said.

He further stated that he had written to the authorities of the council on the need for them to liaise with the FCT police command in providing a police outpost at the community but to no avail.

Efforts to get the reaction of the Kuje Divisional Police Officer (DPO), Mr. Ewuchene S.E, were not successful but a police officer at the division confirmed the incident, saying the police have since commenced investigation on what he called the gruesome murder of the man.