

Kebbi APC chieftain assassinated

From Garba Muhammad, Birnin Kebbi

- Party chieftains react

Unknown gunmen have reportedly shot dead an All Progressives Congress (APC) chieftain and a businessman, Alh. Illo Lemi Aliero, 65, last Friday night in Aliero, Aliero Local Government Area of Kebbi State.

Close family sources, who confirmed the incident to our correspondent yesterday in Aliero, said Lemi was shot by the assassins around 9:05pm inside his parlour after returning from the mosque where he performed Tarawih prayers.

“The assassins are six in number. They came on three motorcycles, two of them, blocked the local

security guard at gun point at the gate, the rest of the four assassins went straight to the parlour and shot him at the back and on his heart. He was alone at the parlour when the assassins struck.

"We immediately notified the police of the incident. He died between 10-11pm on our way to Federal Medical Centre (FMC), Birnin Kebbi. We still went to the hospital where he was confirmed dead before returning home to bury him this morning," the family sources said.

Lema is survived by three wives and 21 children.

The Police Public Relations Officer, ASP Nafiu Abubakar, while confirming the assassination

to our correspondent on phone, said so far no arrest had been made but that investigation has already commenced.

Meanwhile, top echelons of the APC in Kebbi State have described as shocking and rude the assassination of Alhaji Illo Lemi Aliero.

Senate Deputy Majority Leader, Bala Ibn NaAllah, Senator Adamu Aliero and Kebbi deputy governor Samaila Dabai Yombe all condemned the killing.

Sen Na' Allah in his reaction, described the assassination as "a rude shock to hear the unfortunate incident that led to the death of a perfect gentleman Lemi. "May Allah expose his killers," he added.

Senator Aliero in a condolence message issued by his Media Aide, Abdullahi Zuru in Birnin Kebbi, described the assassination of Lemi as shocking and a great lose not only to Kebbi state but the country as a whole in view of his contributions to Islamic religion, economic development and political awareness in his community.

"Alhaji Illo Lemi was a devoted Muslim, successful business man and a reliable politician who lived all his life serving Islam and the less privileged," Aliero said.

Similarly, Deputy Governor Samaila Dabai Yombe, in his reaction to the assassination assured that, those who perpetuated the hideous crime would not go free.

Yombe said: "Let them (the assassins) know that Allah see all things hidden, if they assume that they will not be caught here on earth. They will face it when they die. This goes to all those engaged in this type of hideous crimes."



■ From left:
Commandant
of Armed
Forces
Command and
Staff College
Jaji, Air Vice
Marshal John
Chris Ifemeje;
Vice President,
Prof. Yemi