



CITY NEWS

Court orders police to pay N200m to slain victim's family

From Yahaya Ibrahim, Lagos

A Federal High Court in Lagos has ordered the Nigerian Police Force to pay the sum of N200 million to the family of Waheed Kabiru, who was allegedly killed by some policemen from the Igbogbo police division in Ikorodu, Lagos State.

The court also ordered the police to release the deceased's body to his family for a decent burial.

Justice Mohammed Idris, who made these orders, also compelled the police to publicly apologize in three widely-read Nigerian newspapers for what he

called the unlawful killing of the deceased.

The judge further declared that Kabiru's sudden disappearance and extra-judicial murder was "illegal, unlawful, unconstitutional and a gross violation of his constitutional rights as enshrined under Sections 33 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, and the African Charter and Universal Declaration of Human Rights."

Justice Idris also declared that the "arrest, torture and detention" of the deceased's brother, Ibrahim Kabiru, at the Igbogbo police station's cell from November 20, 2015, till date was

"wrongful, illegal, unlawful, unconstitutional and a gross violation of his constitutional rights as enshrined under Sections 33, 34, 35 and 36 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria."

The judge made a perpetual injunction restraining the police from harassing, intimidating, inviting, arresting or detaining the deceased's brother and his family members in connection with the matter.

His orders were sequel to Ibrahim Kabiru's fundamental rights suit filed before the court against the Inspector-General of Police and the Nigeria Police Force by the duo of Barrister

Yaqub Eleto and Sanni Saidi over the alleged unlawful killing of Waheed Kabiru, who was allegedly tortured to death by the police.

In the affidavit in support of the suit, the complainant (Ibrahim Kabiru) had stated that his deceased brother was arrested on November 20, 2015 by eight armed policemen from the Igbogbo police division on the orders of their divisional officer, Mr. Remilekun Adesoye.

He added that on getting to the police station on December 2, 2015, the police informed him and other members of his family of the sudden disappearance of his brother from the detention

cell of the Igbogbo police station.

The deponent averred further that despite several petitions written on the extra-judicial killing of his brother to the Lagos State Commissioner of Police, no response was received on the matter from the state command of the Nigerian police. He added that his brother's corpse could not be found since he was "arrested, detained, tortured and killed by the police."

Prior to the incident, the deponent stated that his brother did not commit any offence known to law in Nigeria to warrant the alleged gross infringement of his fundamental rights to life.

Lagos Speaker