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Mother of boy killed in OPSH custody demands justice

By Lami Sadiq & Bashir Liman, Jos | Published Date May 30, 2019 4:55 AM



The mother of a 16-year-old boy who allegedly died in the custody of Operation Safe Haven, Sector 1, in Jos is seeking justice for what she described as “torture and extrajudicial killing” of her son.

Rahmatu Mahmud yesterday told Daily Trust that all she wanted was for the soldiers responsible for her son’s death to be punished.

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She said: “A few weeks ago, there was skirmishes in our area, we can’t really say what happened but personnel of OPSH barged into our home and demanded to question my son. They met my husband who handed my son over to them willingly but told them to be gentle with him as he had a head injury.

“They took him on Thursday and he died on Friday and his remains was deposited at the Plateau Specialist Hospital. On recovering his corpse, we discovered his head was swollen and we learnt he had two broken ribs.”

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The grieving mother said a delegation from sector 1 had visited her husband's elder brother's home to inform him of the unfortunate incident and for him to intercede on behalf of the taskforce with the family.

Reacting, spokesman of the taskforce, Major Shittu Ibrahim Abiodun, said on sighting the personnel of OPSH who were on a search operation, the boy had tried to escape through a fence "which fell over him and he died."

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