

Robbers invade Ibadan communities, kill 2

From Jeremiah Oke, Ibadan

A 40-year-old man, Saheed Lawal, and a yet to be identified motorcyclist were shot dead in different locations in Ibadan, the Oyo State capital during the weekend.

While Lawal was killed in his house at Elelubo Zone, Bako Community, Apata, along Ibadan-Abeokuta road, the unknown motorcyclist was killed at Barika area of Agbowo, Ibadan.

Daily Trust gathered that Lawal, a Point of Sales (POS) operator, returned home around 6pm on Saturday and went for the 7pm prayer at a mosque but met his untimely death after returning home.

According to a resident of the area, the robbers came on a

motorcycle and two of them went to the house of the deceased, knocked on the door and asked him to give them money.

"But he was shot after opening the door," he said.

The source, who craved for anonymity, added "One of the robbers shot at his chest at close range. Unknown to his wife that her husband had died, she was begging them not to kill him just as they were asking for the money available in the house which she gave them," he added.

A witness told our correspondent that the robbers escaped with a motorcycle.

The victim had been buried according to Islamic rite.

The chairman of the landlords association, Mutiu Adewunmi, told our correspondent that the incident

was reported at Omi-Adio Police Station around 9 o'clock the same day.

"We were suspecting another set of hoodlums in our community and we called the police but they asked us to secure our community ourselves.

"They claimed the incident was not reported at their station despite the fact that they were at the scene of the event and even took pictures earlier.

"Police in Omi-Adio police station are not doing anything to protect us. We need support of the Inspector General of Police and especially the Oyo State Commissioner of Police, Mrs. Ngozi Onadeko, to help us out," he said.

Daily Trust reports that the killing of the motorcyclist which happened at around 8pm on Saturday threw

residents of the area, majority of who are students of the University of Ibadan, into panic.

A resident, who identified himself as Gabriel, told journalists on Sunday that the robbers shot the okada rider at close range.

He said the okada rider was riding with a passenger and the hoodlums stopped him at the junction before the UI second gate and attempted to dispossess him of his motorcycle.

"The okada rider did not want them to take away the motorcycle and as that was going on, the passenger jumped off and fled the scene.

"Sensing that the okada rider's resistance might put them in danger, one of them brought out a gun and shot him point-blank on the head," he said.