

Killing of imam: Residents jubilate over arrest of 'notorious' thug

From Lubabatu I. Garna, Kano

The residents of Kwanar Goda Quarters of Kano State are still in shock over the brutal murder of their imam, Malam Sani Shuaibu, who allegedly lost his life when a notorious thug, Yusuf Haruna a.k.a Labadani, stabbed him to death.

The tragic incident happened on Sunday after the deceased finished the Magrib prayer.

Daily Trust gathered that the 45-year-old Malam Sani Shuaibu was said to have lost his life when Labadani used a knife to stab him in his back simply because he warned the suspect and his gang to stop smoking Indian hemp around the mosque's premises.

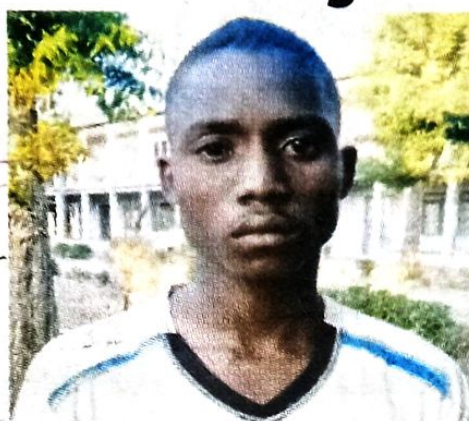
A witness, Musa Yunusa, told Daily Trust that the suspect attacked the deceased when he was about to enter his house.

"When Malam Sani was heading to his house the suspect sneaked and followed him, he then stabbed him on his back and fled."

The deceased was taken to Murtala Mohammed Specialist Hospital where he was confirmed dead.

"As he sustained a deep injury, we rushed him to the hospital. Before we reached the hospital I heard his last breath. But we went to the hospital where the doctors confirmed his death," Musa said.

The wife of the deceased, Malama Binta Yahaya, said she was at home when



■ The suspect

her son entered the house calling her at the top of his voice that his father was stabbed by the suspect.

"As I heard my child shouting my name I quickly came out from the room asking what was happening. He was just saying 'That man stabbed Baba', before I understood what he was trying to tell me, his father came in and fell down with blood flowing from him.

"When I saw this I started screaming trying to pick up his lifeless body."

The widow, who is also pregnant, called on the authorities to come to their aid and make sure that the suspect was brought to book.

"We are urging the government to make sure the culprit faces the law. We are also pleading to the government to come to our aid as the deceased left behind six small children including a disabled one."

Shuaibu Yunusa, a vigilante group commander of the area told Daily Trust that the suspect was among the yandaba

gang that terrorised residents of the area.

"The man and his so-called gang have been terrorising the residents by stealing and phone snatching. We tried all we could to stop them but our warning and preaching went on deaf ears.

"There was a time I personally empowered some of them with capital to start their businesses. But they left the business along the line and went back to their normal activities."

Yunusa also complained bitterly about the parent's 'I don't care attitude' as whenever they reported their children to them, instead of taking any action, they saw them as enemies.

Daily Trust findings revealed that this was not the first time the deceased had a misunderstanding with the suspect as he had tried to attack the deceased six months ago, it was learnt.

"There was a time he attempted to attack the deceased when he warned him to stop smoking around his house. It took the intervention of the police and they were reconciled."

It was also gathered that a day after the incident the residents of the area tried to take the law into their hands by lynching the suspect. It took the intervention of the police of Jakara station to disperse them.

The Kano State Police Command has arrested the suspect Yusuf Haruna a.k.a Labadani and he is currently under investigation at the Criminal Investigation Department.

The police spokesman, SP Abdullahi Haruna Kiyawa, added that the arrest was a testament to the police's unwavering commitment to protecting the people and bringing justice to those affected by such heinous acts.