

Assailants kill Islamic leader, remove private parts in Kaduna

By **Saxone Akhaine, Kaduna**

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CP Audu Dabigi Ali

There was pandemonium in Awai community in Soba Local Council of Kaduna State, following discovery of the lifeless body of Malam Salisu Mai Almajirai by a road side, with his genitals removed.

The Guardian learnt that the incident occurred over the weekend, about 24 hours to the victim's wedding. Speaking to newsmen on the incident, yesterday, a leader in the area, Sarkin Awai, Rufa'i Waziri, said the entire community was thrown into confusion over the killing of "an innocent man with integrity".

Waziri said when "they wanted to take him away for the burial, during preparations, they discovered that his penis had been removed. This kind of brutal killing is disturbing".

The wife of the deceased, Malama Zulaihat, said her husband left home in the morning, on Wednesday. He headed to his former house to exchange pleasantries with the people. But a few hours later, one of his pupils came and informed her that he had gone to his tailor in Zaria to collect the new clothes he wanted to use for the wedding.

Zulaihat, who was in tears, said when Malam Salisu did not return in the evening, she sent for his new bride. When she came, she informed her of the situation, and requested to use her phone to call him.

According to Zulaihat, "when we called, he answered that the tailor didn't finish on time. But he was at Wanka, about to board a motorcycle, on his way home. After that, we called the number several

times but it was no longer available. We decided to call it a day. I saw the bride off, came back, and locked the house because night had fallen. Early in the morning, my son went out and returned in a hurry, telling me that his father had been murdered.”

Reacting, a neighbour, Ali Hadimi, described the deceased as “a complete gentleman, who hated trouble, loved peace and unity”. Confirming the incident, spokesperson for the Kaduna State Police Command, ASP Mansur Hassan, said that the police had begun investigations in an effort to apprehend the culprits.