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Leadership (Abuja)

Nigeria: Policeman Kills Civil Servant At Wuse Market

Chizoba Ogbeche

13 July 2010

A 33-year-old man, Nasir Gidado Omar, was allegedly shot dead by a yet to be identified trigger-happy policeman, yesterday, at Wuse market, Abuja.

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The deceased, a native of Nasarawa State was said to have left his place of residence at Maitama, Abuja at 7.45am for his office at the National Judicial Institute (NJI) where he had resumed duties on July 1, 2010 as a research fellow.

LEADERSHIP checks revealed that the late Gidado boarded a taxi headed to Wuse but the taxi he was driving in alongside other passengers was stopped by a mobile policeman at the Wuse junction who ordered the driver to pull over.

It is, however, not clear what led to the shooting of the deceased who was said to have been sitting beside the taxi driver.

A passenger in the taxi, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said, "I was sitting at the back of the same taxi with Gidado who was beside the driver. When we approached Wuse junction, a mobile policeman ordered the driver to pull over and, without hesitating for a moment, shot the deceased at close range. As I was dodging, the bullet that pierced through him hit my left arm.

"As the policeman ran away, the driver assisted me to the Zankli Medical Centre to receive treatment. He waited in his car while I went in for treatment. Unfortunately, when I came out from the hospital I discovered that the taxi man had made away with the body of the victim."

The body of the deceased was later found in an open place near the Utako market.

This was confirmed by the Wuse Divisional Police Officer (DPO), Mr. Zubairu to the Director of Finance and Administration of the NJI, Mr. Ibrahim Tama Gambo, who visited the division on behalf of the institution's administration, Justice Umaru Eri, on learning of the incident.

According to the DPO, "Mobile policemen on patrol at Jabi axis discovered the body abandoned at an open place near Utako market in a pool of his blood. The body was later conveyed to the National Hospital for autopsy".

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The hospital, LEADERSHIP gathered, had insisted on a coroner form, which gives details of preliminary investigation into circumstances surrounding his death before they could attend to the body, and that an autopsy must be conducted before the body could be released for burial.

Though relatives and family of the victim were against the autopsy, a medical doctor on duty, Dr Jubrin Paul, was said to have promised to conduct the autopsy within three hours to enable them bury the dead despite the fact that the doctors are on strike.

However the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Mr. Jimoh Moshood, who confirmed the incident said investigation was on and the matter has been transferred to the Command Criminal Investigation Department.

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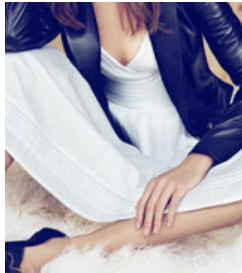
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transferred to the Command Criminal Investigation Department.

According to him, the police were on the trail of the taxi driver while one of the passengers was helping the police in their investigation.

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