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## Sallah Day Tragedy: Robbers Raid Ram Market

TUESDAY, 16 NOVEMBER 2010 00:00 WISDOM PATRICK, LAGOS



Kill trader, cart away rams || Armed robbers raided the popular ram market at Meiran Bus-Stop, along Lagos/Abeokuta Expressway, Lagos, yesterday, killing one of the sellers and carting away five rams for their own Sallah celebration.

The ram market raid, according to a Police source at the Ijaiye Police Station, Lagos, was the second in less than one month and the incident has left residents of the area, wondering about their safety.

A Police Inspector, Sunday Akaka who led a team of policemen on the assessment tour of the market, told LEADERSHIP in a telephone interview that the robbers went away with five rams, GSM handsets, an unspecified amount of money and the car of one of the cattle dealers.



President Goodluck Jonathan with Vice-President Namadi Sambo and other officials at a Sallah celebration. President Goodluck Jonathan with Vice-President Namadi Sambo and other officials at a Sallah celebration.

The policeman stated that preliminary investigation has revealed that the only dealer killed in the raid was shot during a struggle with the robbers. "I think the victim, whose name was given only as Farouk, actually struggled with the robber that wanted to collect his money. It was one of the robbers who stood close-by that shot at him."

It was gathered that as soon as the robbers fired the shot that killed Farouk, they all scrambled into one of the ram seller's car, parked just by the roadside, and zoomed off.

The police source added that, insider's work was suspected in the robbery attack. "We are starting our investigation from the sellers themselves, because the manner in which the robbers escaped with parked vehicle has raised a number of questions which only the sellers would be able to answer," the police inspector said.

When LEADERSHIP visited the market, cattle dealers were seen in sorrowful mood. One of them who spoke to our correspondent stated that the raid was a bad omen in a 'holy day', lamenting that the robbers collected everything they worked for. "There is no more security in Lagos. Police are no longer interested in providing security for citizens of this country, especially Lagos, since the Inspector General of Police, Hafiz Ringim asked them to clear roadblocks from our highways," the cattle dealer fumed. The remains of the victim have been buried in Alakuko, Lagos, according to Islamic injunction.

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