

## B.Sc holder among 'killer-gang members'

**1** **T**HE Kogi State Police Command yesterday paraded seven suspected members of a killer-gang, allegedly led by Hamidu Yakubu.

During their parade at the command headquarters in Lokoja, the suspects confessed that they killed a police Inspector, Abdullahi Alfa, and four vigilantes, last November.

Other members of the gang are: Abdul Tijani, 27, who claimed to be a member of a vigilance group at Ogwalawo in Ofu Local Government Area; Julius Alhassan, 38; Ibile Attah, Onuche James, Aku Audi and Shehu Atahiru.

The suspects, who fingered Yakubu as their leader, claimed that their sponsor(s) told them who to kill at Ogwalawo and Ejuke, both in the same local government area.

Yakubu, who claimed to be a 2014/2015 graduate of Guidance and Counselling from the Adekunle Ajasin University (AAU) at Akungba-Akoko in

From James Azania, Lokoja

Ondo State, denied being the leader of the gang. But he admitted to ownership of an operational AK-47 rifle.

On the killing of the inspector, Attah said the gang members used cutlasses and an axe in the former's murder, while Tijani said though he fired several shots at the victim, he did not realise he was a police officer.

**2** Also paraded was a "Prophet" Olusegun Otaru with his two accomplices, who were said to have been arrested earlier at Aduri in Adavi Local Government Area, for allegedly killing a suspected sex worker, Mercy Moses.

The trio, who led security operatives, including Police Commissioner Ali Janga, to where the decapitated remains of Mercy were buried in a shallow grave, confessed to procuring human parts for money rituals.

Otaru, who claimed that

poverty drove him into crime, said he consulted with the others - Yakubu Abdulmumuni and Samuel Olusegun - and they agreed on a line of action to "banish" poverty from their lives.

Another suspect, identified simply as Stephen, was said to be on the run.

The suspects confessed to making portions from the hand of their victim, from which they fed on, as part of the money-making ritual.

Investigation showed that the proprietor of the hotel where the late Mercy Moses took up residence, raised the lid that led to their arrest.

He was said to have reported the matter at the state command in Lokoja, haven not seen the lady in his hotel in a couple of days, and not satisfied with the pace of action at the Adavi Police Unit.

Janga said the suspects will be charged to court as soon as investigation is concluded.

**We're coming after you Navy tells rice smugglers**