

# KOGI POLICE ARREST GOVERNORSHIP ASPIRANT, TRADITIONAL RULERS

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Kogi police arrest governorship aspirant, traditional rulers

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It was a harvest of arrests in Kogi State on Friday as the State Police Command paraded no fewer than 47 persons for allegedly committing various offences ranging from illegal possession of arms to armed robbery and murder.

Among those arrested was a former governorship aspirant on the platform of the Peoples Democratic Party, Mr. Michael Abdullahi; and an Ibadan-based school proprietor.

Also paraded were two traditional rulers from Ejule in Ofu Local Government Area: the Ogoyi of Ejule, Akwu Obaje; the acting Onu of Ejule, Abdul Ali; and a councillor in Dekina Local Government, Mr. Moses Ani.

While parading the suspects in Lokoja, the police explained that the governorship aspirant was caught with a locally made pistol, two live bullets and a jerk knife at a police checkpoint in Ejule.

But in an interview, Abdullahi claimed that the gun belonged to the councillor.

The traditional rulers, who were apprehended in company with about 19 other suspects, are being accused of complicity in the killing of three persons over a disputed traditional title. Three guns were said to have been found on them.

Commissioner of Police, Alhaji Abdullahi Magaji, who paraded the suspects, also announced the arrest of a physically challenged man with eight others, most of whom are youths.

He said they were arrested in Obangede-Ihima area of Okene for alleged robbery while charms, dangerous weapons and a large quantity of marijuana was found on them.

The commissioner said all the suspects would soon be charged to court, pledging that Kogi State would be rid of criminals in line with the directive of the Inspector General of Police to state commissioners to flush out criminals ahead of the 2011 general election.

Magaji called on parents to warn their children and wards to desist from any act capable of disrupting the peace in the state.



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