"In another development, security agencies have reported the murder of the Sarkin Yaki of Godogodo, Mr Yohanna Abu, by a gang of kidnappers."

According to the report, the gunmen attacked Nisama village in Jema'a local government area late on Friday night, and abducted Mr Abu along with another resident Mr Charles Audu.

A struggle ensued between the duo and the kidnappers, and while Mr Audu was able to escape, the kidnappers shot Mr Abu dead.

Five persons have been arrested in connection with the killing, as security agencies continue to investigate the incident.

Governor Nasir El-Rufai expressed sadness at both reports, praying for the repose of the souls of the slain cleric and community leader, as he conveyed his heartfelt condolences to their families.