

Body of missing veteran VON journalist found inside soakaway in Zamfara

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A veteran journalist, Hamisu Danjibga, a reporter with the *Voice of Nigeria (VON)* in Zamfara State, who was declared missing, has been found murdered in his residence in Gusau metropolis.

The late Danjibga was declared missing by family, friends and colleagues on Sunday, but on Wednesday evening, his corpse was discovered inside a soak away behind his house at Yelwa Samaru area in Gusau.

The Zamfara State council of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), in a statement issued on Thursday by the council secretary, Ibrahim G.Ahmad, said the discovery of the body followed the oozing of odour from the area as perceived by Islamiya children who later drew the attention of their teachers.

"After breaking the soak away, the body was confirmed to be that of Danjibga

by his family and some neighbours.

"His funeral rites have since been observed according to Islamic injunctions."

The council, while expressing concern over the nature of Danjibga's demise, appealed to security agencies to investigate the case and bring the perpetrators to justice.

Meanwhile, the International Press Council's Centre for Safety and Protection of Journalists (I-CSPJ) has condemned the killing of the journalist.

In a press statement issued by the Press Freedom Officer of the IPC, Melody Akinjiyan and IPC Executive Director, Mr Lanre Arogundade, the group described the circumstances of the journalist's death as bizarre.

"We urge security agencies to carry out immediate and thorough investigations to unravel the mystery surrounding his death," the statement read.