

FINA

# City CRIME

## Irate youths stone woman to death

Francis Falola, Minna

**I**RATE youths, on Wednesday, lynched a woman at Izom town in Niger State for dropping letters in a mosque with inscriptions allegedly abusing Prophet Mohammed.

The youth, suspected to be Islamic fundamentalists, were said to have mobilised themselves at about noon when they saw the woman dropping the pamphlets they claimed was derogatory of the Holy Prophet.

The unidentified woman was dragged out of the police station in Izom where she was taken to for protection.

The angry mob, who overwhelmed the policemen on duty, later stoned the woman to death.

The divisional police officer of the station and an inspector of police, it was learnt, were seriously wounded in the attack on the station.

The injured policemen are currently receiving treatment at the Gawu Babangida Rural Hospital.

The Niger State Governor, Alhaji Abdulkadir Kure,

while reacting to the incident, said it was not a religious crisis.

He said the slain woman was said to be insane.

The governor appealed to the people of the area to remain calm why the police continue their investigation into the incident.

He said it was unfortunate that the woman was killed by the mob, explaining that government needed to know those behind the seditious pamphlet.

The governor advised the

traditional ruler of the area to ensure the maintenance of law and order in his domain.

The state Commissioner of Police, Mr. Ernest Ibhaze, who briefed the governor on the incident, said the woman was mentally retarded.

He said the police would step up investigation to unravel the identity of the woman with the aim of bringing to book those behind the circulation of the offensive pamphlets.