

Gunmen kill retired headmaster in Plateau

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File: Gunmen

James Abraham, Jos

A retired headmaster in the Barkin Ladi Local Government Area of Plateau State, Mr Iliya Dafet, has been shot dead by gunmen, who attacked his house in the Gana-Daji community.

A family member, who gave his name simply as John, told our correspondent in Jos on Thursday that the deceased, who was in his late 50s, was relaxing with his wife and children in his compound around 7.30pm when the gunmen attacked them on New Year's Day.

John stated, "Around 7.30pm on New Year's Day, gunmen, who were wearing masks, came to the compound. One of them scaled the fence and made straight for the man, who was discussing with his wife and some of his children.

When contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer in the state, Mathias Tyopev, said the command was aware of the incident and investigating it.

“They started struggling with the intruder, who immediately brought out his gun and shot the man in the head. The other men also rushed in and used a log of wood to beat the man to ensure that he was dead before they made their escape.

“Dafet was a primary school headmaster in the Barkin Ladi Local Government Area until he retired recently. He was rushed to hospital in the Jos South Local Government Area, where doctors on duty confirmed him dead. His corpse is now lying in the mortuary. We have not seen something like this before.”

John said the incident had been reported at the Divisional Police Headquarters in Barkin Ladi.

He added that the Divisional Police Officer had visited the scene with his men and promised to get to the root of the matter with a view to apprehending the culprits