

Chima Azubuike, Gombe

ABUBAKAR Muhammad has narrated the ordeal his deceased younger brother faced while in detention of the Special Anti Robbery Squad.

Muhammad at the Gombe State commission of inquiry on human rights violations by the SARS and other agencies on Tuesday said he paid N20,000 out of the N25,000 bail demanded by the police, yet his brother was not released.

According to Muhammad, his 20-year-old brother Usman Muhammad was murdered by the disbanded Special Anti Robbery Squad for allegedly stealing a phone belonging to a SARS officer's wife.

He said, "I was charged N25,000 for bail, but I made a deposit of N20,000 and I promised to complete the money the following day.

"Before leaving the station I knew the danger my brother was in so I begged the police not to handover my brother to SARS operatives. To my dismay, when I returned to the station I saw them dragging my brother on the floor like a sack."

Muhammad's friend, Adamu Bello, in his testimony at the panel of inquiry sitting, said he witnessed Usman being maltreated when he accompanied Muhammad to see his bother when he was in detention.

"Usman was brought out by three police officers, one of them was a woman; one of the officers suddenly started beating him. He placed him on the counter and the other one hit him on his shoulder with

Assembly Speaker begs Buhari to stop killings

Maiharaji Altine, Gusau

THE Speaker, Zamfara State House of Assembly, Nasiru Magarya, has appealed to the President, Major General Muhammadu Buhari (retd.), to intervene and stop the incessant killings of people by bandits.

The Speaker was particularly concerned with the deplorable security situation in the state, particularly the resurgence of pockets of attacks by recalcitrant bandits.

In a press release by his media aide, Alhaji Mustafa Jafaru, the Speaker said,

the edge of his gun," he said.

Bello added that the victim was taken to Gombe State specialist hospital by the police officers.

He said, "When we finally got to the state specialist hospital the doctor there refused to admit him saying that they don't have oxygen."

The lawyer for the respondent, Umadi Thomas, however, argued that the police never had the type of vehicle the witness described.

"As leaders, we will not fold our arms and watch lives of innocent people perished in the hands of the devils.

"We are calling on President Muhammadu Buhari-led Federal Government and top security brass of the country to immediately to the needful in Zamfara State and other states of the North-West to end this ugly trend associated with banditry attacks."

The Speaker and other principal officers of the State House of Assembly had met behind closed doors