

Police hunt killers of Katsina undergraduate

25th February 2025



File photo: Police officers

Faith Maji and Johnson Idowu

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The Katsina State Police Public Relations Officer, DSP Abubakar Sadiq, said the command had begun an investigation into a shooting incident involving a member of the Civilian Joint Task Force that resulted in the death of a 400-level student of the Federal University, Dutsinma, in the state to apprehend the perpetrator.

Sadiq made this known in a statement on Monday in Katsina.

According to the statement, “The Katsina Police Command has commenced an investigation into a shooting incident involving a member of the Civilian Joint Task Force. The incident resulted in the injury of an okada rider and the death of a 400-level student of the Federal University Dutsinma.

“Preliminary reports indicate that on February 23, 2025, at approximately 11:26 am, a commercial motorcycle rider conveying a passenger, Sa’idu Abdulkadir, was flagged down by a team of CJTF members in a Hilux vehicle. One of the JTF members fired at the victims, causing gunshot injuries.

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“Detectives promptly responded to the scene and rushed the victims to Dutsinma General Hospital. Sa’idu was later referred to the Orthopedic Hospital Katsina, where he was certified dead on arrival.”

He stated that the command was deeply concerned about the incident and was committed to ensuring justice was served, noting that “We are working closely with the school management and other stakeholders to identify and arrest the suspects. Further developments will be communicated in due course”, he said.

Earlier, PUNCH Metro reported that the management of the university had, on Monday, shut down the school following violent protests by students over the killing of their colleague.

A source, who spoke on condition of anonymity due to the sensitivity of the issue, told our correspondent in Katsina on Monday morning that “some officials of the CJTF shot two students in error, thinking they were bandits’ informants.

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“One of the students died on the spot while the other one was shot in the leg and has since been taken for medical attention in a nearby hospital.

“Following this development, students have been involved in violent protests since yesterday when the incident happened and they took to the streets in Dutsinma, burning vehicles as well vandalising property.”

Meanwhile, the Offa Descendants’ Union under the leadership of Alhaji Muideen Olaniyi Azeez-Salako, has expressed deep sorrow and outrage over the tragic shooting of Abdulkadir Saheed, from Offa, a 400-level student of Agricultural Extension and Rural Development at the Federal University Dutsin-ma, who was killed by vigilante operatives.

In a statement on Monday, the group stated, “The ODU described the act as a heinous and wicked crime, emphasising that such actions are unacceptable and that those responsible will face not only human justice but also divine retribution.

“According to reports, the incident occurred when the vigilante operatives attempted to stop an Okada (motorcycle) rider. The rider, however, refused to comply with their instructions and continued moving. In response, the operatives discharged their weapons, tragically striking and killing Abdulkadir Saheed. The Okada rider sustained severe injuries and is currently hospitalised in critical condition.’