

Kaduna murder: Army tortured me to implicate Senator Sani — Suspect



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Days after the Kaduna Police Command named Senator Shehu Sani in the murder of Lawan Bakin Ruwa, a member of Kaduna Civilian JTF, Garba Isa at the weekend disagreed with the police. Instead, Isa said he was allegedly pressured through torture to name Senator Sani in the murder of Bakin. Although he said he stood his ground, saying he would not drag the senator into the alleged murder, the military tortured him to say that Senator Sani contracted them to carry out the alleged murder. Last week, the police in Kaduna had linked Senator Shehu Sani as a person of interest in the case of criminal conspiracy and culpable homicide in the state. Following the development, Kaduna state Commissioner of Police, Austin Iwar wrote to Sani, asking him to appear on April 30 at the

Command Headquarters in Kaduna for questioning. Although the Iwar said the case was not politically motivated, it was “a case transferred to me and I am handling the case.

The matter is currently under investigation and we don't think we have reached a stage yet where we could inform the public about it. Iwar said: “This is in connection with a case of criminal conspiracy and culpable homicide transferred to this office by 1 Division, Nigerian Army, Kaduna, alongside with exhibit audio CD in which your name was mentioned by the principal suspect. “

This is to enable us fairly and timely conclude investigation into the matter.” But Isa insisted that Senator Sani had no hand in the murder of the deceased just as he was not culpable for any murder of any kind. It was a trumped-up charges. Isa said: “I was not in Kaduna but received calls that the military were looking for me on an issue. So, when I went back I was in our office in Kabala Doki when the military came and asked me to come with them.

“I went with them and they told me that they have arrested some suspects and that myself and another person should come in respect of our position as civilian JTF to verify their identity at Badarawa. So, after an inquiry, they allowed the other person to go and asked me to follow them. “They now took me to Kukwa Ahmed Aruwa Firm and kept me there and I was there when a military Captain came and left there

after he sent an intelligence officer, who now came and told me that I was the one who killed Lawan Bakin Ruwa.

“I told them as a civilian JTF, how can I kill anybody? They now started torturing me that I must accept that I’m the one who killed him and Senator Shehu Sani was the one who contracted us to do it. “The military insisted that I must accept that Senator Shehu Sani gave Bashir Hamadada money to pay us for the killing of Lawan and I told them I neither knew Bashir Hamadada nor Lawan they were talking about.

I spent two weeks with the military but still refused to implicate Senator Shehu Sani and later we were transferred to the Kaduna State CID where I spent almost a month from where I was taken to prison. “It was at a Kaduna State High Court that I got my bail but my right hand is now having serious injuries as a result of the military torture.”

Meanwhile, Senator Sani has accused Governor Nasir el-Rufai of planning to implicate him in the murder case. He said: “He is trying to frame me in a murder case. A letter was written from the Commissioner of Police’s office to invite me over a case that is before a court of law. They have not served me yet but we have gotten the letter. We also have the letter which el-Rufai wrote to the Chief Judge of Kaduna State, insisting on it and showing interest in the case, for me to be framed up.”