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Policeman kills wife, commits suicide

Tragedy struck on Wednesday at Mashimari Police Barracks when a police sergeant (names withheld) shot his wife dead and turned the gun on himself.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports that the policeman, attached to B' operation unit of Borno state Police Command, shot the wife with his official AK 47 rifle.

NAN gathered that the couple had been having misunderstanding over the behaviour of their son, said to be involved in theft, drug abuse and other crimes.

NAN further gathered that whenever the father attempted to call the son to order, the mother would prevent him from taking action against him.

A source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the disagreement between the couple worsened last week when they engaged in a fight, which attracted the attention of their neighbours.

"The persistent misunderstanding between the policeman and his wife was not a strange happening in the barracks.

"We are all aware that their son has questionable character, but the mother always supported and shielded him from being punished by the father," the source said.

"The wife was killed when she tried to shield the son from being shot by the husband who was visibly angry.

"On realising that he has gunned down his wife, he instantly shot himself.

The Borno State Police Public Relations Officer, ASP Isa Azare, confirmed the incident.

He said the corpses had been deposited at the University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital mortuary.

Isa, however, declined to reveal the names of the couple, saying the case was being investigated by the Criminal Investigation Department of the command.

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