

# Robbers kill policeman, four others at Kano Main Market

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KANO — A POLICEMAN and four others were feared dead yesterday when about ten armed robbers raided the Kano Main market, held the traders hostage for three hours and carted away cash and jewelry worth N200 million.

The market, noted for selling jewelry, is situated along Ibo Road in the heart of Fagge Local Government Area. Eye witnesses said the five victims died from stray bullets.

The robbers who stormed the Ibo Road market, situated in the heart of Fagge Local Government Area in Sabon gari area, were said to have arrived the market about 4pm in five different flashy cars, taking the traders unawares.

According to an eyewitness account, the robbers were accompanied by two smartly dressed ladies, who pretended to be customers. The robbers moved from one shop to the another, stripping the traders of their goods and at gun point directed them to load their Ghana-must-go bags with assorted gold jewelries.

The traders, according to eyewitness's account, who resisted such directives, were shot in the legs, the gun shots attracting traders and people in the market, causing confusion in the market, as members of the gang came out and shot sporadically in the air.

The son of one of the victim sellers, Alhaji Mansur Sani, who was worse hit said the dare-devil armed robbers raided his father's shop for about 45 minutes, unperturbed as no police was in sight.

Said he: "I tell you there is no security in this country. The robbers came into this shop and carted away everything we had in the shop,

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including cash and money belonging to customers who were present and there was no policeman in sight even when they were shooting in the air”.

“I am now convinced that we don’t have security in this country; President Yar’Adua should do something about security in the country. If armed robbers can rob busy, Sabon Gari Market in broad daylight, and hold the market hostage for hours and still escape, then we are not save”, he lamented.

Does it mean that people can no longer do legitimate business in this country again. In my presence everything my father had in this shop was taken away”.

The secretary of Gold jewelries sellers association in the market, Hamisu Jinjiri told newsmen, that the attack was shocking because they have never experienced such attack in the market. He lamented that the robbers raided five shops, saying no item was taken from one of the shops.

The owner of the gold jewelry shop who was not raided by the robbers one Abdulkadir Bashir who spoke with vanguard said, he was were yet to have official record of death from the attack.