

News

Gunmen kill district head in Borno

BY NDAHI MARAMA

MAIDUGURI—THE District Head of Damboa Local Government Area of Borno State, Alhaji Abba Ahmed, was, yesterday evening, shot dead by gunmen on his way back to his palace after performing his Magrib prayers in a mosque.

The district head, our correspondent gathered, had on January 21 received the Deputy Governor, Alhaji Zanna Mustapha, who had a stop over in the troubled council from his home town Biu to Maiduguri when 18 people were shot dead on Monday (a Market day) by unidentified gunmen suspected to be Boko Haram members.

Damboia is 88 kilometres south of Maiduguri, the Borno State

capital.

Ahmed's death is suspected to be connected with his disclosure to Deputy Governor Mustapha that "unknown gunmen suspected to be members of Boko Haram came to the town market and shot dead 13 local hunters on the spot while five others died from their injuries at the hospital."

In an interview with newsmen on that deadly encounter after returning to Maiduguri, the Deputy Governor through the late District Head said: "I heard about the attack and I had to stop in the town to pay a visit to the District Head, where he said the gunmen are not residents of Damboa because they came to the market in a Volkswagen Golf car, carried out the operation and left."

Family of killed citizen Ugochukwu decries Police's long silence

BY EVELYN USMAN

LAGOS—THE family of the late Ugochukwu Ozua, who was allegedly killed by policemen in Gbagada area of Lagos, five days after his wedding, last September, has expressed disappointment over what was described as long silence from the Police on the outcome of their investigation on the matter.

Although, the special investigative team set up by the Inspector-General of Police, Mr Mohammed Abubakar, to fish out perpetrators of the dastardly act has arrested five policemen on duty at the scene of the incident that fateful day.

But the bereaved family, during a condolence visit by the Assistant Inspector-General of Police in-charge of Zone 2, Onikan, Mamman Tsafe and other senior police officers at its Gbagada residence, accused the police of being in the dark about Police findings.

The deceased elder sister, Mrs.

Nkechi Chuba Nnoyelu, said during the visit: "I am disappointed that the condolence visit is coming five months after the incident and it's like opening up old wounds that is in the process of healing."

"Initially, we thought that this meeting was to keep us abreast with the investigation. Some arrests were made by the police and we would have thought that by now, the result of the investigation would have been made open, rather, we are being kept in the dark. And I am aware that the investigation is over and the report done and submitted."

But the AIG in his response, assured the family that since the team investigating the murder was instituted by the IG, it would be investigated to its logical conclusion and the perpetrators brought to book.

Aside the investigative team, Tsafe disclosed that he had also been directed by the IG to form another team under his (Tsafe) supervision that would also follow up on the case.

Police nab hunter who allegedly shot wife dead over breakfast

BY DAYO JOHNSON

AKURE—POLICE in Ondo State weekend said that the 45 year old hunter, Ojo Toki, who shot dead his wife, Adesewa, over a disagreement on his breakfast in Ibule Soro area of the state has been arrested and will soon be charged to court for murder.

The suspect, who is in detention in Igbara-Oke police station is a staff of Ministry of Agriculture in Igbara-Oke. He allegedly shot his wife on the neck at close range with a dane gun.

Police image-maker, Wole Ogodo, told Vanguard in Akure that the suspect had been arrested and the case transferred to the Criminal Investigation Department at the state police headquarters, Akure, for further investigation.

Vanguard gathered that the suspect, who in the morning of the ill-fated day had a disagreement with his wife, angrily left for his hunting expedition only to return to vent his anger by shooting the deceased.

The couple it was learnt have been separated for the past one year over another disagreement that led the wife to pack out of their matrimonial home to live in

her younger brother's house.

That dispute was said to have been settled by families of the couple only for the husband on the fateful day to visit where the deceased was staying to request for a breakfast.



Ojo Toki, the suspect.

The deceased who was a cleaner at the Federal University of Technology Akure, FUTAK, was said to have disagreed with the suspect on what she should prepare for his breakfast.

Narrating the incident to newsmen, the daughter of the deceased, Olamide, described her father as a troublesome man which made her mother to pack out of

his house and settled with her younger brother's wife over a year ago.

According to Olamide, "part of the settlement process agreed upon by both families was that the deceased should be preparing food for her husband at her brother's house."

"My father always come to our house to eat in the morning and at night but my father just complained that mummy refused to give him food a day to the incident which was resolved and she later cooked the food for him at night before he later went out for hunting and we also went to sleep."

"That morning, my father came back from hunting, he and my mum sat down in the sitting room discussing. I left them and went to my room but all of a sudden I had a gun shot and when I got to the sitting room it was my mum that I met on the floor in a pool of her own blood. She was died."

Meanwhile, the police spokesman in the state, Ogodo, said that the corpse of the deceased had been deposited at the state Specialist Hospital, Akure.

Investigation into the matter, according to him, continues.

Plateau govt dismisses fake 'commissioner'

JOS—THE Plateau Government has dismissed the officer, who posed as a fake commissioner and drew salaries and entitlements for that office for "quite some time."

Mr Yakubu Jang, Special Adviser to Plateau Governor on Special Duties, confirmed this to News Agency of Nigeria in Jos yesterday.

He said: "We discovered the officer that claimed to be a commissioner and dismissed him from service after a thorough investigation."

"We took him through the civil service disciplinary procedure and showed him the way out," said Jang, who is also the Chairman, Biometric Data Capture Committee.

He said that the Ministry of Justice had been directed to prosecute the dismissed officer.

The special adviser described the situation as "very scary," and expressed surprise that an officer could engage in that high level of criminality.

Jang said that other officers involved in that incident were still being investigated to ascertain the

