

National News

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Veteran journalist shot dead

Joe Nam was shot dead at night by a gunman at his verandah.

BY ANDREW BAGALA

A veteran journalist, Joe Nam, has been shot dead by an unidentified gunman at the verandah of his home in a Kampala City suburb.

Nam, 55, a former journalist for the *New Vision* newspaper was shot in the head and thigh at around 1am at Kawanda Central, Nabweru Division in Wakiso District on Sunday.

The masked gunman, who had a pistol, made off with the deceased's mobile phone.

The Kampala Metropolitan Police deputy spokesman, Mr Luke Owoyesigire, said: "Preliminary information indicates that an unidentified armed assailant shot and killed him. The suspect, who was masked, fled the scene immediately after the incident."

Mr Owoyesigire said the police teams are on the ground to document the crime scene and get evidence that would help them track down the killers.

"The body has also been taken to the mortuary at Mulago Hospital for a post mortem as part of the investigations. The other teams are on ground to es-



Joe Nam, former New Vision reporter. PHOTO/FILE

tablish circumstances surrounding the incident and what could be the motive for the shooting," he said.

Nam was a renowned journalist, who covered beats of business, environment and politics.

Since his retirement from active journalism, he has been carrying out consultancy work and book writing.

He authored a book titled: *The Day Museveni Goes*, which focused on the transition from President Museveni to another leader.

Mr George Opiyo, the brother-in-law of the deceased, said Nam often sat at his verandah at midnight to pray and did the same on the fateful day.

"When he was outside, he called his sister twice to come outside but before she would step outside, she heard him talking to someone, pleading, 'don't do that. The angels are seeing you seeing'," Mr Opiyo said.

The next thing she heard were two gunshots ringing outside.

She ducked then rushed to the door to see what had happened.

Before she could touch the door, the gunman rushed inside the house, and put her at gunpoint.

"The gunman asked me whether I was the only person in the house and I responded that I was alone. He held me hostage for a few minutes and then exited the house," she said.

Although several laptops and mobile phones were on the table in full view of the suspect, he didn't take any or demand for money before he left.

The deceased's son, who was in his bedroom, tried to intervene, but he was restrained by the aunt for fear that he would also be targeted.

They made an alarm inside the house that attracted the help of the neigh-

bours. When they finally stepped out of the house, they found Nam laying in a pool of blood.

Police were informed and the first team arrived at 3am, the deceased's relative said.

They picked the body and left.

A second police team arrived at 1pm which started asking about details of what really happened and also recorded statements, Nam's relatives said.

By press time, the police said they had not arrested any person in connection to the murder.

Nam is expected to be buried in Eceme in Oyam District, where he buried his father three months ago, on January 19, 2026.

WHO WAS NAM?

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