

## Bindiga (Dane Gun)

The sound of the *bindiga* (dane gun) at about 6 am on the day of Sallah, Hawan Nassarawa, Hawan Dorayi and Hawan Panisau is a call for horse riders to start preparation. During the Durbar procession the sound of the dane gun signifies the presence of the Emir in a particular location. For example when he comes out of the palace, the sound is heard at Kofar Nassarawa on his way, the sound is also heard at reasonable intervals and when he mounts his horse at open location for example at Government House and finally when he retires to his palace.



## Algaita

It is also used by other aristocrats but the messages, of the Emir's Algaita distinguishes it from those of other aristocrats. For example one of such messages is in mai laifi bai fa sa ba mai horo ba zai dai na ba (if the offender does not change the law enforcer will not abdicate his responsibility).



## Kakaki

Apart from its primary role as a praise singing instrument, the *Kakaki* (trumpet) which was invented in Kano, is also used as precautionary communication instrument. It conveys to the general public the presence of the Emir because it is never used by any aristocrat in the Emirate. It is one of the legacies of Sarkin Kano Muhammadu Rumfa. Some of the sounds of the *Kakaki* include:

Shafi bisa: there is object above the head

Gangare: there is a slope

Rauni bisa rama: slippery area

Ba sake ba manko aminci yafi ga linzami: Be careful not canter.









## **DURBAR (HAWAN SARKI)**

he Durbar (*Hawan Sarki*) could be traced to Sarkin Kano Muhammadu Rumfa the most important innovator in Kano history who laid the foundation of the most enduring institution of *Sarauta* (kingship which is sometimes referred to as aristocracy). In the pre-colonial period this procession could be categorized into two: the ceremonial and that of the war. Whenever there was an impending military expedition in which the Emir will participate, the *tambari*, (the biggest drum in the city) was beaten signaling the Emir's intention and all title holders and warriors were expected to get ready and come out. Later gun salute was used to signal the preparation for war or Sallah festival. This practice has been maintained up to this period.

The Emir usually dresses up in full war regalia depending on the time and nature of the Durbar. The regalia represent twin legacies of Muhammadu Rumfa and Ibrahim Dabo. The former is considered the founder of Kano Sarauta while the later is the founder of the Sullubawa Dynasty who, are currently holding the Emirship of Kano. During the Emirate period ,Sarkin Kano Abdullahi Maje Karofi son of Ibrahim Dabo expanded the Durbar into full blown military procession and he was reported to have had the most impressive procession and regalia (Ado-Kurawa 1989).















