

Sarkin Kano

Shehu Usman (1919-1926)

Shehu Usman participated actively in the civil war between the Yusufawa and the Tukurawa when he negotiated an alliance with the Ningawa (Fika 1978: 66). Sarkin Kano Abbas appointed him *Wambai* at the beginning of the British colonial rule (Lovejoy, Mahadi and Mukhtar 1993: 71). The British first appointed him regent after the death of his younger brother Sarki Abbas, later they confirmed him substantive Sarki in May 1919.

Shehu Usman appointed his sons, Abdullahi Maibindiga, Abubakar and Muhammad as *Wambai*, *Turaki* and *Tafida* respectively. *Wambai* Abdullahi Maibindiga died in 1343 AH (September 1924). This had a devastating effect on Sarkin Kano Shehu Usman who wanted Abdullahi Maibinga to succeed him. *Turaki* Abubakar was promoted to *Wambai*, and District Head of Kura, while *Tafida* Muhammadu was promoted to *Turaki* and Mahmud his younger brother was appointed *Tafida* and District Head of Ringim.

The airplane first landed at the present Kano Race Course during his reign. Prince Edward of England also visited Kano during this period. And a grand Durbar in which all the Northern Nigerian Emirs participated was held in his honor (East and Mani 1932: 57). The Emirate council chaired by Sarkin Kano Shehu Usman initiated many development projects.

The British colonial administration appointed a regency council to preside over the affairs of the Kano Emirate towards the end of his reign because of his ailing health. This was after the visit of Prince Edward when they observed the frailty of the Emir, who was unable to attend to some functions. The members of the regency council were *Waziri*, *Madaki* and *Sarkin Bai*. *Makama* Muhammadu Dahiru refused to be a member of the council because he felt his favorite uncle was being humiliated. *Madaki* Mahmud was recalled from Dawakin Tofa to serve in the council, as he was shrewder than the *Waziri*, he convinced the later to take up the Legal portfolio and leave the District Administration to him. This was beginning of the District Administration and as a result of this influential portfolio the *Madaki* became the Senior Councilor superseding the *Waziri* who retained the Legal Portfolio with the Alkalai (Area Court Judges) under his supervision. Sarkin Kano Shehu Usman died on April 26, 1926 (1344 AH) (Fika 1978: 274).

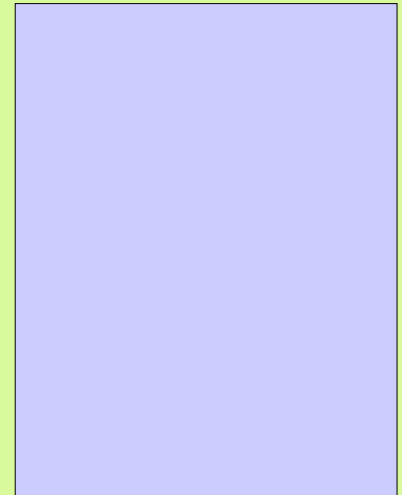
Wudil Old Bridge Constructed by KNA



Wamban Kano Abubakar

He was born in 1892. He had his Islamic under the guidance of the various contemporary notable scholars amongst such as Shaikh Abubakar Maijinyawa Bakin Ruwa who initiated him into the Tijjaniyya. He performed the Hajj pilgrimage in 1949.

Wambai Abubakar was first appointed Turakin Kano and District Head of Kura in 1919 by his father Sarkin Kano Shehu Usman. He was later promoted Wambai in 1924 after the death of his elder brother Wambai Abdullahi Maibindiga. He was retired from his position of District Head of Kura and Wamban Kano in 1959 and he went into transport business and Islamic scholarship. He died on the 27th of January 1964 at the same time with his younger brother Muhammad who was formerly *Turakin Kano*. The Tafidan Kano Alhaji Tijjani Abubakar is his son.



Tafidan Kano
Tijjani Abubakar
2000-

Tafidan Kano Alhaji Tijjani Abubakar

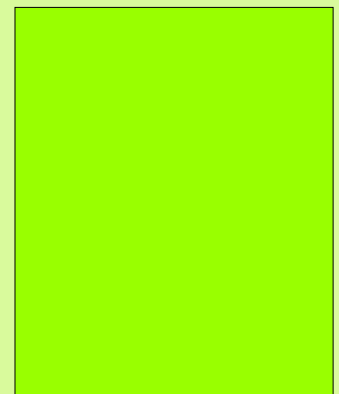
He was born in 1950. He attended Shahuchi Elementary School, Rano Senior Primary School, Sokoto Clerical School, and the Institute of Administration Ahmadu Bello University Zaria. He also attended a Diploma Course on Rural Development in the United Kingdom. He started his career in the Zaria Native Authority. Sarkin Kano Alhaji Ado Bayero transferred him to Kano as a staff officer and later deputy secretary. He transferred his services to the Federal Capital Development Authority as Deputy Secretary. He was appointed Dallatun Kano and District Head of Kumbotso in 1985. He was promoted to Dan Darman in

1985, Dan Maje and District Head of Kura in 1990, and Tafidan Kano and District Head of Kura in 2000.

Turakin Kano Muhammadu

He was born in Kano in 1894. He had sound Islamic education like some of his contemporaries. He was appointed *Tafidan Kano* and District Head of Ungogo by his father Sarkin Kano Shehu Usman in 1919. He was later promoted to Turakin Kano in 1924, when his elder brother Turaki Abubakar was promoted to Wambai after the death of their eldiest brother Wambai Abdullahi Maibindiga in September 1924.

Turaki Muhammadu was retired from his position of District Head of Ungogo and Turakin Kano in 1926. He devoted the rest of his life to Islamic Scholarship and farming. He was a follower of Shaykh Ibrahim Niass, he recieved his *Tijjaniyya* training from Shaykh Abubakar Mijinyawa Bakin Ruwa



who was the greatest disciple of Shaykh Ibrahim Niass. He performed the Hajj in 1947, thus he was among the first batch of pilgrims to travel by air. He visited Shaykh Ibrahim Niass in Kaolack in 1948 and his son Ali Harizimi accompanied him.

Turaki Muhammadu taught various Islamic subjects such as *Fiqh*, *Hisab*, *Nahawu* and *Tasawwuf*. Among his students were Mallam Hayatu of Gasgainu, Mallam Garba of Garji and his son Ali Harizimi who later gained a masters degree in Islamic studies from Bayero University. He died on the 27th of January 1964 at the same time with his elder brother Wambai Abubakar and their funeral prayer was held together.

Turakin Muhammad has written several scholarly papers one of the most popular ones is titled *Kitab khamsa al-Sual wa al-Jawab ala raf'a wa qabad fi al-Salat wa gairiha min al-Asila*. Printed and published in Kano in 1373 AH (April 1955).



Wamban Kano
Mahmudu Usman
1983-1989

Wamban Kano Mahmud Usman

He was born in Dabi in 1910. He studied the Qur'an in Dabi under Mallam Ibrahim Babarbare. He studied other Islamic subjects under Magajin Mallam Gaya and his son Mallam Tijjani. His elder brother Turaki Muhammad encouraged him to join the Tijjaniyya brotherhood. He wrote several poems in praise of the Prophet (peace and blessing be upon him) and Shaykh Ahmad Tijjani.

He was appointed Tafidan Kano and District Head of Dabi in 1924. Dabi District was created during the re-organisation of the Native Authority Administration, which was completed in 1909. Wambai Shehu, Mahmud's father who later became Amir was the first District Head of Dabi.

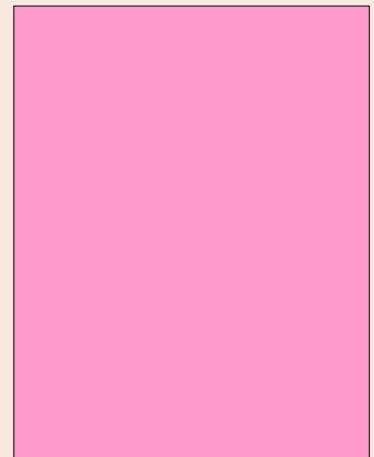
In 1926, the British Colonial resident of Kano advised the Emirate council to move Dabi District Headquarters from Dabi to Ringim which was more accessible because it had more space for urban expansion and the railway line was about to reach it. Most of the development in Ringim was made during the tenure of Wambai Mahmud as the District Head, which lasted for sixty-two years. He was a member of the Kano Emirate Council from 1963 to 1969. He was transferred from Ringim to Gwaram in 1979 and in 1983 was transferred back to Ringim with a higher title of Wamban Kano. He was a learned scholar and he wrote *Amr fayd al-khatm al-Tijani* and *Qasida fi l-hajj wa'l-ziyara* .

Wambai Mahmud travelled widely. He first went on Hajj Pilgrimage in 1950 and he performed the *Umra* (lesser Hajj) more than twenty times. He also visited Britain on a British Council tour in July 1957. He was given the Kano State Merit Award posthumously in 1991. He died on the 28th of April 1989 in Ringim and he was buried there.

Galadiman Ringim Sarki Usman

He was born in Kano in 1926. He had his Qur'anic education in Ringim under the guidance of Mallam Musa chief Imam of Ringim and he studied other Islamic subjects with Mallam Kano also of Ringim. He attended Ringim Elementary School 1936 to 1939 and Kano Middle School 1939 to 1944.

Sarki Usman was a clerk Kano Native Authority Administration from 1944 to 1952. He joined the Nigeria Tobacco Company (NTC) as a



Sales Supervisor in 1952 and in 1961 he became a Distributor of NTC for Kano City. He was appointed a Member of the Kano North Central Administrative Council and Councilor for Health Kano Local Government in 1969 after the resignation of his father from the Kano Emirate Council. He also had to relinquish his NTC Distributorship in 1970 because of the fulltime nature of his Councillorship. With the creation of new Local Government Councils in 1976, he was appointed Councilor in the newly created Ringim Local Government he held that position until 1979.

Sarki Usman was a member of: Kano State Sports Council from 1974 to 1976, Kano State Rural Development Agency 1976 to 1978 and Kano State Scholarships Board 1970 to 1979. He was Managing Director of Usman Memorial Hotel since its establishment in 1965. He was turbaned Galadiman Ringim and District Head of Taura in 1991. He has travelled to several countries of the World such as Saudi Arabia for Hajj and Umra, which he performed more than sixteen times and Japan where he attended the Expo of 1970.

Sarkin Ringim

Alhaji Saiyadi Mahmud (Hon. LL.D)

He was born in Kano City in 1928. He attended Quranic School, Ringim Elementary School (from 1940 to 1942) and Kano Middle School (from 1942 to 1946). He was a School Teacher from 1946 to 1963 when he became Senior Scribe of his father the District of Ringim.

He was appointed the acting District Head of Ringim in 1963. He held that position up to 1989 when he was appointed Dan Majen Kano and substantive District Head of Ringim a few days after the death of his father the Wamban Kano Alhaji Mahmud. He was promoted to the title of Tafidan Kano in 1990. When Jigawa state was created two new Emirates of Ringim and Dutse were created

from the former Districts of Kano Emirate that became part of Jigawa. Alhaji Saiyadi was thus appointed the first, First Class Emir of Ringim in 1991.

Alhaji Saiyadi has actively participated in cooperative service from 1952 when he was elected Secretary of Ringim cooperative farmers society to 1990 when he was elected President of the National Cooperative Wholesale Association and first Vice President of Nigerian Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Organisation. Over this period he has held the following positions in the Cooperative service: Chairman Ringim Tobacco Farmers Society (1960), President Care Taker Committee of Kano Cooperative Union Ltd (1965), President of Kano Cooperative Federation Ltd (1968), Chairman Tobacco Farmers Society Kano (1968), President Kano State Thrift and Loan Society (1969), Director Kano Cooperative Bank Ltd (1976), First Vice President Cooperative Federation of Nigeria (1969), Director Nigerian National Supply Company Ltd representing Cooperatives (1975), President National Cooperative Union of Nigeria Ltd (1976), President National Cooperative Insurance Society of Nigeria Ltd (1977), Director Nigerian Agricultural and Cooperative Bank Ltd representing Cooperatives (1982), Director National Advisory Council for Cooperative Development in Nigeria (1983), Director of Africa Cooperative Saving and Credit Association (ACOSCA) Representing West African English Speaking Countries (1978), Chairman of Africa Cooperative Saving and Credit Association (ACOSCA) (1982), Director World Council of Credit Union (WOCCU) representing Africa (1980), Director International Cooperative Alliance ICA (1980), Member Executive Committee of Agriculture and Fisheries of ICA (1980) and Director and Muslim Coordinator of for Africa, of the International Working Group of Human Development through Credit Union.

He was a member of the Parliament of the Federal Republic of Nigeria during the First Republic from 1959 to 1966. He was appointed the first Chancellor of Delta State University, Abraka in 1993



by the Visitor of the University, His Excellency Olorogun Felix Ibru the first Civilian Governor of Delta State. And he was conferred with the Honorary Doctor of Law degree of the University in recognition of his national, continental and international services especially in the area of cooperative development.