

Suspected killer of Benue hunters' chief, wife gunned down

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By John Charles

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The police in Benue State have killed a suspected assassin identified simply as Saater.

This was disclosed in a statement issued Sunday night by the spokesperson for state police command, DSP Udeme Edet.

Edet said the suspected assassin/armed robber who had been on the command's wanted list was killed on Saturday at the time he was planning for another attack.

According to the statement, the suspect sneaked into Makurdi but was intercepted by a team of policemen working on intelligence report.

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The statement read partly, “However, on October 18, 2025, credible intelligence revealed that the suspect had clandestinely returned to Makurdi with plans to carry out further attacks.

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“Acting swiftly on this information, a team of detectives was deployed to apprehend him around George Akume Way, Makurdi. Upon sighting the operatives, the suspect opened fire on them. The police responded appropriately and succeeded in subduing and arresting him.

“During the encounter, the suspect sustained gunshot injuries and was immediately taken to the Benue State University Teaching Hospital for treatment, where he was later confirmed dead. His corpse has since been deposited at the hospital morgue.”

The command spokesperson said that the deceased was suspected to have been involved in the assassination of the Hunters’ Commander, Mr Aondoakaa Yayol and his wife, Mrs Kashimana Yayol, in Wannune, headquarters of Tarka Local Government Area of the state on June 20, 2025 and February 11, 2023 respectively.

The PPRO said that the state Commissioner of Police, Ifeanyi Emenari, advised residents to desist from criminal activities and to promptly report any suspicious person or movement to the nearest police station or any other security agency within their vicinity.

She further assured the command’s commitment to ensuring the safety and security of all residents of the state.