

Ex-Anambra lawmaker beheaded after N15m ransom

**From Titus
Eleweke, Awka**

The headless body of a former member of the Anambra State House of Assembly, Hon Nelson Emeka Achukwu, has been discovered two weeks after he was abducted from his residence in Ukpok, Nnewi South Local Government Area of Anambra State.

A family member said they did not believe that he would be killed after a N15 million ransom was paid to his abductors.

The corpse of Achukwu alias Ogbatuluenyi was discovered by his relatives on the bank of Uliasi River between Uke and Ukpok.

The gruesome act was committed weeks after the murder of Okechukwu Okoye, a lawmaker who represented Aguata North, Governor Charles Soludo's constituency, at the House of Assembly.

A family source said Achukwu's decapitated body was interred Tuesday because it had

started decomposing. The deceased was popular during the administration of Chris Ngige as governor of the state.

Daily Trust gathered that gunmen had earlier abducted and released him a few months ago.

After he regained freedom, he reportedly told his family members that the gunmen accused him of providing information to the military.

When contacted, the spokesman of the police in Anambra State, DSP Ikenga Tochukwu, confirmed the murder of Achukwu.

He said, "The victim was abducted at about 10pm in his house on June 9, and efforts were made to rescue him before this unfortunate development. His body was found on the boundary of Uke and Ukpok.

"We are still not relenting in our investigation as we will ensure that the culprits face the full wrath of the law."