

Gunmen kill Kogi PenCom chief, abduct LG boss

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Gunmen have killed a permanent member of the Kogi State Pensions Commission, Chief Solomon Adebayo, and kidnapped the Chairman of Yagba West Local Council, Chief Pius Kolawole.

Adebayo and Kolawole were returning to Yagba West from Ilorin in the same vehicle, alongside Adebayo's son, the driver and a police orderly, when gunmen appeared from either sides of the road and opened fire on them.

When The Guardian visited Egbe Police station in Kogi, the bus was seen riddled with bullets and surrounded by sympathisers. The incident reportedly occurred between the border towns of Eruku, Kwara State, and Egbe.

A witness said Adebayo might have died instantly of bullet wounds, while his driver, also with bullet wounds, managed to escape with the car.

The whereabouts of the council boss was unknown. But official in charge of Department of Security (DSO), Yagba West, Emmanuel Afolabi, disclosed yesterday that the council boss was hail and hearty in the hands of kidnappers. Kogi police spokesman, William Ayah, said investigation would be carried out to arrest the assailants.

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Addressing newsmen shortly after their meeting at Arugangu, the chairman, Sanwo-Olu Wasagu, said that governments failed to give the youth sense of belonging, hence the killings.

“People are jobless. We have graduates and no work. Government should consider the youths as their own sons who will be the leaders of tomorrow,” he said.

He added that Kebbi youths were ready to choose a good leader in 2023, who is willing to take the people of the state to the ‘promised land’ and ready to work with the youth.

MEANWHILE, an Islamic organisation, Jama’atu Izalatil Bid’ah Wa’ikamatis Sunnah (JIBWIS) has described the allegation against the Minister of Communication and Digital Economy, Dr. Isa Pantami, as an attempt targeted at President Muhammadu Buhari.

The organisation defended the Minister over the alleged link to Al-Qaeda. It pleaded with the Federal Government to take action against persons of questionable character bent on seeing the country disintegrate.

Bauchi State Chairman of JIBWIS, Garba Hassan, stated at the weekend: “We call on the Federal Government and security agencies to double their efforts in confronting security challenges facing the country. Issues having to do with intelligence gathering should be accorded serious attention.”



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