ljaw chief, four others killedKinsmen protest

By Shola O'Neil 24/12/2011 00:22:00

The Ijaws of Gbaramatu and other kingdoms in Delta State have asked the federal and state governments for permission to bear arms to defend themselves following growing insecurity in Warri and environs.

The demand followed the gruesome murder of Chief Emmanuel Timiyan, a prominent Ijaw chief and elder brother to King Joseph Timiyan of the oil-rich Ogulagha Kingdom.

Timiyan was shot dead in Warri on Thursday afternoon by a gang of gun-totting youths, who trailed him from a new generation bank at Okumagba Avenue by total filling station.

Addressing Ijaw protesters yesterday, Chief Alfred Bubor, the Fiowei of Gbaramatu, said since the federal and state governments have failed in the provision of security, his kinsmen want to take their destinies in their own hands.

He hinted that Ijaw youths would do a better job of securing their kinsmen than the police and soldiers on the street.

Bubor, who spoke at the residence of the late Timiyan, said over four of their kinsmen were killed on their way from the bank within the past one week.

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Earlier, scores of Ijaw youths took over part of the New Layout Effurun to protest Timiyan's death. They accused officials of some banks (names withheld) of supplying robbers with information.

They also carried placards denouncing security agencies' perceived failure to tackle the security challenges in the state.

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