

One killed as gunmen abduct Ijaw musician

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Gunmen yesterday abducted a popular Ijaw musician Pereama Freetown at Polako community in Yenagoa Local Government Area of Bayelsa State.

It was gathered that before Freetown was seized, the gunmen also killed a resident, Ebikabowei Mbu, and injured a few others, whose identities could not be ascertained last night.

The incident reportedly occurred at 3am during a wake.

The hoodlums were said to have opened fire on the people, forcing everyone to scamper for safety. A source, who spoke in confidence, said the gunmen came on a speedboat through the Polako River.

He said: “They came, seized the musician and opened fire in the area. People ran to different directions. Many people were injured.

“Two persons, a male and a female, lay on the ground after being hit by bullets. One, the male, was confirmed dead on the spot but the female, whom we thought was dead, later regained consciousness. It was a terrible experience.”

Police spokesman Butswat Asanim, an Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP), confirmed the incident.

He said: “On November 15, at 03.00 hours, some gunmen invaded Polako Community in Yenagoa Local Government Area and abducted Pereama Freetown, a popular musician.

“While escaping with the victim, the unknown gunmen shot sporadically, killing one Ebikabowei Umbu (M), 37 years.

“They escaped through the Polako River to an unknown place. The Marine Police, Anti-Kidnapping Unit and Operation Pulo Shield are searching for the victim and on the trail of the suspects.”

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