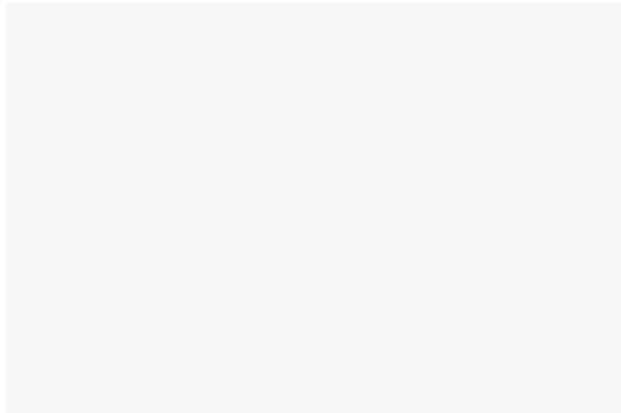


Bayelsa monarch dies after abductors free him

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From Mike Odiegwu, Yenagoa

Weeks after regaining freedom from his kidnappers, the monarch of Tarakiri clan, Southern Ijaw Local Government Area of Bayelsa State, HRM King George Week, has passed on.

It was gathered that the 81-year-old traditional ruler and father of the Commissioner for Agriculture, Prince Doodei Week, died of the torture and psychological trauma he suffered in the hands of his abductors.

The monarch was kidnapped from his palace on October 2 by gunmen during the build-up to the November

16 governorship election, but was released on October 27, about 25 days after the incident.

The Social Media Aide to the Commissioner, Mr. Elaye Yagila, in a brief citation on the life of the monarch, blamed his death on the kidnappers.

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Narrating the circumstances that led to his death, he said: “King George Agbabou Week’s journey to the great beyond started on October 2, about 12:45am, when armed men abducted the late monarch.

“He was taken away from his country home, Anyama-ljaw, to unknown destination almost naked after thoroughly ransacking the house, torturing his wife and children. They made away with belongings worth millions of Naira alongside a 200hp speed boat at the waterside belonging to his son, Prince Doodei, who is the Commissioner for Agriculture and Natural Resources.

“On October 27, exactly 25 days after the incident, the monarch regained freedom from the kidnappers. He was admitted at Government Specialist

Hospital following the torture he received from the kidnappers and was later moved to the Family Care Clinic located at Bayelsa Palm Road, Yenagoa for treatment.

“He died on Sunday. The doctor, who confirmed his death in confidence, said the monarch died as a result of psychological depression.”



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