

THIS WEEK
In the statement made available to newsmen in

expected, but they want to award them. It is disheart-

of the university, Mr Deji Alesinloye, said "the PDP

the state fund would not go unpunished."

Gunmen murder Bakassi traditional ruler

UBONG ANTHONY - CALABAR

UNKNOWN gunmen believed to be hired assassins last Thursday, invaded the residence of the **Muri** of Efut Esighi Isu Ekom, in Bakassi Local Government Area of Cross River State, Muri Okon Effiong Odi-onka and killed him.

Mrs Sarah Okon Effiong, wife to the late traditional ruler, who disclosed this to newsmen in Calabar, on Tuesday, said her husband left Esighi Village in

Bakassi, on Thursday last week to Calabar, only to be assassinated same day in his residence at Bayside axis of Calabar.

In an emotion laden voice, she said: "I was in the village that day but at about 11.30 p.m, my son called through my mobile line to inform me that my husband has been killed. They killers, who were about six, came with his photograph, traced him to his bedroom where they tight him to a cushion

chair, killed him and then cut his head into pieces.

"Before they killed him, they put a call through to someone, who probably sent them, to confirm whether my husband was actually the one they were sent for and the person answered in the affirmative after which they killed him."

Sarah, however, blamed the death of her husband on some family members who had, few months ago, accused her husband and

some elders of killing one of their relatives, Benjamin Etim, through witchcraft power.

Also speaking, Mr Odi-onka Okon Effiong, second son to the slain **Muri**, said the body of his father was deposited that night at the mortuary of the General Hospital, Calabar, by a Police team from Atakpa Division, who arrived the scene of the crime few hours after the killers had fled.