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The Synod had in attendance the state governor, Senator Ibikunle Amosun;

tun Gbadebo and the Olori Parakoyi of Egbaland, Chief Kashimawo Laloko.

Gunmen kill ex-Katsina-Ala LG boss

JOHNSON BABAJIDE -MAKURDI

GUNMEN at the weekend, snuffed life out of a former Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) chairman of Katsina Ala Local Government Area, Honourable Lumunnege Zegeguve.

The incident was said to have occurred at Tiir area in Katsina-Ala, when heavily armed men numbering about five stormed the residence of the deceased at about 5.p.m and shot sporadically until they shot their target at close range, who was said to have

died instantly.

Katsina-Ala located at the northern part of Benue State, has in recent times, witnessed high rate of criminal activities, including the killing of a police officer, Baba Ibrahim, who was on a special mission from the force headquarters, Abuja, to investigate the case of cattle rustling in the area.

Also, in the last few months, no fewer than three persons including the Provost of the College of Education, Katsina-Ala, Dr Hens Sewua, was kidnapped by gunmen but later released.

Benue State Police Public Relations Officer, ASP Austin Amaechi, who confirmed the killing of the ex -PDP chairman, said the incident occurred about 5.p.m, describing it as a case of criminality conspiracy.

The PPRO stated further that the gunmen who were five in number, were heavily armed, adding that they fled after shooting the party chieftain, but a relative of his, Orshee Tete Zegeguve was unlucky as the police arrested him.

The people also said the governor promised to look into the issues as soon as he was re-elected into office.

The statement enumerated such problems as harmonisation of monthly pension increase, which it said, had culminated in public service salary increase of 2010, with financial cost standing at almost N16 million per month, total liquidation of backlog of gratuity which its payment stagnated at September 2008 and request for the increaseof monthly subvention from the present N50 million to N200 million to the local government pension board per month for the payment of gratuity, among others.

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