

Aides to former Gov Jang killed, two others kidnapped

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Former Plateau state Governor, Jonah Jang

Ex-Senior Special Assistant to the former Governor Jonah Jang representing South-South in Plateau State Elder Sunny Iyere has been killed by Kidnappers along Abuja–Kafanchan highway while two others on transit with him were kidnapped and held hostages.

Tribune Online learnt that the former Special Assistant was travelling from Abuja to Jos on Tuesday in his Toyota Land Cruiser with other occupants when the vehicle was walleysed by the Kidnappers numbering about eight at Kafanchan forest in Kaduna State.

It was gathered that in an attempt to force the vehicle which was on a high speed to a stop, the kidnapper released volley of gunshots on the car while one of the bullets hit Iyere who was behind the wheel on the fore head thereby forcing the vehicle to stop while the marauders swopped on them.

One of the escapees further narrated that the three occupants were dragged out of the vehicle and beaten to the point of coma adding that while they were being dragged into the bush the kidnappers discovered that Iyere was bleeding profusely and abandoned beside his car where he died while the others were dragged into the bush.

A family member of the deceased who did not want his name in print told **Tribune Online** that Iyere along with his friend left Jos for Abuja on Monday on business but were on their way back to Jos on Tuesday when the unfortunate incident happened, adding that the deceased had earlier before taken off in Abuja notified his wife of his intention to take off and told her to ensure that his dinner was ready before his arrival.

According to the relation, when it was about 11:00 pm, the wife called her husband but the phone was switched off only for somebody to call thirty minutes after to tell her that the husband was in the hospital adding that the sad news was later broken to another relation who the wife notified of the incident.

Meanwhile, the two kidnapped were set free on Friday (3 days from the event) at about 3:00 am at a village along Abuja to Kaduna road and had since reunited with thier family in Jos. When **Tribune Online** visited the resident of one of them in Dadin Kowa area of Jos, it was full of people who came to rejoice with the family while none of the relation was willing to comment on the incident.

When contacted the Plateau State Police Public Relation Officer, ASP Terna Tyopev said the command was not aware of the incident.

“If the incident happened in Kafanchan which is part of Kaduna state, we may not have the detail or the information, nevertheless I will find out. You can call me later,” he said.

However, the leader of the South-South Community in Plateau State Barrister Smart Irabor described the death of Elder Iyere as a terrible loss adding that the police are still investigating the circumstances surrounding his death and why he was shot.