

# Gunmen kill Kaduna PDP councillorship candidate, brother

Muhammad Sabiu | Kaduna

**T**HE Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) councillorship candidate in Pari Ward of Kauru Local Government Area of Kaduna State, Mr Raymond Timothy, and his brother, James, have been killed by unknown gunmen.

While confirming the incident, a PDP chieftain in the local government area, Barnabas Chawai, said the brothers were killed on Sunday while returning from a political campaign in Kizachi village of Pari Ward.

"They were shot and killed on their motorcycle," Chawai said, alleging that the killing could be politically-motivated.

He called on security agencies to find the perpetrators and bring them to book, saying "drastic measures need to be put in place to forestall further occurrence as we approach the October 19 local government poll.

The victim left three children and the wife is expecting a fourth child," he said.

Secretary to the village head of Kizachi, John Waneh, said they were together with the victim at about 6:00p.m. and parted ways for him to return home to Bakin-Kogi.

"It was not more than 10 to 15 minutes when we parted ways that we heard gunshots around some guinea corn farms. Honestly, we cannot say those behind the crime or say the killing is connected to politics or not. We are appealing to the government to help construct a bridge and road for easy accessibility in an emergency.

"Security operatives cannot enter the village now because of the bad road and there's a river which they cannot cross; that has been our situation in the area for long," he said.

While the Kaduna State police command is yet to react to the incident, the Senator

representing Southern Kaduna Senatorial District, who is also a chieftain of the PDP, Sunday Marshall Katung, however, condemned the killing of the brothers.

In a statement issued on Monday, Katung stated that he received the report of the killing with sadness.

"I am saddened and appalled by this barbarity, which I condemn in its entirety. This ugly type of politics has no place in a civilised society like ours. It is unacceptable and must be rejected by all lovers of peace.

"The government's primary responsibility is the security and welfare of its people; consequently, I wish to once again reiterate my previous call on the government of Kaduna State to thoroughly investigate and address these recurrent security challenges in our state, especially in Kauru Local Government Area to ensure that our citizens are well protected."