

Retired army Major dies in kidnappers' den after N10m ransom payment in Kogi

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A retired army Major, Joe Ajayi, who was kidnapped at his residence in Odo-Ape, Kabba-Bunu Local Government Area of Kogi State few weeks ago, has died in the kidnappers' den despite the N10 million ransom paid to secure his release.

Major Ajayi (retd) was kidnapped on Wednesday, May 21, from his residence around 11:30p.m. by gunmen who shot sporadically.

It was gathered that the initial demand of N50 million ransom by the abductors lingered for long when the

family could not pay and this resulted in his health deteriorating, as he had no means to get his medication.

It was gathered that the kidnappers informed the family that their plea for his medication to be forwarded to him would come at an extra cost, a concession that couldn't be met by the family.

However, as soon as the abductors discovered that Ajayi couldn't survive, they reduced the ransom to N10 million.

A source in the community said the Ajayi family, believing he was still alive, quickly agreed to pay the N10 million

for his release.

"Once the ransom was paid, the kidnappers directed the family to where they would find him, only for them to meet his lifeless body."

The retired army officer's remains had been deposited at the Kabba Specialist Hospital mortuary.

Kidnapping has surged in the state for a while now, with the abduction of a first-class monarch, Oba James Dada Ogunyanda, the Oba Okoloke in Yagba West Local Government Area, who was in the same way abducted from his home in early May. He's yet to be released either.