

## Gunman kills prominent monarch in Rivers

### IBANGA ISINE

morning that we heard a gun shot from the palace. It was only one shot and before we know, people started shouting.

"We learnt that Nweali was somewhere inside the palace when he was shot by an unknown person.

Immediately after the shot was fired, people rushed to the scene and saw the chief in his pool of blood.

"Nobody knows what happened and how the killer entered and escaped the palace without being noticed."

When contacted, the state Police Commissioner, Mr.

Bala Hassan, confirmed the assassination of the monarch.

Hassan, who said he visited the scene of the crime, noted that two assistant commissioners of police from the command had been assigned to investigate the killing.

From information made available to him, the police

boss said the monarch was killed at about 7.30 am within the palace grounds.

He said the slain chief might have gone outside to take fresh air when the assailant confronted and shot him.

He said, "It is true that the traditional ruler of Akpor was assassinated early this morning in Port Harcourt. I

was at the palace to see what happened.

"As I speak, we have commenced investigation on the matter and two assistant commissioners of police are detailed to comb the entire palace grounds.

"We strongly suspected an insider job. We suspect that the assassin and the gun used might still be inside the palace. The monarch might have seen and known the person who killed him."