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OCTOBER 12, 2014 BY SIMON UTEBOR 0 COMMENTS



Gunmen on Friday evening killed the Executive Secretary of Bayelsa State Independent Electoral Commission, Mr. Simon Akpen, in Yenagoa, the state capital.

It was learnt that his assailants shot him in the head as he alighted from his car near his residence off Otio Road about 10pm.

Sources said Akpen, who was from Ofoni in Sagbama Local Government Area of the state reportedly died on the spot.

The armed men were said to have fled the scene of the crime without collecting any valuable from their victim.

Last week, the state government, after its 21st State Security Council Meeting in Yenagoa, had said it was making concerted efforts to tackle criminal acts such as sea piracy, thuggery and brigandage ahead of the 2015 general elections.

Governor Seriake Dickson had vowed during the opening of the meeting that the days of militias and gun-running were over, stressing that the institutions of state would not succumb to partisanship and undue pressure.

Commissioner of Police in the state, Valentine Ntomchukwu, confirmed the killing of the BYSIEC high ranking official.

Ntomchukwu suspected it might be a case of assassination as the hoodlums did not remove any of his valuables.

"In my opinion, it may be a case of assassination because they didn't take anything away after killing him," the police boss noted.

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