

# Gunmen kill hunter commander in Benue

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Gunmen

| By John Charles

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The Commander of Nigeria Hunters and Forest Security Services in Tarka Local Government Area of Benue State, Aondoakaa Yaiyol, has been killed by gunmen.

*Sunday PUNCH* gathered that the gunmen stormed Yaiyol's residence at Wannune, headquarters of Tarka LG on Friday night.

The former Chairman of the Peoples Democratic Party was reportedly shot at close range by the assailants who operated on motorcycles.

It was gathered that the deceased lost his wife last year in the same circumstances, and his house was burnt.

The PDP state Publicity Secretary, Tim Nyior, confirmed Yaiyol's death to our correspondent on Saturday.

Nyior said, "It is true that the man was once PDP chairman in Tarka LGA before his current position as commander of the Nigeria Hunters and Forest Security Services in Tarka. Unfortunately, his wife was killed just last year.

Also confirming the incident on Saturday, the Special Adviser to Governor Hyacinth Alia on Security and Internal Affairs, Joseph Har, described it as an 'assassination'.

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Har said, “It was an assassination of the commander of the Nigeria Hunters and Forest Security Services, Aondoakaa Yaiyol. They (gunmen) came on a bike and shot him at close quarters and fled.

“After they shot the guy, they fired sporadically to scare others and then fled on a bike, and they were shielded by two cars also firing sporadically to scare away people.

“Sketchy investigation shows that a criminal who attacked and killed the deceased wife and burnt the house was sent to prison. On his return, both of them were chasing each other until this happened.”

When contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer, Udeme Edet, said that police were on the trail of the suspect.

“Immediately, police in Tarka received the report, a team of officers was detailed to arrest him (the killer), and they trailed him to his hideout, but he escaped before officers could reach there.

Edet assured that the suspect would soon be apprehended.