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Ikpe, PDP Women Leader, Killed

From Okon Bassey in Uyo, 03.02.2009

<< back

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Akwa Ibom

Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in Akwa Ibom State has been thrown into mourning, following the murder of its Women Leader, Lady Maria Ikpe, by unknown gunmen.

The deceased, who until her death, led women in Uyo Senatorial District, was reportedly assassinated in a kidnap attempt at her residence in Uyo, Akwa Ibom State capital.

Ikpe survived similar attack on her last December, after she was shot on the head.

She was not so lucky at the second attempt on her life, as the assassins said to have numbered about five, killed her outrightly when she resisted their attempt to kidnap her.

Although no arrest had been made, some people are alleging that the murder might be politically-motivated, as she was said to be very powerful within the party and the community.

Reacting, the state government expressed shock over the murder and condemned it, calling on the police and other security agencies to do all to bring the culprits to book.

Also commenting on the killing, National Council of Women Society (NCWS) in the state charged government to constitute a high powered investigation into the murder.

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