

Borno ANPP Chairman Killed in Suspected Boko Haram Attack

The resurgence of attack by gun-wielding members of the dreaded Boko Haram sect on Wednesday in Maiduguri, Borno State recorded a major casualty: immediate past chairman of the All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) in the state, Alhaji Awana Ali-Ngala.

He was killed in his Maiduguri residence.

Ali-Ngala is also an in-law of the state Governor Ali Modu Sheriff.

Alhaji Mohammed Imam, who was the state chairman of the same party, had escaped been assassinated four year ago in the build-up to the 2007 polls.

The killing of Ali-Ngala who is currently the National vice-chairman, North-East of the ANPP by unknown gunmen came barely three hours after two security men attached to the residence of the Speaker of the state House of Assembly, Hon. Goni Ali Modu, were shot by suspected members of the religious fundamentalists, Boko Haram.

Top politicians in the state said Ngala had been favoured to succeed his kinsman and brother-in-law, Senator Sheriff, as the next governor of the state.

He was trailed by the assassins on motorcycle at about 8pm on Wednesday.

Sources said the slain party chieftain thought those that were trailing him would leave his trail on getting to his residence but was surprised to see them emerge to point the rifle at him.

According to the source, he was led to his sitting room and shot several times with the assailant shooting sporadically into the air to pave the way for their escape.

Barely three hours before the killing of the ANPP chieftain, some unknown assassins

*From Michael Olugbode
in Maiduguri*

shot and wounded one police sergeant, Isa Omale, and a corporal of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defense Corps (NSCDC), Hussaini Iliya, both attached to the Speaker of the state House of Assembly.

It was gathered that the attack occurred at about 5p.m.

Speaking in an interview with journalists on the incidents, Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Borno State Command, ASP Mai Mamman, said the former state chairman of the ANPP was shot by unknown gunmen at his residence in Simari Ward of Maiduguri around 8pm when the gunmen gained access to his house.

Mamman said after killing

him, the gunmen went away with four handsets and swiftly left without taking any other thing.

He said immediately after the incident, the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) in charge of Gwange, Zakari Yau, mobilized his men to the scene, only to find the victim in the pool of his blood.

On the other incident, he said the two officers were accosted by two men who came on a motorcycle.

They shot with a pistol at close range and carried away the policeman's AK47 rifle with 30 rounds of ammunition.

The PPRO revealed that three bullets were extracted from Sergeant Omale's body, while the NSCDC officer sustained some injuries at the back of his neck, adding that

they were now responding to treatments at the University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital (UMTH).

When asked on whether the killings were politically motivated, the PPRO said he could not tell as he is not a politician, but that investigations were on.

Barely two weeks ago, in a telephone interview with a correspondent of the *BBC Hausa Service* in Maiduguri, a man who claimed to be a chieftain of the outlawed Boko Haram sect claimed responsibility for the serial killings of police and traditional rulers in Borno.

Wednesday's murder of Ali-Ngala and attacks on a policeman and a civil defence corps brings to seven such incidents in the last three months in the state.

Aondoakaa Suspended from Using SAN Rank

From Tobi Soniyi in Abuja

Nigeria (SAN).

The committee took the decision at its meeting held yesterday in Abuja.

Disclosing this at a press conference, the Chief Registrar of the Supreme Court of Nigeria, Mr. Sunday Olorundahunsi, said the committee's decision was taken after due consideration of Aondoakaa's response to a petition written against him by the Committee for the Defence of Human Rights (CDHR).

He said: "The committee, after due consideration of the said response, has decided in its wisdom to suspend him from the use of the rank of Senior Advocate of Nigeria

and all other privileges attached to that rank pending the outcome of the investigation by the sub-committee set up by the Legal Practitioners Privileges Committee (LPPC)."

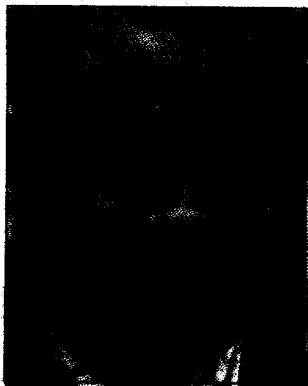
Olorundahunsi was not forthcoming with the details of the petition.

A Federal High Court had earlier banned Aondoakaa from holding public office.

He had also been banned from travelling to certain western countries.

Reacting to Aondoakaa's suspension, an Abuja-based lawyer, Mr. Kayode Ajulo, said that the legal profession had once again shown to the world that it is the most disciplined profession and that nobody is above the law.

The Legal Practitioners Privileges Committee (LPPC) has suspended former Attorney-General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Mr. Michael Aondoakaa, from using the rank of Senior Advocate of



•Aondoakaa