## Council Chairman Killed, 48 Hours after Being Sworn in

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Seriki Adinoyi in Jos

Newly-appointed transition committee chairman of Jos East local government Area of Plateau state, Mr. Hosea Azi, was yesterday killed in a ghastly along motor accident alongside his kidnappers near Keffi, along Abuja road as his abductors were escaping with him.

A source close to the deceased said he was kidnapped at Miango road, in Kufang, Jos South Local Government Area of the state, and as they escaped with him their car had an accident near Keffi in Nasarawa State, killing Azi and some of his abductors.

The state Police Public Relations Officer, Abuh Emmanuel confirmed the development, but added that he was waiting for detail information from the DPO in charge of the area. Another family source said two of the suspects, who suffered serious injuries in the accident, confessed to the crime while receiving treatment in an unnamed hospital.

The spokesman of the Special Task Force (STF) on Jos crisis, Capt Ikedichi Iweha, who also confirmed the incident, simply said the deceased died in an accident around Nasarawa State on his way to Abuja.

Azi was sworn in as the transition committee chairman of Jos East on Thursday by Governor Simon Lalong after he sacked Mr. Sanda Agwom Daura. The sacked council boss was one of those drafted last July to oversee Jos East LGA after the Governor dissolved the 17 council executives in the state.

Sources at the Jos East Council headquarters said Daura was a victim of internal wrangling and blackmail by other committee members in the council but Lalong during the swearing-in ceremony of the new council boss said his sack was in line with the yearnings of the people and the resolution of the House of Assembly as mandated by law.

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