

Gun Men Kill Owner of New NNL Team, Udala FC, Others

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Tragedy struck the Nigerian football scene again on Tuesday as the owner of

new Nigeria National League (NNL) team, Udala FC, Chief Philip Chinonso Udala, was killed by unknown gun men.

The amiable club owner was shot dead along with his Team Manager, Godsent Eriobu and others in his convoy.

General Manager of the team, Henry Chinye and Media Consultant, Ralph Chidozie George confirmed the killings of Udala and the others.

"It is with the deepest regret and a collective broken heart that we announce the untimely death of our President, High Chief Philip Chinonso Udala (Nwanweniteaku Idemili)," a press statement from the club read.

"Chief Udala tragically lost his life on Tuesday, July 13, 2021 when unknown gun men attacked his convoy killing him alongside our team's manager, Godsent Eriobu and others.

"The primary thoughts of everyone at the Club are with the Udala family at this period of unspeakable loss.

"As a family, the management, players and technical crew, we mourn his passing and hope to keep his vision for the team alive and make it his legacy.

"The football community in Anambra in particular and Nigeria in general have lost one of the most passionate men of the game.

"He was member of the Anambra State Football Association (ANSFA) Caretaker Committee that was set up by NFF to reposition football in the state in 2020.

"In February 2021, he sponsored the Udala Pre-season Tournament involving 8 teams from the South East and followed with Udala scouting programme involving another eight teams.

"Udala was a kind and generous man whose love for football was overflowing.

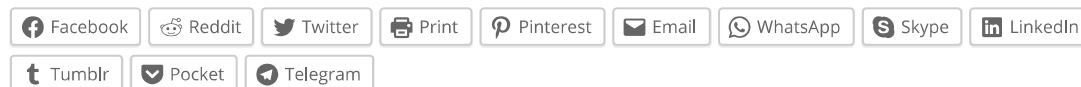
"Our Team Manager, Godsent Eriobu was truly God sent to the team as he was there from inception as a pioneer player and captain. He was also the Secretary of the Anambra Independent Football League (AIFL).

"At this difficult time we appreciate the support and solidarity of the football family.

"The funeral will be announced by his family," concludes the statement.

Udala FC of Uke in Anambra State is coached by David Gideon.

The club gained promotion to NNL from the the Imo centre of the NLO in 2021.

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