

IMO: Gunmen murder traditional ruler, dump body in market square

GUNMEN have murdered the traditional ruler of Atta ancient kingdom in the Njaba Local Government Area of Imo State, Edwin Azike.

His corpse was found at the market square in the community on Friday morning after he was abducted on Thursday.

A community source, who craved anonymity said that four persons were shot dead on Thursday in the community after the monarch was kidnapped.

The source said, "The traditional ruler of Atta ancient kingdom in the Njaba LGA, Eze Edwin Azike, has been murdered. His lifeless body was dumped at the market square and the villagers discovered it this morning. He was kidnapped on Thursday and thereafter, the community was invaded which led to the killing of four persons."

The chairman of Traditional Rulers Council/ Community Policing in the state, Eze Emma Okeke, said that the monarchs in the state were saddened by the killing of their colleague.

Describing the killing of Azike as an abomination, Okeke said that the council was on Friday morning informed of the killing of the traditional ruler.

He said, "We have got the sad news about the killing of Eze Edwin Azike. This is abominable in Igbo culture. I don't know why traditional rulers are being hunted like this. We are not politicians, we are only custodians of the culture of our people. We were informed on Thursday when he was kidnapped, only for him to be found dead, this morning."