Emir dethrones Katsina village head over alleged kidnap, rape

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The Emir of Daura in Katsina State, Alhaji Faruq Faruq has dethroned Iliya Mantau, the Village Head of Mantau in Yarmaulu, Baure Local Government Area of Katsina State, over allegations of involvement in the kidnapping and rape of a woman in the community.  
  
The Emir announced this on Monday following complaints from residents of Yarmaulu, which led to a youth-led protest last week.  
  
The Punch learnt that the protesting youths accused the dethroned village head, Iliya Mantau, and others of kidnapping Zulaihatu and her baby, and allegedly raped her after collecting N20m ransom.  
  
The incident caused a public uproar, especially as the Emirate delayed taking action for almost a year despite the matter being in court.  
  
While announcing the removal, the Emir of Daura reiterated that the Daura Emirate would not tolerate any form of abuse against the common people.  
  
He emphasised that the Emirate remains open to all citizens who wish to file complaints or report injustices.  
  
“If anyone feels wrong, even if it is my own child who is responsible, they should come forward and present their complaint to the Emirate. This is an Emirate of the people.  
  
“This Emirate has previously removed a traditional leader it had appointed, and even Sarki Abdurrahman once ordered the imprisonment of his own son over wrongdoing. That is why we will never condone the abuse of anyone”, the Emir declared.  
  
Effective from Monday, the Emir announced that Iliya Mantau ceases to be the Village Head of Mantau and a new representative will soon be appointed to ensure leadership based on justice and integrity.  
  
The Emir also warned the public against spreading unfounded rumours and encouraged them to continue abiding by the law and to channel their grievances through appropriate legal avenues.