

City Beats

June 22, 2026 by [Osagie Otabor, Benin](#)

Edo arrests 14 cult-suspects



A total of 14 suspected cultists have been arrested in Auchi, headquarters of Etsako West Local Government Area following last week's killing of a popular driver at Abiodun Motor Park, Jattu Junction.

The suspected cultists were arrested by officials of the Edo State Security Squad codenamed "Operation flush out Kidnappers and Cultists".

Governor Monday Okpebholo's order to track down the killers made security agencies to raid criminal hideouts in **Edo** North Senatorial District.

The team demolished Abiodun Motors Park and Nigeria Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW) park at Jattu Junction.

The Tripple J & J Hotel at Aviele, where the suspects were arrested, was sealed after it was learnt that the suspects moved from the hotel to kill their victim at the park.

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Spokesman for the squad, Eribo Ewanta, said the squad moved to Igbira Camp area of Auchi to arrest the prime suspects, Anefi Kassim, but he has already fled.

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Ewanta said a member of the ESSC, Idris Mustapha, was also fingered during investigation.

According to him, “We are here today and have arrested some suspects connected to the killing and they are helping security agencies with useful information that will help in further arrest of all others at large including the mastermind of the killing.

“Governor Monday Okpebholo’s administration will not allow any form of criminality in Edo State as criminals will no longer be safe operating in the State.

“The parks at Jettu junction where the young man was killed have been demolished because they are operating and collecting revenue which has been banned by the Okpebholo led administration.

“The governor has banned unauthorised revenue collection across the State but in this park in Jattu they are still engaged in illegal revenue collection. The property will be utilised for the benefits of Edo people as the governor will bring development here.

“We are giving the sector commander of ESSC Auchu 24 hours to produce Anefi Kassim and Idris Mustapha who are key suspects in the Auchu killing. Failure to do that, they will be declared wanted.”