

### **Final Year Student Killed By Police**

A final year Geology student of University of Port Harcourt, Nnamdi Ajikere, 25, was on Sunday, September 17, 2006, shot dead by a trigger-happy mobile policeman said to be newly posted to the Rivers State Police Command from the Northern part of the country.

The sad incident occurred at the intersection of Evo Crescent and Tombia Streets, GRA, near the LeMeridan Hotel, Port Harcourt at about 9pm. Nnamdi, in the company of his brother, Ugochukwu, and two other ladies were said to have boarded a taxi cab from Olu-Obasanjo Road, to Tombia Street when the tragedy occurred.

However, before boarding the taxi cab, Nnamdi and his colleagues had had squabbles with another taxi driver over taxi fare. Angered by the rift, the taxi driver dashed out, and reported to two armed mobile policemen who followed him and trailed to late Nnamdi and his company up to the scene of the tragedy where they were double-crossed as they slowed down as a result of a bump used as speedbreaker.

As they were double crossed, Nnamdi, who thought that they were armed robbers as he did not know that they were being trailed by the policemen and the taxi driver was said to have opened the door of the taxi cab and took to his heels. He was given a hot chase by one of the armed policemen before he was shot down. The bullet hit him on the head. Even when he slumped down, the policeman shot him again two times to ensure he was dead.

The brother to the late Nnamdi, Ugochukwu who witnessed the tragedy said that the policeman would have killed him and the other two girls but for the intervention of another set of mobile policemen attached to the hotel as guards, who were attracted to the scene by the gunshots.

The intervening mobile policemen arrested the killer cops, the two drivers and the two girls and took them to the state CID, Port Harcourt where they were detained. Ugochukwu managed to escape and went to their family home at Oromeruezingbu community in the Rebisi kingdom, close to the scene of the incident where he broke the sad news. The news generated tension in the community.

One of the girls sustained injuries as a result of beatings she received from the other policeman and the taxi driver who procured their services.

### **Court Grants Relief To Victim of Police Bullet**

A Federal High Court Sitting in Port Harcourt, the capital of Rivers State, Presided over by Hon. Justice I.N. Buba, has granted leave to Tombari Martins Berebon, a 27-year-old student of the Rivers State Polytechnic, Bori, who recently lost one of his Kidneys to Police bullet.

On September 1, 2006, at about 8.00pm a taxicab carrying passengers from the Isaac Boro Park to Lagos Bus stop in the Port Harcourt township was intercepted at a checkpoint mounted by a team of six (6) mobile Police Officers wielding assault rifles and extorting bribes from mostly commercial vehicle drivers. One of the policemen opened fire at the taxi cap, and the bullets hit Berebor, damaging his kidney (see The Human Rights News, Vol. No. 1, October, 2006, Page 5) for full details.

Recently, CEHRD donated money to the family of the victim and another major surgery was carried out to extract the Police bullet from Berebon's body. CEHRD's Human Rights Program also hired a lawyer for the poor family to sue the Police over the shooting.