

Woman hacked to death by neighbours

ALPHONSUS NWEZE, *Onitsha*

TRAGEDY struck at Okpoko, a sprawling suburb of Onitsha in Anambra State, weekend when a middle-aged woman, Benedict Ohagwusi was beaten to death by members of a neighbouring family.

Already, five persons from the same family, including a local politician, are being detained by the Anambra State Police Command in connection with the murder.

According to the husband of the woman, Mr. Abel Ohagwusi, her wife, Benedict, who operated a restaurant was resting at the backyard of their house at about 10 p.m when somebody poured water from a neighbouring three-storey building which splashed on his wife.

Not clearly sure where the dirty water was poured from, her wife and others asked who was responsible before another dirty water was poured, then the third time.

Mr. Ohagwusi said having known the source, everybody was expressing anger, when the suspects, Mrs. Grace Odenigbo, her husband, brother and children about five, came down from third floor, allegedly armed with machet, pestle and other dangerous weapons opened the burglary proof, came out and challenged them.

In the ensuing fight, Grace's brother matcheted one of their sons, Chibueze. Abel said he ran to call the vigilante people, but before he could return, the worst has happened as Afam, Grace's sister had again used knife to pierce his wife's throat and Grace used the pestol to hit her at the neck.

"Benedict my wife" said Ohagwusi "in the process slumped and died. She has been deposited at Best Hospital Mortuary.

Ohagwusi, who hails from Egbeaguru, Onuimo local government area of Imo State said although, there have been existing misunderstanding between the two families which led to Grace's children using block to hit one of their sons last March in which he said the family spent over N50,000 on treatment.

Confirming the story, the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) for Okpoko Police Division, Tafida Saleh, said the matter has been transferred to the State Police headquarters, Awka.

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