

# Man stabs Custom officer brother to death

**BARRY AGBANIGBI, Asaba**

**T**HE police in Delta State are presently engaged in unraveling the reason behind the killing of a Customs Officer by his elder brother in Onicha-Ugbo, Aniocha-North Local Government Area of Delta State.

According to eye witness account, the suspect, Mr. Uche Chiono, stabbed his younger brother, Mr. Peter Chiono with a sharp knife following a prolonged argument over an

undisclosed matter.

Family source claimed that the suspect had a few days to his marriage invited the victim to the village to assist in organizing a befitting ceremony after a large sum of money had been allegedly given to him by his late Customs Officer brother as support.

But him, his elder brother had prepared a life terminating weapon for the Customs Officer who innocently arrived home two days to the

wedding.

Our source said while at home series of closed door meetings were held in the private room of the elder brother.

It was further learnt that during one of the meetings held few hours to the ceremony, an argument which lasted several hours reportedly ensued between them over an undisclosed matter.

"Several efforts made by us to get the details of their disagreement did not yield

any positive result", said a family source.

The disagreement, reportedly escalated barely a few hours after the marriage ceremony as tempers rose.

An elder sister of the two brothers who witnessed the show of shame reportedly raised alarm which attracted other family members and sympathizers.

Hell was however let loose about ten minutes after family members and sympathizers battled to re-unite both of them as the elder brother ran out of the room with a sharp knife and allegedly stabbed his younger brother twice on the chest.

The Custom Officer reportedly slumped and died before medical attention could be provided while the newly wedded killer attempted to escape from the scene but was however apprehended later by the youths of the community.

Though details of the disagreement were sketchy as at press time, an inside source told in our correspondent that the elder brother to the victim had a few months ago pleaded with his younger brother to help source for some money to enable him upset a loan secured from a money lender for personal transactions for which the late Customs Officer objected to, while another source attributed witchcraft to the tragedy.

"Both of them were close to each other right from childhood," said a family source Mr. Cletus Echie. He described the incident as very unfortunate and a big tragedy to the family.

Already the body of late Mr. Peter Chiono has been deposited at a private morgue at Onicha-Ugbo.

There were indications that his corpse may be transferred to the Federal Medical Centre, Asaba for post mortem examination.

Delta State Acting Police Public Relations Officer Mr. Patrick Eboka, said the suspect has been arrested and will be charged to court immediately after investigation.

## Obi grants amnesty to 9 inmates

**ODOGWU EMEKA ODOGWU, Awka**

**G**overnor Peter Obi of Anambra state has granted amnesty to nine persons to mark the 51st Independence anniversary of Nigeria.

According to a memo with reference AG/AN/S.198/VI/22 and signed by the Anambra State Attorney General and Chairman of the State's Advisory Council on Prerogative of Mercy, Barr. Emmanuel Chukwuma, the lucky persons were serving terms in Oji Prison (in Enugu State Command ), Onitsha Prison, Awka Prison and

Aguata Prison.

Those in Oji Prison are Obinna Oluchukwu and Amobi Chukwuedozie ; from Onitsha Prison are Onuora Okechukwu and Obinna Azi while Emeka Ezeokeke and Junior Okoro were granted amnesty from Awka Prison among others.

A press statement from the Chief Press Secretary to the Governor , Mr Mike Udah further stated that three persons who benefited from Aguata Prison are John Emmanuel, Emeka Nwagbom and Eugene Kum.

Meanwhile, the Methodist Bishop, Diocese of Onitsha, Rt Rev Sunday Eze, has declared,

that Methodists in Anambra State were in solidarity with the Governor in his trying time.

Rt. Rev Eze said it was beyond doubt that through transparency and frugality in governance, the Obi administration had recorded even development in almost every sector of socio-economic life. He compared the turbulence the regime was passing through to the experience of Christ who was crucified by those for whom he worked many miracles.

"We do appreciate the turbulent time you are passing through even when you are trying your best, in the hands of the civil servants, medical personnel and others. Take solace from what happened to Christ. Those who shouted hosanna on the triumphant day were the same people who also shouted crucify him the following week", the cleric wrote in a letter of solidarity to the Governor.

Alluding to increasing concerns that the strike action was politically motivated, the Bishop counseled the Governor not to be distracted from his good works. "Whether this is politically motivated or not, do not swerve from the right path. All these manipulations and political maneuvers will certainly settle down."

"Your administration has worked. If Nigeria has people like you in most of our states of the federation, Nigeria

he said.

Responding on behalf of the lawmakers, Senator Akin Odunsi from Ogun West senatorial district, said the time had come for Ogun State to take its pride of place in the South West.

"Ogun State should now be known as the bread basket of the South West because of our fertile land. The governor should take the issue of industrial park very seriously, in addition to other investment opportunities that abound in the state," he said.

He added that the state, being the gateway to other African countries, "provides

## Ogun to establish modern industrial park

**O**gun State Government is to establish a modern industrial park for world-class business activities in the state.

The state governor, Senator Ibikunle Amosun, stated this when some federal lawmakers of Ogun extraction paid him a courtesy visit in Abuja.

The governor, while briefing the lawmakers on the planned total turn-around of the state's industrial base, noted that "Ogun State has what it takes to be an industrial hub in the South West." He said his administration would work to