

Pastor killed trying to separate fighting couple in Imo

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A pastor of the Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG), identified as Thompson Onyekuru, has been killed while trying to separate a woman from the fierce grip of her husband.

The incident happened at the weekend in Umuokoto town in Umudibia Autonomous Community in Owerri West Local Government Area of Imo State.

Our correspondent gathered that the couple was engaged in bitter arguments, which resulted in the

man using a knife to stab his wife.

The man, identified as Obum, who hailed from Obowo in Imo State was suspected to be mentally unstable.

He had locked his wife and her baby in their room where he stabbed her severely.

According to an eyewitness, the incident started around 4 pm when Obum's wife, Ogechi, and her one-year-old son were heard screaming for help.

However, Onyekuru and others had waded in to prevent Obum from killing his wife.

"As the crowd intensified effort

to rescue the woman, Obum with a knife, threatened to kill anyone who tried to stop his action," one of the eyewitnesses said.

After successfully rescuing the woman from her husband's grip, our correspondent gathered that Obum became enraged and started chasing everybody with the blood-stained knife.

But as Onyekuru made to go, Obum used the knife to stab him at the back.

A passing police patrol team was called to the scene, but he attacked the policemen who were attempting to arrest him.

The police then shot him in the leg in order to subdue him.

Both couple and Onyekuru were subsequently taken to the hospital where the three of them died.

While the pastor died immediately after reaching the hospital, Obum and his wife died later.

The President-General of Umuokoto Community Council (UCC), Charles Anozie confirmed the incident.

The Police Public Relations Officer in the state Command, CSP Mike Abatam, was not available for comments.