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# Controversies trail murder of 24-year-old girl in Anambra

From EMMANUEL UZOR, Onitsha

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Controversies have continued to trail the circumstances surrounding the death of a 24-year-old Anurika who was suspected to have been gang-raped to death by suspected cultists along Nsugbe College of Education Road.

Daily Sun gathered that residents of Nsugbe and students of Nwafor Orizu College of Education woke up that fateful day only to behold the gory sight of the deceased who was lying in the pool of her own blood.

Though, the Provost of institution, Dr. (Mrs.) Clara Obiagwu swiftly dismissed the insinuations that the deceased could be victim of cultists operating in the school, others held that the girl was a victim of hoodlums who have been terrorizing the community.

Mrs. Obiagwu also said that the deceased was not a student of the College, adding that it could be possible that hoodlums whom she said could not come from her college murdered her.

According to one of the neighbours, Mr. Joel Nduka, Anurika was a teacher in one of the private schools in G.R.A, Onitsha before her death, adding that on the day she was raped to death, she had called her friends that she would be coming over to spend the weekend.

Also speaking, a friend of the deceased who did not want her name in print said that, on the day she was murdered, she had called to inform her of her intention to come over to Nsugbe to spend the weekend but that was the last time she ever called.

She further disclosed amidst tears that the deceased whom she said hailed from Ihiala in Ihiala Local Government Area of Anambra state was a very peaceful and easygoing girl, adding that her death was tragic.

"Anurika had called to inform us that she was coming to Nsugbe to spend the weekend as she usually did, but as we waited for her the day she called, that was on Friday, we did not see her, we did not complain because we thought she changed her mind only to be told that she was gang raped to death and her body dumped beside the fence of the College of Education" she said.

However, there was another twist to the story, as some people held that the deceased could be a victim of ritual killers whom they said had been on the prowl in the community, especially during the approaching yuletide period.

One of the residents also argued that since none of the vital organs of the deceased was missing at the time of the incident, the issue of ritual killing could not be accepted and maintained that the deceased was a victim of student cultism.

"The girl's body was intact as at the time of the discovery, so I don't subscribe to the insinuations that she was a victim of ritual killing because if she was, at least her vital parts could have been removed but as it stands, she was intact and we only saw blood all over her body which showed that she was gang raped by group of hoodlums"

When contacted through his mobile phone, the Divisional Police Officer in charge of 3-3 Police Division, Mr. Andy said he was not aware of the incident, adding "we are not magicians, if it was not reported, we cannot know"

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