

In Owerri, Final-year FUTO student drowns in Oguta Lake

From Charles Ogugbuaja, Owerri

TRAGEDY has struck the Federal University of Technology, Owerri (FUTO), as a final-year Engineering student of the institution, Paschal Chidiebere Owuna, was said to have drowned at the weekend while enjoying his picnic in Oguta Lake in Imo State.

According to a source, Owuna, who hailed from Ihitte in Ezinihitte Mbaise Local Council of Imo State, had gone to the Oguta Lake in a speedboat, to partake in his sister's birthday party. The boat capsized and he drowned.

Efforts made by the local divers could not yield results. The sister, a student of the Imo State University, Owerri, was worried over the ugly incident.

Two days later, *The Guardian* was told the body was found floating and was removed after the relatives appeased the goddess of the area.

Cleric tasks Christians on national security, unity

By Emeka Nwachukwu

ACALL has gone out to Christians in Nigeria to be united as a body with the purpose of bringing to an end the insurgency and other challenges confronting the nation.

Speaking during the commencement of a three-day Global Mission Chaplaincy Corps International Capacity Building and Strategies Workshop in Lagos, Archbishop of Igbobi, Most Rev. Amos Akinlose Akindeko said the present security challenges confronting Nigeria were aimed at breaking the will of the people, shaking their confidence in God and weakening the people's collective resolve to survive and coexist.

Using the broom to drive home his message of unity, Akindeko said that when Christians stand as individual entities, just as a single broom stick, they can easily be defeated but when they are united as a collective indivisible entity, they will be in good position to overcome any threat and emerge victorious.

"We must all as Christians commit ourselves to God's army with a very high standard of obedience, submission, faithfulness and right attitude. We should at all times, and in all ways continue to pursue the example of our Lord Jesus Christ in setting the standard for moral and ethical behaviour by upholding the true values he established in the Bible."

He noted that the GMC Corp is an independent Christian humanitarian organization that consists of ministers and Christian volunteers dedicated to advancing the Gospel of Jesus Christ and service to humanity with membership cutting across denominational, tribal racial and national boundaries.

Congratulating the promoted officers, Akindeko said, "the GMC Corps recognises the need to train and develop all grades of officers to improve their skills and knowledge, to ensure that every officer is given an opportunity to acquire some skills and knowledge as may be necessary for the efficient performance of his duties, as well as personal advancement. So we are really happy to have equipped you properly to 'go ahead and make disciples of nations'".

Also speaking, the Minister in-charge of St. John's Anglican Church, Iju Ishaga, Lagos, Venerable Tope Adewunmi, described Boko Haram insurgency as politically motivated.

"They call themselves Boko Haram which loosely means 'education is not righteousness' but the Quran says education is righteousness."

"They are not even fighting education because they target churches, markets and where ordinary people are gathered."