

# Expectant wife dies after husband's alleged assault

From Owen Akenzua, Asaba

**A**PREGNANT mother of three identified as Aghogho (surname withheld) in Oleh

community, Isoko South Local Council of Delta State, has died two weeks after she was allegedly physically assaulted by her husband. Reports said her husband allegedly kicked her on the stomach after a disagreement over food. She slumped and was

rushed to the hospital where she died, two weeks after.

The 38-year-old woman had allegedly been at loggerheads with her husband over bad cooking.

But a police officer in Oleh Police Division, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the man was in their custody pending further investigation.

In another development, a 34-year-old woman, Blessing Ubom in Onitsha, has been arrested by the police in the area with two borrowed babies, who she uses to beg for alms.

She was said to have been arrested at the MCC Pedestrian Bridge, Onitsha and upon interrogation, had insisted she gave birth to the babies on August 3, 2016 in

her house at the army barracks, where her visually-impaired husband lives.

But the husband, Ubom Glory Emmanuel confirmed his wife only has one baby for him, adding that she borrowed the second baby from a relation to arouse sympathy and get money from members of the public.

Policemen at the Onitsha Police Division confirmed that the suspect has made useful statements and that investigation was ongoing.

Meanwhile, a suspected eight-man robbery gang on Thursday allegedly attacked Ozoro Polytechnic students' hostel popularly called "Aso Rock" and inflicted injuries on their victims before carting away their belongings such as handsets, laptops, and N100,000 cash.

## Briefs

**Mukwuzi, 86, for burial**



Mukwuzi

**F**UNERAL rites for Chief George Okolie Mukwuzi, who died recently at the age of 86, begin on Thursday, October 6, 2016 with a Christian wake at Idumu Odagwe New Layout, Umuolo village, Onicha Olona, Aniocha North Local Council, Delta State at 5.00p.m. Traditional procession and private interment will hold on Friday, October 7, while grand reception holds on Saturday, October 8 at the same venue, according to a statement by his son, Michael Mukwuzi

## Divine Impartation at Praise Tabernacle

**T**HE Redeemed Christian Church of God, Praise Tabernacle, Lagos Province 44 headquarter parish, will tomorrow and Sunday, September 25, hold its two-day Divine Impartation service with the theme: *Insight for exploits in hard times*, at the church auditorium, Nos. 9, 10 and 12, Egun Street, off Babatunde Street, off Ogunlana Drive, Lawanson, Surulere, Lagos. Tomorrow's event holds at 6.30p.m., Sunday's at 7.30a.m. and 10.00a.m. respectively. Pastor Bode Awesu-Adegoke will minister. Pastor in Charge is Amos Emovon while General Overseer is Pastor Enoch Adebeye

## Lydia Otuniyo dies at 82



Otuniyo

**F**UNERAL rites for Mrs. Lydia Otuniyo, who died on July 19, 2016, at the age of 82, begin on Thursday, October 20, with a service of songs at the family compound, No. 2, Orogun Street, Otekpo, Eliu, Isoko North Local Council, Delta State at 5.00p.m. She will be buried on Friday, October 21 after a funeral service at St. Luke's Anglican Church, Eliu at 10.00a.m. Outing service holds on Sunday, October 23, at the same church at 8.00a.m.

# demand N1.2bn ransom



Ali

the Ogun State command, but we have activated the rescue process and by the grace of God, the victims would be rescued alive."

Earlier, the Ogun State Commissioner of Police, Mr. Ahmed Iliyasu told newsmen that a combined team of 30 policemen have been deployed to the area in search of the kidnapped residents.

A resident, John Kosiso, told newsmen the gunmen came through the creeks and took away the landlords.

"They usually have their Saturday fitness training near Lekki Gardens Estate, near the bush. They also abducted the physical trainer.

"The landlords had arrived as usual in the morning and spread their mats. They were about starting the aerobics,

when the gunmen came out from the bush. They were about eight that came out. They covered their faces with masks and were all wearing military uniforms.

"Two of them blocked the different paths leading to the place, while four of them went for the landlords. Eight landlords were initially abducted, but four escaped as they were being taken to the boat.

"The trainer also ran in another direction but nobody can say what has happened to him, because nothing has been heard about him. We have looked around the area but could not find him," he narrated.

The landlords, who escaped from the gunmen,

later reported the matter at the Isheji Divisional Police Station, Lagos.

Some labourers at a nearby construction site, disclosed that over 20 expended AK47 ammunition were picked and handed over to the police. One of them, who gave his name simply as Adamu, said several window glasses and buildings were pierced by stray bullets.

According to him, "those kidnappers stay inside that bush. This is the second time in three months they have come out to kidnap people. The first time they came, they took a man from inside his house. But this morning, we noticed that two men stood at the end of road by the bush there.

"As they were shooting, everyone ran away. I heard that they first caught one *mallam*, but they later left him as he does not have money before they went after those landlords. It looks like they have information that the landlords used to do their exercise there.

"Some of the landlords ran away and fell into the water. They later came out after the kidnappers had gone, their bodies were wet. The kidnappers stayed for about 30 minutes."

The residents, however, expressed displeasure at what they described as the insensitivity of policemen, who came to the area, shortly after the landlords were abducted.

One of the residents said: "The policemen came and did not bother to search the bush around the area. It appeared they were afraid of the gunmen."

## Evangelist, wife, three children missing after suspected herdsmen's attack in Kaduna

**T**HE family of Evangelist Martins Oko-Obob has called on the Nigeria Police Force and other security agencies in the country to help find the missing evangelist, his wife and three children after attacks on Nandu and Kabamu villages in Kaduna State by suspected herdsmen.

John Oko-Obob, the evangelist's younger brother, made the call in Abuja yesterday.

Speaking with newsmen, he said the family got missing after the herdsmen attacked Nandu and Kabamu villages in Sanga Local Council of Kaduna State on June 24.

He added that the evangelist had lived in the village for many years before the recent attack, which claimed so many lives, noting that the matter had been reported at the police station in Kabamu village.

"We have tried to get across to my brother and his family, all to no avail. Nobody has also seen their bodies anywhere. I am appealing to members of the public to avail us of information that will lead to the whereabouts of my brother and his family," he said.

He further appealed to the Federal Government to intervene in the incessant attacks by suspected herdsmen in

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the country to ensure peaceful coexistence.

No fewer than 38 persons were killed in separate attacks in Nandu and Kabamu villages recently.

## 'Rebuilding Nigeria requires collective efforts'

By Seye Oluamide

**T**HE Senior Pastor, Foundation of Truth Assembly (FOTA), Rev. Abayomi Kasali, has said the challenge to rebuild Nigeria is not about an individual's capacity or of any political party, but a collective endeavour of all Nigerians.

He urged Nigerians to be committed to God, the country and the generation unborn.

While the cleric agreed that the country is at present going through tough times, he said the situation is not beyond what the Almighty could handle and resolve, "if only Nigerians show more commitment to their common goals and remain fervent in prayers."

Speaking during a press conference on the yearly convention of the church scheduled to hold from Wednesday, September 21 to Sunday, September 25, in Lagos, Kasali said the 'Giant Killers Conference' (GKC)

was to mark the 11th anniversary of the ministry.

According to him: "Nigerians should be ready to make the necessary sacrifices, both physically and spiritually, to ensure that the union called Nigeria thrives and surmounts all her socio-economic and political challenges."

The cleric also urged Nigerians to show support for the ruling party and President Muhammadu Buhari, saying: "What is before us as a nation at present transcends party politics, blame game and ethnic sentiments. We have to revive our economy, tackle poverty and eradicate crimes."

He disclosed that the conference would come in four folds: word conference, minister's conference, pure praise concert and thanks giving and ordination at which ministers including Bishop Mike Okonkwo, Pastor Wale Adefarasin, Rev. Simeon Afolabi and others are expected.

## Clergyman charges Scouts to be good ambassadors

**M**EMBERS of the Lagos State Council of the Nigerian Scouts have been charged to be good ambassadors of the country and eschew all forms of untoward behaviour that would cast them and the nation in bad light.

Addressing the Holy Family Catholic Church (HFCC) chapter, FESTAC Town, Lagos as they commenced their three-day international group camping in the Republic of Benin, the Sponsoring Authority and Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Simeon Irabor, urged them to be disciplined and prayerful as representatives of their families, schools, church, state and the country.

The contingent is expected

to be received at the Seme border by the Porto Novo Scouts, after which they would join other Catholic scouts at Holy Michael Catholic Church, Krake.

According to the Group Scouts' Leader, Nze C.A. Anyamele, the endurance training is meant to expose the children to life outside their country and help them to associate with their foreign peers.

Meanwhile, the Chairman of the HFCC Laity Council and chapter patron, Mr. Modestus Onyenankaya, said "the camping is a timely innovation at a time the movement is losing membership and vibrancy across the nation to the multiplicity of volunteer groups and societies."