

# Man kills roommate, sells body parts for ritual in Bayelsa

By Odita Sunday and Julius Osa-hon, Yenagoa

## • Police probe death of mentally challenged woman

A 34-YEARS-OLD man, Okpegboro Avwerosuo, who hails from Ughelli North of Delta State, has been arrested for alleged murder of his roommate and selling his vital organs to a pastor for ritual purposes. The incident, which threw the community into mourning, happened in their one-room apartment in Sagbama Town, Sagbama Local Government Area of Bayelsa State. According to a neighbour, who pleaded anonymity, the suspect had invited his deceased friend to Sagbama for a commercial motorcycle business, popularly known as 'Okada'. He said the suspect assured the deceased that the business was lucrative in the town because of the siting of Isaac Jasper Adaka Boro College of


Education (IJBCOE) campus in the area. It was further learnt that the deceased had barely stayed two weeks when Okpegboro allegedly struck him with a pestle in the middle of the night, crushing his skull and killing him in the process. The neighbour further explained that "after killing him, he dismembered the body, preserved the vital organs and put other parts in a separate bag which he disposed of in the early hours of the day. While he was disposing of the bag, another neighbour who saw him and suspected his movements confronted him later in the afternoon about the whereabouts of his roommate. The suspect claimed that the deceased had travelled back to Delta State for an urgent busi-

ness. Not satisfied with his response, the neighbour forced his way into the room and saw blood stains everywhere. The neighbour held him down and alerted the local vigilante which eventually called the police in to arrest the suspect. "Upon interrogation, the suspect confessed that he had sold the victim's vital organs to a pastor in Port Harcourt, who is currently at large for ritual purposes." Confirming the incident, the Public Relations Officer of the Nigeria Police Force, Bayelsa State Command, Asinim Butswat, said the suspect is in detention at the State Criminal Investigation Department for further investigation. Meanwhile, the Lagos State Police Command has commenced investigations into the

killing and setting ablaze of a mentally challenged woman, alleged to be in possession of a stolen baby and three (3) AK 47 rifles at Abule Ado, under bridge, Festac Area of Lagos. A statement by the State Police

Public Relations Officer, Muyiwa Adejobi, said: "Based on preliminary investigation, it was discovered that the mentally challenged woman had been living in the area for several years before she was lynched and set ablaze by some hoodlums in the area on

the allegation of being in possession of a baby and three AK 47 rifles. But the Lagos State police boss, CP Hakeem Odumosu has decried jungle justice meted on the woman, saying that no baby nor AK-47 rifle were found in her possession.



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