

Gunmen kill Imo-born businessman in Delta, as Police nab suspected armed robbers

By **Monday Osayande, Asaba**

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Unknown gunmen have killed an Imo State-born businessman, Anthony Mkpado at his home in Ika South Local Council of Delta State.

The Guardian learnt that the 58-year-old Agbor-based electronics dealer was killed on Wednesday at about 2:00 a.m. along old Lagos/ Asaba road, Agbor town.

The deceased ran Mkpado Bookshop, located opposite First Bank, Agbor.

Sources said Mkpado's killers forcefully entered his house with dangerous weapons and confronted some of the occupants, who wanted to stand against them while searching for the late businessman.

Following the hot arguments between them, Mkpado was said to have come out of his room to have a glimpse of what was happening, but unknown to him, he was their target, and he was immediately attacked by the hoodlums with a machete and axe.

It was further learnt that the late businessman was thereafter rushed to John's Catholic Hospital, Boji-Boji Owa, where he was confirmed dead by medical personnel.

The late Mkpado, who hailed from Isikpo in Ideato North Local Council of Imo State was a known committed member of Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Nigeria, His Glory Prayer Group of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, Agbor, where he was said to have ministered in the evening of the day he was murdered.

When contacted, the State Police Public Relations Officer, DSP Bright Edafe confirmed the incident, saying the police are on the trail of the suspects.

HE also confirmed the arrest of three suspected armed robbers by an anti-crime patrol team attached to Ekpan Police Station on Saturday.

According to him, the Police while on patrol/stop and search duty flagged down a motorcycle with three occupants by Benjones in Hausa Market along NPA Expressway, Warri.

He said: “The suspects alighted from the motorcycle and one of them surprisingly shot at the team, but the team who were strategically positioned returned same which resulted to a gun battle, one of the suspects named Yusuf Ibrahim ‘m’ age 27, was shot on his left foot, which brought him down and he was arrested along with the rider of the motorcycle, one Hashimu Garba ‘m’ 30 yrs of Mami Market, Effurun, while the third suspect escaped.”

Edafe hinted that one cut-to-size locally-made single barrel gun, three live cartridges and two expended cartridges were recovered from them, while a manhunt for the fleeing suspect is ongoing.