

National

Tension in Bayelsa as cultists behead 30-year-old man in rival cult war

By Julius Osahon, Yenagoa

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*Police*

There was tension, yesterday, in Sagbama community in Sagbama Local Council of Bayelsa State as dare-devil cultists beheaded a 30-year-old man, in the early hours of Wednesday.

The deceased's head, identified as Honest Mathew, popular known as Onions, was severed and hung on pole for the indigenes of the community to view.

Recall that rival cult war began more than a month with over 30 people killed in separate incidents around the state, especially the state capital, Yenagoa.

Last week, a man was reportedly burnt to death when he could not produced his son when rival cult group visited. It was gathered that the cult groups involved in the cult war are the members of the Icelanders, Greenlanders and Bobos cult groups.

The Guardian gathered that the killer cult group invaded Sagbama town at about 1:30a.m. and sneaked into the deceased's home. They reportedly dragged him out of his house and severed his head and took it away with them.

A community source, who spoke on condition of anonymity claimed the deceased was dragged away from his wife and three children and butchered.

"We gathered he was shouting, but the guys slit his throat and cut off his head. When we woke up in the morning, we discovered the headless body of the victim."

"Upon further search for the missing head, we discovered it was hung on a pole at the centre of the town. We were later told, it is a clear message of war against their rival which the deceased also belongs," he added.

The Chief Security Officer of Sagbama Local Council Passman Ebiowei, who spoke on telephone, confirmed the development and expressed concerns over the cult rivalry.

He said: "I have discussed with the chairman, Embeleakpo Alale, on the need to get heads of all these cult groups to a closed door meeting and ensure they sign a peace pact.

"A sanction can be placed on any group, which violates the peace pact.

"We also gathered that the cult group, which the deceased belonged, is already planning a reprisal attack for beheading their member.

We are worried because of many other innocent people in Sagbama local council.”
Spokesperson for the state’s police command, Asinim Butswat, who confirmed the killing, police operatives have evacuated the corpse to St Luke mortuary, Sagbama, while investigation is ongoing.

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