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National

Police nab suspected killers of community youth leader in Imo

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Stanley Nwoke

- CP sues for calm, assures swift justice

Imo State Police Command has arrested four suspects linked to the attack in Umusi/Olokwa Community in Owerri West Local Council of the state. The attack also led to the death of one Stanley Nwoke, the newly elected youth leader of the community.

The Guardian gathered that the crisis, which resulted from the fallouts of the community's youth election held on January 3, 2025, also left four siblings of the deceased injured and nine houses razed.

The Command's spokesperson, DSP Henry Okoye, in a statement, said a youth leadership faction in the community led by one Chinaza Nwachukwu and others, who are currently at large, "is suspected to be behind the attack."

Okoye disclosed that arrested suspects are currently undergoing investigation, while the corpse of the deceased has been deposited in a morgue and the injured victims, taken to hospital.

He further said that the state's Commissioner of Police, Aboki Danjuma, who visited the community on Sunday, condemned the attack and urged the indigenes to remain calm, while assuring them swift justice. He said: "In response to the incident, CP Aboki Danjuma, alongside his management team, visited the community for an on-the-spot assessment.

"During the visit, he commiserated with the bereaved families and those whose houses were destroyed. He assured them of the Command's commitment to ensuring justice and preventing future violence.

"Meanwhile, four suspects have already been arrested and are currently undergoing investigation, while efforts are being intensified to apprehend the fleeing suspects.

"Additionally, the deceased's body has been deposited at the morgue, and the injured victims are receiving medical care in the hospital.

"Consequently, the Commissioner of Police assures the public that normalcy has been restored in Umusi/Olokwa Community, with security measures in place to prevent further unrest."

"CP urges all stakeholders to remain calm and law-abiding, emphasising that violence is not a solution to disputes. He also called on community leaders to adopt peaceful conflict resolution strategies to prevent future occurrences.

"The Imo State Police Command remains committed to the safety of all residents. The public is encouraged to provide credible information that can aid the ongoing investigation."