

## Assassins Kill Imo Monarch In Cold Blood

The murder of the traditional ruler of Obodo Ahiara community of Imo State, Eze Davidson Anyanwu, has thrown the town and neighbouring communities into mourning and panic.

Anyanwu was said to have been murdered in cold blood last Tuesday by unidentified gunmen who stormed his palace in the night, firing indiscriminately before gaining access into his private room.

An eyewitness disclosed that the hoodlums gained entrance into the compound by scaling the barbed wire walls and immediately opened fire to scare away the residents.

"As the killers gained access to the deceased's room, they opened fire on him and pumped several bullets into his body and he died immediately," the eye-witness said.

The source further said that other family members of the dead royal father were locked up in a room by the assailants to ensure that no one attempted to escape.

"They fired several gunshots at him and left him in his own pool of blood until they were convinced beyond doubts that the traditional ruler was dead.

"It is unbelievable that people can be so wicked," the sources said. Confirming the incident, Imo State Police Commissioner, Audu Abubakar, who spoke on telephone, described the killing as "gruesome and unfortunate".

He said that the police were yet to arrest any of the suspects, but that investigation had commenced to unravel the killers.

He, however, said that the assassination was a clear case of armed robbery attack based on the facts on ground. "We are thoroughly investigating the matter but it is a clear case of armed robbery", he said. Abubakar assured that the culprits would face the full wrath of law when apprehended.

Meanwhile, the state government said it was saddened by the assassination of the first class royal father.

A Special Adviser to Governor Achike Udenwa, Zeek-Martin Nnadozie, told newsmen in Owerri that the government would collaborate with the police and other security agencies to track down the perpetrators of the crime.