



Ndigbo

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Youths On Rampage Over Killing In Akwuke

By Emmanuel Nzomiwu
Reporter, Enugu

AT LEAST four residential buildings in Akwuke community were completely razed down by some angry youths protesting the alleged killing at the weekend of a young man, Mr. Ogochukwu Ngwu.

The deceased, who hails from the community in Enugu South Local Government Area, Enugu State, met his untimely death at about noon when a team of policemen from Awkunanaw Police Division allegedly stormed the area

to quell violent that erupted between two factions in the community.

There is however two conflicting versions of how the young man was gunned. While some eyewitnesses claimed that the youth was killed by the police, police authorities in Enugu said that the youth who belonged to a faction had been killed before the police arrived at the scene.

Also, a woman identified as Mrs. Linus Agu, sustained serious bullet wounds and she is said to be lying at an undisclosed hospital where she was rushed by sympathizers

after the incident.

Daily Independent learnt that the policemen were invited by some natives in an attempt to stop some youths in the community from excavating sand from the Nyama stream at Akwuke Beach.

Sources said two natives of the community had invited the policemen following the resistance of the youths to handover the site to them.

But the youths who had been earning their income from the sand sales over the years, refused to vacate the site alleging that they were being intimidated by the two

natives.

Rather than vacate, the youths reportedly decided to march to the palace of their traditional ruler, Igwe Theodore Nwoye, to lay a formal complaint against their alleged oppressors.

An eyewitness said while the youths and some other aggrieved natives were trooping to the palace of the traditional ruler, the policemen being conveyed in private buses one of which belongs to one of the complainants, stormed the palace and on sighting them, the youths and other natives present took to their heels.

But Ogochukwu was not lucky as he was spotted among the crowd by a trigger-happy policeman who shot him on his chest. He died at the spot as other natives ran away.

The second victim, Mrs. Agu, was also hit by the bullet few meters from the scene and was rushed to the hospital.

Angered by the action of the police, the youths reportedly marched to the houses of those believed to have invited the policemen and torched their houses.

However, the State Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Mr. Ebere Amaraizu, said the

victim died even before the police arrived at the scene.

Amaraizu told *Daily Independent* on phone that there was a disagreement between two factions in the community, who are battling over who controls the revenue from the area.

According to the police spokesperson, one faction attacked the other and there was a reprisal attack in the course of which Ogochukwu was killed.

He said that the killing took place before the police intervention, adding that the police moved in thereafter to restore peace.

**Enugu To Issue
Numbers To
Resident Adults,
Babies**



**PDP Chieftain,
Omeaku, Buried
In Urualla**

By Uche Nwosu