



# Delta

THE BIG HEART



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## Youth leader bags peace award

By Felix Igbekoyi  
Correspondent, Asaba

GLOBAL Peace Festival Foundation (GPFF) has presented an Ambassador of Peace award to Mr Andrew Igban, the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) Youth Leader and Delta South Senatorial district.

Dr Hyun Jin Preston - Moon, during the presentation ceremony yesterday said the choice of Igban for the award was in recognition of his leading role in the promotion of peace and youth development, particularly in Niger Delta region.

He noted that GPFF in line with its youth federation for world peace programme would continue to support

# Crisis looms in Delta communities as soldier kills indigene

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**DRUMBEATS** of war appear to be peaking in riverine communities of Oshimili South and Ndokwa East Local Government areas of Delta State owing to the inability of the authorities to sanction soldiers attached to United Geophysical Nigeria Limited (UGNL) and Integrated Data Services Limited (IDSL) Joint Ventures. The "soldiers, at-

tached to the oil prospecting companies in the area, were alleged to have shot to death a 21-year old man.

The victim, Osakwe Nwanze, reportedly a casual staff with one of the firms, was shot after a group of boys in Oko-Amakom, Oshimili South Local Government, reportedly stopped the soldiers escorting some personnel to allow the communities - masquerades, which visitors are not allowed to see, to leave the scene.

When *Daily Independent* spoke to the Delta state Commissioner of Police, Mr. Mamman Ibrahim Tsafe yesterday on the matter, said he would not want to be overzealous on the matter, that the case is still being investigated, as the police authority want to pursue the matter professionally just as he said the soldiers will be surrendered when ready.

Osakwe reportedly approached them and after identifying himself was ig-

nored and warned by the soldiers and in the process, one of the soldiers was said to have slapped him and before he could recover, the other jumped down from the vehicle and shot him in the chest.

It took the intervention of community leaders to stop the youths from lynching the soldiers and personnel of the companies after the incident.

One of the elders in the community said the incident is a slap on the face of the

people who have suffered untold hardships as a result of severe damage done on their roads by the companies' heavy equipment, threatening that the community would not take the matter lightly.

Tsafe, while pleading for patience on the matter, said there are procedures to be followed when it involves military men, saying he has written to the military to inform them.