

Tears In Imo Community As Food Poisoning Kills Three Kids

ANOLU VINCENT
OWERRI

The Obollodioka Nzerem community in the Ehime Mbano Local Government Area of Imo State is in mourning following the shocking death of three male teenagers of the same parents in the community. The names of the kids were Chisom, Chinedu and Chibueze Onwuchekwa.

Already, the embattled community has vowed to unearth the cause of the bizarre incident. According to sources, the parents of the children, Godwin Onwuchekwa and his wife Amaka, who are peasant farmers with six children, had on that fateful day left for their farm without the kids whose ages were between nine and 11 (Chisom and Chinedu were

twins).

Having finished their farming activities for the day, and oblivious of the disaster that had struck the family, Godwin and Amaka packed their farming implements and took off for home.

However, on arrival, they were shocked to meet their hapless kids vomiting and unconscious and quickly ferried them to a nearby hospital for urgent medical attention.

Godwin and Amaka were reportedly assisted by a Catholic priest, Rev. Fr. Gregory Ihezue, who took them and their kids to the Mbano Joint hospital in the Isiala Mbano Local Government Area of the state where a laboratory test was conducted on the kids. The result of the laboratory test eventually proved that it was a case of food poisoning.

Although the hospital authorities moved mountains to save the lives of the kids, one of them, Chisom, eventually gave up the ghost around 1am of same day.

Consequently, the remaining two, Chinedu and Chibueze, were moved to the FMC, Owerri, where a fresh laboratory test was conducted on their case but they died the next day being 25th July 2017.

The grieving parents just back from one of the states in the South West where they sojourned for several years before returning home, told INDEPENDENT in tears that the community had resolved to do all within its powers to unearth the source of the poison which claimed the lives of their kids.

Regrettably, the community is currently without a tradition-

al ruler, having lost the monarch not to long ago, Godwin revealed.

Aggrieved relations of Mrs. Amaka Onwuchekwa shortly after the incident attempted to cause mayhem but were restrained by the village head, Sir Felix Ihezue.

Ihezue, having brought the situation under control, pledged to personally get to the root of the problem.

Speaking to INDEPENDENT, the father of the kids, Godwin (45), disclosed that his remaining kids are in the age brackets of three and five, including his additional set of twins.

He said that although painful, he was not suspecting anybody as being responsible for the tragedy and had resigned his fate to God. According to him, the disaster occurred last week.

Godwin, however, appealed to public-spirited individuals to come to his aid.

Efforts to get in touch with the divisional Police Officer in charge of Ehime Mbano Local Government failed as at the time of going to the press.

Three Communities Establish Mini-Farm Settlements