Suspected Cultists Kill Medical Student, Nine Others In AAU

By XAVIER NDANYONGMONG and FRANCIS ONOIRIBHOLO - September 20, 2018



Dr. Einstein , One of the victim , Another victim and Engr. Ogbu

BENIN – Tension gripped Benin, the Edo State capital, as some men suspected to be cultists shot at and killed 10 persons at the venue of a graduation party organised by some graduating students of the Ambrose Ali University, Ekpoma, Edo State.

Sources in the school said a final year medical student of the school, named Einstein and an Engineer, Jerry Omobhudeaka Ogbu who graduated last year from the school were killed in the imbroglio.

DAILY INDEPENDENT gathered that trouble started when two boys fought at the venue of the party which held at the Judges Quarters Ihunmudumun in Ekpoma.

It was gathered that others at the venue tried to separate them and in the process one of the boys that fought complained that his clothe was torn and demanded to be paid for replacement.

His opponent, sources said, had rebuffed his demand and he became terribly enraged.

Sources at the party said the boy left the venue of the party with his friend in anger only for them to return with guns in search of his opponent.

The sources said the boys surged into the crowd and on sighting his opponent, opened fire at him and those who separated them when they were fighting.

It was gathered that in the ensued confusion the students at the venue took to their heels, abandoning those who were hit by bullets.

"Even those who sat at the bar and were not in any way connected to the party were affected," a source said.

It was gathered that among those killed was one Einstein, a final year medical student who was due to graduate next week and one Engineer Jerry Omobhudeaka Ogbu, who graduated last year at the School of Engineering.

Ogbu, sources said, was the Student Union Government (SUG) house leader in the House of Parliament last year.

A post by one of his friend on his whatsapp platform said, "An Alumni of AAU has joined the world beyond. The ever rugged, ever dogged. AAU Politicos felt your presence. "You'll never be forgotten. He was supposed to go for NYSC by next month, October.

"Ogbu, was among the five people that were shot in a bar at a graduation party in judges quarters last night in Ekpoma."

Another comment on the killing goes thus:

"5 niggaz down this nyt....wtf" "This is bad.....all graduating students...God protect"; "That town needs serious spiritual cleansing."

Another student simply said, "My heart and love goes to the parents of these kids, can't even begin to imagine how they feel right now...sad."

Meanwhile, there was pandemonium in the early hours of Wednesday at the University town of Ekpoma and its environs in Esan West local government area of Edo State following the alleged killings.

However, Dean of Students Affairs of the University, Professor Don Akhilomen, told DAILY INDEPENDENT in an interview while reacting to the incident that although the shooting incident did not happen within the institution's campuses, the authorities were yet to identify those that were killed.

He said, "We heard that some people were killed at Ihunmudumun area of the town while at a graduation party. As at now, we are yet to identify those involved. Some may be our students, some might not be. So, we are still watching the situation."

Several attempts made to get comments from the Edo State Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Mr. Chidi Nwabunor, through telephone calls and text messages for his reaction failed as he could not be reached.

But a senior Police officer who pleaded anonymity confirmed that four boys and a girl were the victims of the incident.

He also said that some Policemen have been drafted from the state Command to Ekpoma to beef up security in the university community.

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