

Two Killed, Council Chairman's Residence, Others Set Ablaze In Ebonyi Community

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ABAKALIKI

Two persons have been killed in Ebonyi State following an unrest that broke out in Ebyia Unuphu village, the country home of the Abakaliki Local Government Area of Ebonyi State, Chief Emmanuel Nwangele.

The incident started on Sunday night and lasted till Monday morning, September 20, 2021.

One of those killed was the owner of Gospel Fire Assembly, Pastor John Onu, who was hit by stray bullets.

Onu was said to be observing his morning devotion in his room at Hatchery, Nkaliki Road, Abakaliki, when police

stray bullets hit him he was while trying to shut his windows following the commotion outside.

The bullet reportedly hit him in the upper part of his chest and pierced through his back.

The police operatives were said to be shooting to scare the youths who came from the village to burn a guest-house located at the Nkaliki Road that belonged to one Chukwudi Onyibe, Special Assistant to the Chairman of the Abakaliki Local Government on Internally Generated Revenue.

It was gathered that the youths of Ebyia Unuphu village had gone on rampage, burning houses in the area after an indigene of the vil-

lage was beaten to death allegedly by men of Ebube Agu security outfit who came to make some arrest in the area.

It was further gathered that the council chairman's house and that of his aide, Mr Chukwudi Onyibe, were set ablaze in the village.

The rampaging youths also attempted to attack Abakaliki Local Government headquarters, Nkaliki, but were dispersed by security agents.

Nwangele confirmed the incident to journalists in Abakaliki.

He said, "I was about to go to the village that night to calm the youths but some people around told me it was late that time; that it was better

in the morning. It was after that that I was informed that somebody died and that they are rampaging to the extent that they came to one Bosco Guest House and the police dispersed them. They went back home and set houses ablaze.

"I was called that they also moved to my own house and also set it ablaze, destroying so many things. I said why? Because I don't know the genesis of the problem. Late in the night, they also went back to that Bosco hotel. According to information, they were even trying to come to Abakaliki local government headquarters but security agencies prevented them. Then this morning, they repeated."