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## Man, 35, Drowns In Attempt To Escape Arrest

By: Osa Okhomina on November 8, 2013 - 5:15am



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Tragedy struck in Bayelsa State on Monday, when a 35-year-old man who was attempting to escape being arrested by the men of the Nigeria Police Force, jumped into a river and drowned.

Leadership Friday understands that during a raid of the hide-out of criminals in the Bebelebiri 2 community of Yenagoa local government council, the man identified as Chinelu Obasi, jumped into the community river in order to evade arrest, but drowned in the process.

Also, one of the policemen, a member of the unit that conducted the raid, was shot in the leg by his colleague who was shooting indiscriminately, in order to scare suspected customers of the notorious hang-out known

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as 'Cooler spot'.

LEADERSHIP Friday also gathered that the hang-out, known for the sale of illicit substances, cannabis and other hard drugs, was invaded by two units of armed policemen from the area command of the Bayelsa State Police Command.

According to a security source, the raid was approved by the divisional police officer, based on an anonymous tip-off. One of the policemen deployed for the mission allegedly opened fire on sighting some group of boys at the notorious hang-out.

While many of the suspected drug peddlers sought to escape the stray bullets and subsequent arrests, Obasi, who is allegedly a poor swimmer, opted to jump into the river. He was found floating on the river a day after, opposite the Federal Medical Centre (FMC) Yenagoa.

Another police officer, who was unidentified, also sustained a gun-shot wound, but was later taken to the Glory Land Hospital in Yenagoa for treatment.

When LEADERSHIP Friday contacted the spokesperson of the Bayelsa State Police Command, Alex Akhigbe, he said he was yet to be "fully briefed" on the incident.



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