

# Cultists Kill 8, Behead 4 In Rivers Community

No fewer than eight people were yesterday gunned down in Ibaa community in Emohua local government area in Rivers State.

Four of the victims were reportedly beheaded and their heads taken away by the rampaging cultists.

A resident of the community, who did not want his name in print for security reasons said the incident was a reprisal attack.

According to him, the cult members who are members of Deygbam cult visited the community around 3 a.m, to avenge the death of their member who was killed by the Icelanders, last month.

He said, "They killed over eight people. Four of their victims were beheaded. We were terrified when the cultists stormed our area but the cultists allayed our fears saying that we should not run that they knew the people they were looking for.

"We are calling on the state government and security operatives in the state to send security personnel and restore peace in the troubled community."

Efforts to reach the Community Development Committee (CDC) chairman of Ibaa, proved abortive as his mobile number was not reachable at press time.

When contacted, Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) in the state, Omoni Nnamdi, confirmed that it was cult reprisal attacks that led to the killings, adding that the number of casualties had not been ascertained.

Omoni said, "Cultists invaded the community today and killed some people believed to be rival cultists in reprisal. It is a cult related incident. The police are aware of it. The Commissioner of Police in the state has mobilised personnel to the community to restore peace and smoke out the perpetrators of the act."