

We killed pastors, confess suspects

FIVE persons have confessed to killing two pastors and two others in Igangan, Oyo State last Wednesday.

The five persons are among 78 suspects being interrogated by the police over the killing.

Igangan is a community in Ibarapa North Local Government of the state.

The Nation learnt at the weekend in Ibadan that five of the suspects confessed when they were interrogated by men of the State Criminal Investigations Department (CID), Iyaganku, Ibadan.

Sources confirmed that

From Bisi Oladele, Ibadan

some of the 78 suspects might be released as soon as the police were able to establish their innocence while the those found culpable would be arraigned soon.

Four church ministers from Lagos were said to have visited the town last Wednesday to preach the gospel.

At Oke-Ola, where they were preaching, they were also said to be selling provisions such as toilet rolls, biscuits, Indomie Noodles and soaps at reduced prices.

The act drew suspicion

from youths in the town who believed that the preachers were abductors.

They alleged that the clerics were using their wares to lure children.

They attacked them and killed Pastor Babatunde Otumagbe, Mrs Grace Rosanwo, one policeman (yet to be named) and an unidentified man.

Police sources informed *The Nation* that the policeman, attached to the town, was killed while trying to escape from his attackers, who seized his gun.

The Executive Chairman of the local government council, Alhaji Tajudeen

Amoo Salaudeen, in an interview with *The Nation*, condemned the action of the youths.

He described the incident as 'unfortunate', saying the local government which had been known as the most peaceful in the state had been plunged into an unnecessary crisis.

He said: "It is a sad incident. I happen to be the council boss for the second time and I used to believe that out of the 33 local governments in Oyo State, Ibarapa North used to be the most peaceful until this happened.

"It's quite unfortunate and it is a very bad incident."