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Girl, 18, in critical condition after gunmen's rampage in Amaechi's town

Posted by: Precious Dikewoha in Niger Delta 13 hours ago

The carnage unleashed on Ubima Community on that fateful May day claimed the lives of two persons — Temple Amadi and Michael Udoh. Although he was lucky to survive the shooting, Iheanyi Ohahuru is in critical condition and has father has cried out for financial assistance to enable him get the much needed treatment and medication.

Narrating his ordeal, his father, Mr. Yakubu Ohahuru said the gunmen stormed the community at about 8:30pm on May 4th and unleashed mayhem on his son and other victims. The 'sin' of the young man was that he was sitting in front of his father's house in Ubima, which is fast becoming a hotbed of crimes in the state.

At the time of this report on Monday, Iheanyi was at the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital (UPTH) where doctors are battling to save his life. But his father said he doesn't know for how long he would continue to get medical attention as the family had run out of money to buy drugs.

His medical records indicated that Iheanyi's bladder was badly damaged by bullet. He is now forced to urinate through supportive pipe. His legs were also shattered by bullets and there are concerns that he may never walk again unless help comes his way really fast.

When Niger Delta Report visited him at the UPTH he had emaciated and his father said the family had spent all the money they saved – over N500,000 to take care of his medical bills. Yakubu said he could no longer afford to pay the bill.

He said, "My son was sitting in the front of my house when the gunmen entered the community around 8pm and shot two persons to death with many others wounded. I was surprised when I saw my son seriously bleeding on the floor that was after we heard gunshot. The condition we met him that day before we rushed him to the hospital was critical. We didn't think he would survive it considering the quantity of blood that went out of him."

The other victims of the sporadic shooting, identified as Temple Amadi and Michael Udoh, have since been buried.

But for the Ohahurus, the joy of their child's survival is gradually turning into a nightmare.

His father, in a hearty appeal, said, "I need help; I want well meaning Nigerian to assist my son so that the doctors can continue to give him treatment. We have spent more than half a million. The native bone doctor who was suppose to be massaging his bone left because the money we agreed with him was not favourable to him. His (native doctor's) work is important now because the bullet also hit him on his two legs."

Ohahuru's kinsman, who is also a human rights lawyer, Mr. Chigozi Ikpe-Orlu Orlu, slammed the state government for neglecting the lucky man and his son. He blamed the family's predicament on porous security in the community and other parts of the state.

He said: "The security of life and property is in the hand of government; the innocent boy was not fighting anybody or stealing when he was shot. But he is in the condition he is today because the government has failed to live up to its responsibility. You can imagine how gunmen will enter a community and start shooting everybody. That means the security officers posted to that area failed to do their job. I am calling on government of Rivers State to show a great concern by coming to his aid. He is entitled to be protected as a citizen of this country."



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