

and his wife Rosemary at the wake of Fowler's dad, the late P for Wensley Michael Fowler at his home

Woman, daughter stabbed to death in Benin

A 28-year-old woman, Mrs Itohan Enagbare, and her four-year-old daughter, Iwinosa, have been stabbed to death in Benin, the Edo State capital.

Their assailants reportedly invaded the woman's family home at 2 Osaze Street, off Dumez Road, at 1pm on Wednesday.

Iwinosa was said to have been killed because she cried uncontrollably as the assailants dragged her mother from their room upstairs to the ground floor.

A baby on Mrs Enagbare's back was reportedly locked in the bedroom.

The killers were said to have escaped before the neighbours could round them up.

The woman's husband, Mr Ikpomwosa Enagbare, urged the police to fish out killers of his wife and daughter.

Policemen from the Forensic Department were seen on the crime scene yesterday col-

- 'I was shocked seeing the bodies of my wife, daughter'
- Suspected cultists kill five

From Osagie Otabor, Benin

lecting specimen for analysis.

The police confirmed yesterday that Mrs Enagbare and her daughter were killed by a houseboy to their landlady.

Police Commissioner Chris Ezike told our reporter on phone that the suspect had fled while the landlady had been arrested.

The police chief dismissed insinuations that the killing was cult-related.

Enagbare expressed shock last night at the killing of his wife and daughter.

The staircase leading to the victims' apartment had blood stains when our reporter visited yesterday.

The interior decorator said he left his wife and two children at home in the morning when they were preparing to

visit Father Christmas.

He expressed shock to see the bodies of his wife and first daughter on the staircase leading to his apartment.

In tears, Ikpomwosa said the killers locked his one-year-old baby in the bedroom.

He said: "When I was leaving home, I said would see her later, but when I returned home I met her body and my first daughter's body stiff on the staircase.

"The compound was empty; nothing was removed from my home.

"Before I got home, I received a phone call from my neighbour, inviting me to the police station. But I ignored it.

"I have been having issues with my landlady and her houseboy."

Also, five persons were re-

portedly killed on Monday in cult-related clashes in Benin.

Suspected cultists were said to have invaded a barber's salon at Usen Quarters in Benin, where they reportedly shot the barber and injured one of his customers on the head.

Four other persons were said to have been killed the same day at Power Line Road, beside Ogida Police Barracks.

But Ezike said one person was killed in the cult clash.

He said six suspects were arrested on the incident.

Police spokesman Abiodun Osifo, a Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP), said the police commissioner had zero tolerance for cultism.

He added that Ezike had directed the arrest of those involved in the cult clashes.