

NEWS

One killed in Rivers community

From Precious Dikewoha, Port Harcourt

ONE person was yesterday shot dead by suspected members of Islander cult group in Ubima community, Ikwerre Local Government of Rivers State.

The victim, whose name was given as Victor, did not die from the shots but a gunman trailed him to the hospital and killed him on the bed.

A community leader, who pleaded anonymity, said the cultists were dressed in military camouflage.

He said: "The cultists drove to Victor's family home and shot him. When they left, the parents rushed their son to hospital. We didn't know who told them the victim would survive. They came back and shot him at the hospital bed.

"Cult activities have claimed lives of many youths in the community. Prominent sons and daughters of the community no longer come home. Nobody is speaking for us. We are living at the mercy of the cultists."

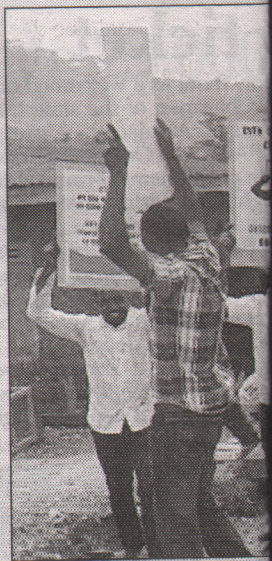
Also, an Obio/Akpor man and his son, who were in the community for a traditional marriage rite, were abducted on Monday evening and released on Tuesday.

Narrating his experience, Mr. Samuel Nkoro said five gunmen abducted him and his father on their way home.

"The gunmen who abducted us were at the marriage gathering. They enjoyed our drink. We were surprised that we saw the same people on the road ordering us to enter the bush.

"But we were lucky that other youths in the community did not support our abduction. Some cult leaders threatened to kill them if they didn't free us. That was how they left us in the bush and ran away. Then, we found our way out the next day."

Sack of council boss: Judge



• The protesters in Ekuri

Communi

THE Ekuri community in Akamkpa Local Government Area of Rivers State yesterday pro