



APC man burnt alive as 'thugs' kill five in Rivers

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•Council chief's mum abducted •Obuah describes killings as abominable

A member of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Ofinijite Amachree, was burnt alive in Buguma, Asari-Toru Local Government of Rivers State yesterday.

Amachree was beaten up and burnt. Five were clubbed to death between Saturday and Sunday.

The murder of Amachree took place barely 48 hours after APC's Ward 4 chairman in Omoku, headquarters of Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni, Franklin Obi, was beheaded at his home by masked gunmen at 9 pm. His wife and 18-year-old son, Bestman, were also killed.

Four APC members were killed in Obibi, Etche Local Government, **while Gabriel Cookey was clubbed to death in Opobo, headquarters of Opobo/Nkoro.**



There were sporadic shootings at the wee hours of yesterday in Omoku, headquarters of Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni.

A source said: "We don't really know what caused the fight; but what we know is that it is a clash between the APC and PDP. There were gunshots; so, we had to take cover in our house. One guy, popularly known as Kpom Kpom, who I think is an APC member was killed and burnt. As I speak with you, there is tension in Buguma".

Police spokesman Ahmad Muhammad confirmed the incident.

Muhammad said normalcy had returned to the area following the response of security operatives.

He said: "On Saturday's killings in Omoku, no arrest has been made yet, but it is under investigation.

"There was a report of security breach in Buguma, but normalcy has been restored, due to the intervention by our men. I do not have any report on killings in Opobo and Obibi-Etche, for now (at 3:49 pm)."

The mother of the Caretaker Committee Chairman of Asari-Toru Local Government, Sobomabo Jackrich, was abducted by armed men on Sunday around Obiri Ikwerre Bridge, Port Harcourt.

State PDP Chairman Felix Obuah condemned the killing of an APC chief and his family in Omoku in

Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Local Government Area (ONELGA).

Obuah, in a statement in Port Harcourt by his Special Adviser, Media and Publicity, Jerry Nedam, expressed shock at the “reckless killings in Omoku”.

The PDP chief said the killing “is condemnable, unacceptable abominable and sheer madness”.

He wondered why entreaties by Governor Nyesom Wike to warring youths in Omoku during his visit to the area a few weeks ago could be so flagrantly violated.

He described the murder of the family on Saturday, “as one too many,” and urged the police to tighten up security around the area and all parts of the state.

“My heart goes out to those that lost their lives and loved ones in these tragic events,” Obuah said.

The chairman urged politicians to join hands with Wike to keep the state peaceful and secure from criminals, rather than trading words and politicking with insecurity.

He regretted that rather than join in the fight against criminality and insecurity, some politicians have politicised the situation.



Besides the killing of Franklin Obi, his wife and son, the Obuah claimed the PDP Chairman in Obite, Isaac Ikechukwu Chinedu, and Ward 9 PDP Assistant Secretary from Oboburu, Chinedu Saidey, both of Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni, also lost their lives to gunmen.

Peterside: Rivers is a killing field

Rivers State All Progressives Congress (APC) governorship candidate in the 2015 election Dr. Dakuku Peterside has described the state as a killing field.

Peterside, in a statement yesterday, condemned the murder of Ofinijite Amachree, an APC stalwart in Buguma, Asari-Toru Local Government Area.

Amachree was beaten up and set ablaze.

He decried the execution, describing it as frightening and unprecedented. According to him, the pathetic security situation in the state is unfortunately an affront on the Federal Government’s power to protect life and property within its territory.

Peterside, who spoke in Port Harcourt said the state urgently needs help.

“The security situation in our state is distressing and we cannot continue to live under such a desperate situation. I am again drawing attention to daily killings in Rivers State.

“Last Friday, Mr. Franklin, APC Ward 4 chairman in Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Local Government was killed and beheaded in Omoku. His wife and son were also killed. Franklin, who recently moderated APC ward meeting in the council, hails from the same ward as the state chairman of the PDP, Felix Obuah.

“Four APC persons were killed in Obibi, Etche council in the last 48 hours. Gabriel Cookey was clubbed to death in Opobo, Opobo/Nkoro councils.

“Only yesterday morning, in Buguma, Ofinijite Amachree , an APC member was set ablaze by alleged thugs of PDP.

“In fact, in the last two weeks, over 30 APC members have been killed in different parts of the state. We are tired of this bloodbath; this is why we are calling on the Federal Government to come to our aid.

“As citizens of the state, we know that this heart-rending situation is a fallout of loss of moral right by the Nyesom Wike-led government to fight criminality having allegedly benefited from their activities. But this killing must stop and the time is now.

“Unfortunately, members of PDP are allegedly heeding the call by Wike to burn alive members of the opposition and other electoral personnel, who stand in their way to victory in the rerun elections.”

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