

Anxiety in Rivers community over killing of 16 persons

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Fear has gripped residents of Egi Clan, in Ogba-Egbama Ndoni Local Government Area (ONELGA), Rivers State following the killing of 16 people in the area within the last one week.

The latest victim is a prominent citizen of the area, Chief Eddy Onwudiwe who, until his murder yesterday, held the title of Ochi-Oha of Ukpomini.

Dozens of residents are fleeing to Port Harcourt and other parts of the state on account of the incessant killings.

A resident who pleaded anonymity blamed cultists for the development.

He claimed that the cultists were used by politicians for the 2015 elections and the recent re-run in the state, and have now decided to take out their frustration on innocent people.

The source said: "On Wednesday 11 people including a Pastor and children were shot dead at the Ohali community burial ground. Three persons were murdered at Erema after hours of gunshot in the community, and one person was murdered at Obigbo community all in Egi.

"We are worried because the government is not doing anything about the situation. These cultists are now going after innocent citizens instead of those who gave them the arms they are using. The only option we have is to run away from the community."

Another indigene of the area, Mr. Frank Ewoh said he was a target during the Wednesday shooting, "but God helped me to escape."

He asked the Federal Government to intervene and rescue the people of Egi before it is too late.