



Policeman kills 13-yr-old in Bayelsa

■ Mike ODIEGWU, Yenagoa ■

There was a protest in Bayelsa State, yesterday, after a policeman, Corporal David Napoleon, killed a 13-year-old Senior Secondary School student identified as Joseph Tomizibe.

Residents of Kpansia where the incident happened protested the killing, blocked the road and caused traffic gridlock along the busy Yenagoa-Mbama road.

The policeman attached to the Department of Operations at the state police command, was said to have been arrested, disarmed and detained for further investigations.

The Kpansia community was thrown into chaos as youths, women and elders lamented rising illegal arrest by policemen.

But the intervention of Yenagoa Caretaker Committee Chairman, Oforji Oboku, calmed frayed nerves and stopped the angry residents from attacking a traffic policeman in the area.

Police spokesman, Asinim Butswat, said the victim was 18 years old adding that he was shot when the policeman was trying to escape from being attacked by irate boys and suspected cultists in the area.

But the Central Zone leadership of the Ijaw Youths Council (IYC), faulted the claims of the police.

The Zonal Chairman of IYC, Mr. Tare Porri, who visited the deceased family said his interactions with members of the family showed the victim was 13 years old.

Narrating how the incident happened, he said: After consulting with the police and family of the deceased, it is clear that the deceased is 13 years old. He and the killer policeman were neighbours.

"Eyewitnesses said the policeman shot

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