NLC, TUC petition governor over murder of head teacher, teacher



Ogochukwu Anioke, Abakaliki October 20, 2023







Organised Labour in Ebonyi State has petitioned Governor Francis Nwifuru over the gruesome murder of a head teacher and a teacher at Nkaleke, Ebonyi Local Government, by hoodlums.

It urged the governor to direct security agencies to fish out the perpetrators.

The state chapters of Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) and Trade Union Congress of Nigeria (TUC) made this known during a visit to the governor.

NLC Chairman Ogugua Egwu, lamenting the killings, called for arrest and prosecution of the killers by security agencies.

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He said: "The quality of life of teachers is poor. Their work environment is being threatened by the flamboyance of our nationality, and communities no longer support the safety of teachers.

"On October 13 we lost two teachers, including a head teacher. They were gruesomely murdered at Nkaleke in Ebonyi Local Government.

"We use this medium to ask you, sir, to ensure that the security agencies bring the perpetrators to book, to act as a deterrent to other haters of teachers."

It was learnt that the killers, suspected to be assassins, invaded Nkaleke Achara Community Secondary School in Ebonyi Local Government and shot dead the head teacher, Simon Ominyi, popularly called "Osmosis."

The assailants, after pumping bullets into the about 50-year-old head teacher, also killed a yet-to-be named teacher in the school.

The incident caused tension in the area, raising concerns whether pupils and teachers would still return to the school.

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The community has been deserted, as its leaders and stakeholders fled, perhaps for fear of further attack or arrest by security agencies.

A source in the area said there was no trouble in the community before the gunmen stormed the school in a tricycle and killed the duo.

The source said the miscreants arrived on the school premises as if they were on a genuine mission, inquired about the head teacher's office from someone who led them to a distance before pointing at the office. But shortly after, they began to shoot sporadically.

"Immediately the assassins found their way into the head teacher's office, they commanded the man and his guests from the West African Examinations Council (WAEC) office to lie down. Ominyi, sensing danger, complied.

"But surprisingly, in spite of the head teacher's plea and non-resistance to their order, they still killed him on the spot," he said.

It was further gathered that the gunmen shot another person in the leg before making away with his motorcycle.

Police spokesperson Onome Onovwakpoyeya confirmed the incident.

She said the command had launched investigation with a view to arresting the killers.