

Cultists kill police corporal, 15 others in Rivers

DAPO FALADE
- PORT HARCOURT

PEOPLE suspected to be cultists struck in Ula Upata community in Ahoada East Local Government Area of Rivers State, killing 16 people, including a police corporal.

This was as the state police command, while confirming the incident, said only eight people were killed by the cultists.

An eyewitness, Mr Frank Alabi, claimed that 16 persons lost their lives to the rampaging cultists, saying he witnessed the incident.

He said he was in his room in the village when he heard gunshots, adding that he

quickly ran into a nearby bush where he monitored all that happened.

According to him, the assailants, after killing 10 persons in the Ula Upata community, shifted to Ahoada West to kill another six persons.

"I saw everything. I was in my room when about five boys started shooting. The killing started about 12.50 a.m.

"I was in my house when I saw the killers. They were five persons. They carried three AK-47 and two pump action. I called the DPO and the JTF.

"One of those killed was a police corporal and nine others in the community before they later moved to Ahoada West to kill another six persons," Alabi said.

The eyewitness further claimed that one of the suspected cultists was arrested

by a JTF agent, who responded to his distress call.

However, the state police command said it was aware of the incident, but insisted that only eight persons were killed by the suspected cultists.

The state police spokesman, Ahmad Muhammad, in a short message, said the timely intervention of policemen saved the community of more death by the rampaging cultists.

"The incident was more of cult-related heinous activities at Ula Upata community, Ahoada East Local Government Area. Eight persons were killed.

"Quick intervention by our men saved the situation. One of the suspected cultists was arrested and an English pump action gun recovered from him. Investigation is right now ongoing," he said.

Diezani returns to London

move to circumvent justice. This is a terrorism case and, therefore, the counsel must be stopped from tossing the court up and down.

seeking to conceal
the Federal Government
suspected terrorists