

Man electrocuted while cutting tree in Anambra

A middle-aged man identified as Nduka Emeziagbala, died on Friday, at Enugwu-Agidi community in Anambra States in circumstances suspected to be electrocution.

The **News Agency of Nigeria (NAN)** gathered that the incident occurred while the victim was on a breadfruit tree, which he was hired to cut its branches under high-tension wire in the community.

The deceased was believed to have had contact with something bearing electricity current while on the tree and got electrocuted.

He was said to have fallen off the tree and died.

An eyewitness said that the deceased, from Iruobieri village, was given the job following the warning by Enugu Electricity Distribution Company (EEDC) on the dangers of the tree.

The company had said

that it was necessary to cut down the tree to ensure free flow of electricity current on the wires.

"In the process, the young man was hired to cut down branches of the tree because of the repeated warning from officers of the EEDC," the source said.

Another source, who said that the incident had thrown the entire community in Njikoka Local Government Area into mourning, described the deceased as "a quiet young man, who cared for his mother."

In his reaction, President-General of Enugwu-Agidi Brotherly Union (EBU), Mr Chidi Okoye, described the incident as regrettable, but blamed it on carelessness of the deceased.

"It is unfortunate that the young man died in that manner. We expected that there would have been

a proper communication with the EEDC before cutting down the tree.

"He just lost his life out of sheer carelessness. The sad incident is a lesson to everybody in the community," he said.

Okoye, however, cautioned youths in the area not to take laws into their hands, advising that there was no need for civil unrest in the community as a result of the incident.

He disclosed that the deceased's body had been deposited in a mortuary in the community.

When contacted, Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) in the state, Mr Haruna Mohammed, told **NAN** that the case was not reported to the police.

Mohammed, however, said that the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) in charge of the area notified him that the deceased did not die of electrocution.