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Cultists behead youths in reprisal for member's killing

AUGUST 27, 2013 BY SHARON OREMICHEN 3 COMMENTS

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Some suspected cult members have beheaded two youths in Odogunyan, a suburb of Ikorodu, Lagos State.

PUNCH Metro learnt that one of the slain youths, Onyebuchi Igwe, 23, was beheaded with both hands cut off, while the second victim, identified simply as Debo, was only beheaded with other body parts intact.

The duo, who were suspected to belong to a rival cult group, were killed on Sunday, August 18, 2013.

Our correspondent learnt that the brutal killing of the youths was a reprisal for the death of Michael Agbo, who was killed in place of his brother on August 6, 2013.

PUNCH Metro had reported on August 12, 2013, that Michael, 22, was killed in place of his brother, Emmanuel, by another cult group. His mother was also beaten, while their house was vandalised.

A brother to one of the deceased persons, Ibe Igwe, said he was devastated by Onyebuchi's death. He said he (Onyebuchi) lived at Sango, Ogun State, and decided to spend the weekend with him (Ibe) in Ikorodu.

He said, "Onyebuchi was my younger brother and he lived at Sango. We had not seen in a while and he decided to spend the weekend with me in Ikorodu.

"On that Sunday morning, he said he was going to have his hair cut at a nearby barber's shop, but around 12pm I received a call from my brother's phone but it was not his voice.

"The person said my brother was dead and he described the place where I was to recover the corpse.

"On getting there, I saw my brother lying on the ground naked without his head and both hands. There was another corpse there (Debo)."

Our correspondent, who visited the Shagamu Road Police Division, did not meet the Divisional Police Officer or the Divisional Crime Officer on seat.

However, a police source said policemen attached to the division went to recover the corpses from the bush.

He said 10 suspects had been arrested, while the case had been transferred to the State Criminal Investigation Department, Yaba.

He said, "The Police recovered the corpses from the bush when the report got to us. There are at the General Hospital Mortuary, Ikorodu.

"In respect to the case, 10 suspects have been arrested and the case is now at the SCID for further investigations."

The Police Public Relations Officer, Ngozi Braide, said investigations were ongoing.

She said, "Police are working hard to ensure that gang-related violence is curbed in Ikorodu."

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