

each other's throat on who should take responsibility.

In some cases, whole families consisting of fathers, mothers and children belonging to one family were killed as unknown gunmen wreaked havoc in ONELGA, Asari-Toru, Ahaoda East and Ogoniland areas of the state.

Apart from the killing spree, kidnapping for ransom has also become a commonplace in the state.

Though, the state could not be said to have been totally crime free at anytime, the slaughtering of human beings in the state took an awful dimension in 2014 as the country prepared for the general elections which later took place in 2015.

The killings got to a head on April 3, 2015 when an APC stalwart in ONELGA, Christopher Adube, his son and four others were murdered. His last child, who was shot in the back, had since been confined to the wheel chair.

In Ahoada East LGA, the killings worsened on January 21, 2016 when unknown gunmen stormed the Ula Upata community and mowed down 16 persons.

Two days after, three persons, including one Ebubedike Wabali, were killed in Isiokpo, Ikwerre LGA. Wabali was earlier kidnapped but his body was later found in a bush around the area.

In Ahoada East, more than 50 persons had been killed by gunmen suspected to be cult members. Ubeta, Ihubuluko, Oyigba and Ogoda communities have also had the bitter taste of gruesome killings in the area. Among members of these communities who lost their lives to gunmen were Chigba Apollos and Chiezule German, said to be members of the APC in the Ahoada East LGA. They were killed in the Ibarikpo axis of the area.

In April 2015 in Okrika, a man was killed in his car and taken away by his assailants, while another was shot by gunmen in his house. His body was discovered floating in the river several hours later.

Also, within the same period in Ebubu community, Eleme Local Government Area of the