Police quiz Delta poly workers over contractor's death

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No fewer than seven top management staff members of the Ogwashi-Uku Polytechnic in the Aniocha South Local Government Area of Delta have been quizzed by the state Police Command over the circumstances surrounding the death of a 43-year-old man, Prince Chukwuebo.

City Round gathered that late Chukwuebo, a contractor with the institution, was reportedly strangled to death by some unknown persons on the school premises.

His decomposed body was reportedly found in one of the uncompleted buildings, four days after he was reported missing by his wife.

It was learnt that the deceased, who was the Youth President, Ogwashi-Uku, Asaba Branch, was allegedly invited to the school by the authorities apparently to collect his contract money executed for the past 10 years.

According to the institution's sources, Chukwuebo arrived at the school for the collection of N15m, being the proceeds of printed identity cards and other jobs executed for the school, on Tuesday.

He was said to have had a closed-door meeting with some top management staff for the payment.

"We were told that the contractor's body was lying in an uncompleted building inside the school compound four days after," a source said.

Another source told our correspondent that the deceased's wife went to the school to know the whereabouts of her husband, having waited in vain for his return.

The source said the wife protested at the school gate and demanded to see the Rector, Prof Stella Chieneka, over her husband's whereabouts but was prevented from gaining access into the school by some security men.

He said the wife became suspicious and reported the case at the Ogwashi-Uku Police Division.

It was gathered that the police invited some management staff for questioning on the incident.

The Public Relations Officer of the institution, Mr Manfred Oyobode, said the body of the contractor was found in an uncompleted building, adding that police were investigating the matter.

When pressed further for details, the PRO said, "There is nothing to say now since the matter is being investigated by the police. Please let's wait for the police report."

The state Commissioner of Police, Adeyinka Adeleke, who confirmed the death on Friday, said a post-mortem was being awaited to ascertain the cause of the death.

He said, "Prince was found dead on the school premises. We have invited and questioned as many people including top management staff."