Pirates kill five-year-old girl, shoot speedboat driver in Bayelsa

Daniels Igoni 28 May 2021

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Bayelsa CP, Mike Okoli

Gunmen suspected to be sea robbers have attacked a speedboat and shot dead a five-year-old girl in Bayelsa State.

The deceased, identified as Comfort, her sibling and their mother, Lovina Isegu, were reportedly aboard the speedboat with six other passengers.

They were travelling from the Swali Market Waterfront in Yenagoa, the state capital, to Koluama 1 and 2 in the Southern Ijaw Local Government Area of the state when the incident happened around 5pm on Wednesday.

PUNCH Metro gathered that the pirates opened fire on the speedboat while the driver was trying to flee after sighting them as they approached Koluama.

The state Chairman, Maritime Workers Union of Nigeria, Mr Ogoniba Ipigansi, confirmed the attack, adding that the boat driver, Mr Okilo Orubiko, was also shot.

According to him, Orubiko sustained serious gunshot wounds but managed to navigate the boat and the passengers to Koluama 1, where he was taken for medical treatment.

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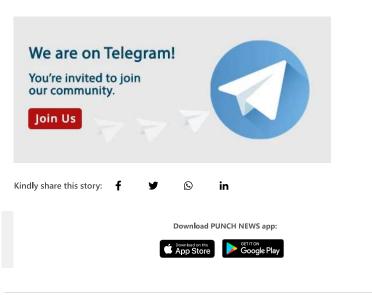
Ipigansi said, "We are calling on the state and federal governments to pay serious attention to the security of lives and property of drivers and passengers travelling on the waterways.

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