

a shallow grave after a failed

deceased to his room located

behind the state university for

August 6, 2021.

a second time and never

Family petitions Ebonyi CP over death of 36-year-old son

Edward Nnachi,
Abakaliki

THE family of Pa Amos Ibiam of Ezi Ndi Ogudu, Ogwuma Edda community, in the Afikpo South Local Government Area of Ebonyi State, have petitioned the state Commissioner of Police, Aliyu Garba, over the alleged murder of their 36-year-old son, Kelechi.

The petition, dated Thursday, August 5, 2021, and signed by the elder brother of the deceased, Monday, and his stepmother, Mrs Felicia Aka Nkama, alleged that the deceased was killed in their compound.

"This gruesome murder of Kelechi happened around 6pm on Saturday, 31st July, 2021, in our family compound.

"We are worried that the late Kelechi, who resided in Lagos, a tailor by profession and who only visited home for the burial of his namesake, could be murdered in this manner by members of a group known as More Can Be Done, a killer squad that has been terrorising the community and enjoying the protection of the powers that be in Afikpo South LGA.

"We hereby appeal to you to use your good offices to intervene in the matter to ensure that the killers of Kelechi are brought to book,"

the petition read in part.

The Executive Chairman of Afikpo South LGA, Dr Eni Uduma Chima, however, stated that the deceased was not murdered as alleged by the petitioners.

He said, "The young man, while drinking in a beer parlour, had a problem with another person and they fought. The other person, Paul Okeunu, is well known in the community. In the course of the fight, he was said to have been beaten up. So, people from his place, his relatives, because they were right in his village, came out to support him. A young man who was an Okada rider carrying Paul Okeunu was also attacked and



• CP Garba

cut with a machete.

"Then, Kelechi ran to his father's compound, brought out a machete and used it to inflict cuts on many people. When the relatives of the

people he inflicted machete cuts on came, he saw them in their numbers and tried to escape.

"While he was running, because he was not familiar with his own village's terrain, being mostly based in Lagos, he ran to the back of an upstairs at the centre of Ogwuma and while running, he didn't know when he got to an embankment close to the road. He slipped, fell and hit his skull on the concrete road. He was rushed to a hospital, where he was pronounced dead."

He said a meeting was called by community leaders, and it was agreed that the death was an accident.