

# Rivers gunmen kill police officer, abduct wife

Dennis Naku, Port Harcourt

**G**unmen suspected to be herders have killed an Assistant Superintendent of Police, identified as Momoh Atodo in Igwuruta community, Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State.

The late ASP was said to be the station officer of the marine police in Abonema Wharf in Port Harcourt City

## blames hard drug

II Law of Ondo State, 2006.

Adebayo prayed the court to remand the defendant at the correctional centre, Olokuta, Akure, pending the outcome of advice from the Director of Public Prosecutions.

In her ruling, the Chief Magistrate, Folasade Aduroja, granted the prosecutor's request and ordered the remand of the defendant in prison and also directed that the case file be duplicated and sent to the DPP for advice. She adjourned the case till November 28, 2023.

The defendant who pleaded for forgiveness said he committed the act under the influence of hard drugs.

He said, "We were both going, and we greeted each other on the path. The spirit just came over me to cut off Taye's head. I can't actually say what led to it. I think it was the 'Ice' I took in the hot sun."

Local Government Area of the state.

He was reportedly attacked and killed on September 7, a day before the Division alumna Police Officer of Ahoada, Bako Angbashim, was captured and gruesomely murdered in Odumude community, Ahoada East LGA by suspected cultists.

The deceased eldest son, Ahmed Atodo told newsmen in Port Harcourt that the gunmen attacked his father just outside their gate.

Ahmed stated, "From the account of my brother, what happened was that he (the deceased) came back home from work at about 8 pm.

"So he had to call, so my younger brother had to go and open the gate. When he opened the gate, immediately as my dad was entering, some guys just came out with sticks and other weapons to attack him.

"He tried to scare them, next thing they opened fire on him with assault rifles, AK-47. My younger brother who opened the gate was there holding him. Imagine the trauma that boy would be passing through."

Late Atodo's son said the hoodlums also kidnapped his mother that night and the family parted with the sum of N2.5 million for her release.

According to him, "We had to pay a ransom of N2.5 million to release my mum and she was beaten every day, day and night for the seven days she was abducted."

When contacted, the spokesperson of the state Police Command, Grace Iringe-Koko, confirmed the incident, saying two suspects have been arrested in connection with the killing.