

Gunmen kill one, rape three Delta poly students

Matthew Ochei, Asaba

TENSION has gripped the Delta State Polytechnic, Ogwashi-Uku following gunmen attack on the student hostels in the institution that reportedly left one dead, and others injured.

PUNCH Metro gathered that the management of the school subsequently announced a shutdown of academic activities for one week to enable them put in place security measures to guard against a recurrence.

A female Higher National Diploma student who spoke with our correspondent on the condition of anonymity, on Monday, said the students had all deserted the school for fear of



•Delta PPRO, Edafe

gunmen attacks.

"Armed men have continued invading our hostels, shooting and raping students. When they first came on Thursday, they shot

a male student on the leg while two female students were raped.

"So, students have left their hostels and most of us have been coming from our various homes to attend classes for the past two weeks," she said.

Another student who did not want his name mentioned said a student was allegedly killed in the Friday shooting.

"One student was shot dead, others were cut with cutlasses. The gunmen not only raped the female students but also shot a male student

"As I speak to you, the male student is bleeding from his anus where he is currently receiving treatment at the hospital.

"The school management has

shut down the school and asked everybody to go home for one week break," he explained

PUNCH Metro learnt that other victims of the serial attacks lost their handsets and laptops to the gunmen who forced them to transfer money in their personal accounts to them, while also raping some female students and shooting anyone who resisted.

The Rector of the institution, Prof. Emmanuel Achuenu, was said to have announced the closure of the school on Friday for the students' safety with the expectation that they would resume normal academic activities on Monday, February 26.

In a statement issued by the Students Union Government, all the students in the hostels were instructed to comply with the management's directive to proceed on a semi-semester break.

The statement signed by the SUG President, Comrade Victor Anthony, Secretary General Onugege Graham, and Public Relations Officer, Blessings Utomi, assured the students that within the period, the school management, SUG, the community and security agencies would monitor and take appropriate measures that would be used to curb the high insecurity in hostels.

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trafficking of 23 children

years, since 2019.

"We are working with the Plateau State Government to reunite the children that I had earlier mentioned by name and by age, with their families in the state. This is a transition arrangement", she said.

The Plateau State Commissioner for Women Affairs, Mrs Caroline Dafur, narrated that the proprietors of the orphanage abandoned the children at the home, under the

we found them in a Deeper Life Church, where we were able to pick them up, and we went to the home. And we saw the place. In fact, it is not supposed to be called a home.

"The place is just so unkempt. I wonder how the children were sleeping in the small room. Nine girls were sleeping in a very small room with just two mattresses. And then for the boys, they were in a small room

too, with two mattresses just on the floor. And I mean, it's so pathetic the way human beings treat human beings in this country."

The commissioner expressed the displeasure of the Plateau State government, while appreciating the Mandate Secretary for the assistance in evacuating the children, and relocating them to the Karu Childrens' Home.

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