

Gunmen kill 84-year-old Anambra community leader

Ikenna Obianeri, Awka

SOME yet-to-be-identified assailants have murdered an 84-year-old community leader in Umudioka village, Awka South Local Government Area of Anambra State, Ichie Michael Nwobu.

PUNCH Metro learnt that Nwobu was murdered in his bedroom in the early hours of Sunday while his family members, who had left for church when the incident happened, found his lifeless body lying on the floor in a pool of blood.

It was gathered that the development almost resulted in a breakdown of law and order by the aggrieved youths of Umudioka when they found the lifeless body but for the timely intervention of the elders of the community who managed to calm the frayed nerves.

No reason has yet to be obtained as to why the community leader was murdered, but his family members and relatives said it was the first time such a dastardly act would be recorded in the area.

As a result of the development, an emergency stakeholders meeting was summoned by the

village heads and community leaders on Monday.

The Secretary of Ndichie Umudioka Obunese, Chief Joseph Nweke, who chaired the emergency meeting, held at the Umudioka Village Town Hall, confirmed to journalists that cross-examination of the deceased's lifeless body showed that he was stabbed in his neck and chest.

Nweke also expressed disgust that such a dastardly act had taken place in the community for the first time in the history of the existence of the area.

Flanked by other community leaders, stakeholders and elders, Nweke said, "The assailants had trailed the victim to his bedroom upstairs, between 7 am and 9 am on the fateful day shortly after his wife and other family members had left for Church and stabbed him many times in his neck and chest before sneaking out of the house.

"The development has caused panic and apprehension in the community and we are therefore appealing to the appropriate security agencies to expedite action and fish out the perpetrators of the dastardly act and bring them to book.