

Bayelsa cult leader killed by gang members, police reveal

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| By Samuel Ese

The Bayelsa State Police Command has revealed that the leader of the Bobos cult group, Wanemi Omubo, was killed by some of his gang members who wanted to profit from a change of leadership.

Bayelsa State Police Commissioner, Mr Francis Idu, made the revelation on Monday during an interactive session with some journalists in his office in Yenagoa.

The late Omubo, who hails from Nembe in Nembe Local Government Area of Bayelsa State, was also a beneficiary of the Presidential Amnesty Programme and leader of the Phase 2 Amnesty beneficiaries in the state.

His killing along Goodnews Street in the Azikoro axis of Yenagoa on Thursday, April 24, remained a mystery with fingers pointing at rival cult groups until the police disclosure.

It was also thought that the killing was carried out by some external mercenaries who were recruited for the act in retaliation for other killings allegedly ordered by him.

Idu said there was an intra-cult war within the Bobos cult group, and those members behind the killing had the aim of profiting from a new leadership.

He assured residents of an end to the cult killings in the state, stressing that even though late Omubo was a notorious cultist who had a record of crimes, he was killed by his gang members.

The commissioner further disclosed that the police had no option but to let him off the hook when they held him for illegal possession of firearms, but did not give details.

Idu said, “95 per cent of intelligence available to the police showed that he died due to intra-cult rivalry about leadership struggle. They took him out and made it look like an inter-cult rivalry to profit from his death.

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“It is on good authority that the deceased has been involved in nefarious activity. The last altercation with the police was over the issue of illegal gun possession.

“He was controversially influenced to be let off the hook, and that is why I have always said when you influence the release of a criminal off the hook, you are building a disastrous effect.”

Idu also announced the arrest of nine suspects for their alleged involvement in various crimes, including cultism, kidnapping, armed robbery, unlawful possession of firearms and murder.

In one of the cases, a 50-year-old native of Gombe State, Mohammed Adamu, was arrested alongside Adiamakubo Orubo, 37, over the alleged disappearance of one Ashiru Ishiaku, a 26-year-old native of Kano State, along with his tricycle on the 29th of April, 2025.

Also arrested was a member of the notorious Islanders cult group, David Ngo, 36, a native of Brass Local Government Area, over the alleged stabbing to death of one Goodwill Ovuru at Agudama-Ekpetiama Community, Yenagoa Local Government Area on the 16th of April, 2025.

At Onopa Community also in Yenagoa Local Government Area, on Monday, Daniel, 28, was arrested by the police for an alleged armed robbery attack on one Amarachi Emeachi at her residence around Revenue House, Onopa.

According to the Police Commissioner, “a group of four men armed with guns dispossessed her of her Redmi phone valued at N180,000.”

He further stated that, “On the 4th of May, 2025, one Endurance Odambe Chinedu, 24, from Ndokwa-East Local Government Area of Delta State was arrested at Agbia community in Yenagoa at 1.00 pm with 10 live cartridges.”