

Police hunt killers of 13 in Anambra community

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Anambra PPRO, Ikenga

| By Ikenna Obianeri

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The Anambra State Police Command has launched an investigation into the killing of no fewer than 13 persons – allegedly Ebonyi State indigenes – by yet-to-be-identified assailants in Ogboji community, Orumba South Local Government Area of the state.

Our correspondent gathered that the armed hoodlums stormed the area late on Monday in two Sport Utility Vehicles and unprovokedly attacked the people, who were holding their monthly general meeting, while also shooting indiscriminately into the air.

The development, it was also gathered, has created panic in the community bringing both economic and commercial activities to a standstill, with residents and community leaders confused.

The incident was brought to the public attention by the President of Association of Non-Indigenes in Anambra State, Prince Chigozie Nweke, in a statement he shared with journalists on Tuesday.

Although members of the community said 13 persons were killed during the attack, police sources, however, confirmed 10 were killed.

Nweke, who said non-indigenes, believed to hail from Ebonyi State, were mostly the victims of the attack, urged the state government and relevant authorities to intensify their investigation.

He said, “It was a tragic and horrifying Monday evening for members of the Ogboji community, particularly non-indigenes residing in the area as gunmen stormed a meeting venue in the area and brutally murdered about 13 persons.

“The attack, which occurred between 6:00 pm and 7:00 pm, left the affected families in mourning. We bring to the attention of the Anambra State Government the killing of these persons, mostly indigenes of Ebonyi State at Ogboji in Orumba South Local Government Area by yet to be identified gunmen.”

Nweke also appealed to the state Commissioner of Police, Ikioye Orutugu, and urged him to mobilise the command’s personnel to hunt down the culprits.

A survivor, Augustine Odom, who is the chairman of the Ebonyi community in Ogboji, described the attack as “sudden and unprovoked.”

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Odom said, “The community was holding its regular monthly meeting when the assailants struck. We were having our monthly meeting of the Ebonyi community, which holds on the last Monday of every month, beginning at 4:00pm.

“This gathering was known to our Town Union President. It was a peaceful meeting aimed at discussing welfare issues affecting our members. Then, around 6:30 pm, a group of gunmen arrived in a Sienna vehicle and accused us of holding a meeting against them.

“The attackers demanded the group’s minutes book, and thereafter seized it and opened fire on the participants. They collected our minutes book, ordered everyone to lie down, and then asked the chairman to stand. Moments later, they started shooting at us. About 13 of our members were killed on the spot. The treasurer and I survived with gunshot wounds.”

Odom added that those killed were from various communities in Ebonyi State, including Izzi, Ikwo, and Mgbo.

The two survivors, who are currently receiving treatment at a medical facility in the area, expressed shock, stating that they had no known disputes with any individual or group before the attack, adding, “We have no issues with anyone. We are law-abiding residents who simply gathered to support one another.”

The spokesman for the Anambra State Police Command, Tochukwu Ikenga, who confirmed the development when contacted on Tuesday, said operatives had cordoned off the area while investigations had begun to unmask the perpetrators of the dastardly act.

Ikenga, who did not disclose the identities of the victims, said they were rushed to the hospital where about 10 were confirmed dead and their corpses have been deposited at the morgue.

He said, “The Anambra State Police Command has condemned the indiscriminate shooting incident that resulted in fatal injuries and fatalities to ten persons on the evening of 30th June, 2025, at Ogboji, Orumba South Local Government Area. The police have further assured the state that the command shall hunt down the perpetrators and bring them to justice.

“Meanwhile, the police-led security team has taken over the scene and is working on the necessary information to arrest the perpetrators. Further development would be communicated, please.”

| Ikenna Obianeri