

Final Year Law Student Shot Dead

**YOMI OBADITAN/
*Benin City***

A final year Law student of the University of Benin, Benin City, Ronald Ogwum Ify, 26, has been shot dead by two gunmen at his Courage Hostel residence.

P.M.NEWS gathered that the assailants had trailed Ronald, a native of Kwale in Delta State, to his room. They later traced him to the back of his residence where he was about to start his portable generating set.

At a close range, the attackers shot Ronald in the head



•Ronald
Ogwum

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Ethnic Cleansing

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Monday, 29 August bloody clash between Christians and Muslims at Rukuba Road Eid Mosque has created unease and insecurity in and around the city.

The reprisal attacks that have become routine have resulted in the loss of several lives and destruction of property worth millions of naira.

P.M.NEWS learnt that Fulani herdsmen were responsible for the reprisal killings in Heipang village, where a family of eight was massacred in cold blood, Barkinladi, Babale and Dabwak villages.

P.M.NEWS also observed that the majority of Berom youth and other natives of Plateau State have taken the security of their lives and property into their hands.

Yesterday our reporter on his way to Jos saw a group of youths numbering over 100 at a road block mounted at Vom, a border town between Plateau and Kaduna.

According to one of them, the road block mounted for stop-and-search for weapons as well as enemies, became necessary since the police and soldiers could no longer protect them.

However, as hostilities continue, Governor Jonah David Jang who has been out of the country for over two weeks is yet to return.

Navy

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recovered, while the rest were picked up somewhere in Imo. He said that the navy released four persons among the suspects arrested.

The commandant noted that the men being trained in the use of arms at Isiala Mbano, were capable of breaching the peace as they did not have any steady means of livelihood.

He said the suspects would be handed over to the State Security Service (SSS) in Imo for interrogation and possible prosecution.

Goon advised the public to look out for such groups and report them to the appropriate authorities.

He warned all miscreants within and outside the state to look for alternative means of livelihood as their activities would no longer be tolerated.

Goon urged the security outfits in the state to brace up to contemporary security challenges facing the nation in line with the Federal Government's directive.

He said that the base had commenced intensive patrols and covert operations to dislodge threats to security in the area.

The leader of the group, "Commodore" Abraham Inam from Akwa Ibom, and who claimed to reside in Port Harcourt, said he formed the body as a "para-military" organisation.

On why he chose Isiala Mbano in Imo state as the headquarters of the group, he said that was where his services were most needed.

Goon expressed worry that the SA on Security to Imo governor could move his men to Abia without his principal's knowledge.

When contacted, Mr Innocent Okpokoro, the Special Assistant to Governor Rochas Okorocha on Security in charge of Okigwe zone, told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) by phone that he inherited the men as members of vigilante group in Isiala-Mbano.

He said that he did not know that the suspects were fake people even disguised as members of the vigilante group in the area.

Today's Weather

Heavy rain shower in the day
Max. temperature 27°C
Min. night temperature 24°C
Light rain shower at night

Tomorrow's Weather

Thundery shower in the day
Max. temperature 26°C
Min. night temperature 24°C
Partly cloudy at night



Lagos State Governor, Mr Babatunde Fashola SAN (2nd left), Director-General of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Ms Arunma Oteh, (1) President, Republic of Liberia, Mrs Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf (2nd left), Nigeria's Vice-President, Architect Namadi Sambo (2nd right) and the opening ceremony of the 8th National Seminar on Economic Crimes with the theme, "National and Research Institute, Karu, Abuja, yesterday.

NGO Charges Jonathan On Good Governance

A non-government organisation, African Centre for Youth Development and Action Research (AFCEYDAR), has challenged President Goodluck Jonathan to shape up and provide quality leadership for Nigerians.

The NGO, working with local communities, also called on the Federal Executive Council and the National Assembly to support the president in ensuring good governance and fiscal accountability in government.

Executive Director, AF-Igbo Member

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in the past few months.

The agency said the factory is where the bombs that have rocked Suleja town and its environs leading to the death of many victims were assembled.

The intelligence agency also said it has arrested six persons in connection with the bomb making factory, according to a statement signed by its Assistant Director, Public Relations, Marilyn Ogar.

The agency also said it has established that some of the arrested men have links with global terrorist group, al-Qaeda.

SSS, however, did not mention the names of the six suspects, but it said in the statement that the suspects were responsible for the bombing of INEC office in Suleja; bombing of All Christian Fellowship Church in Suleja; and the killing of four policemen at Dakwa-Deidei in the FCT.

The Security agency said the six men will soon be charged to court.

SSS said its investigation was sparked off following the bombings at the INEC office, Suleja on 8 April, 2011 and the All Christian Fellowship Church, Suleja, Niger State on 10 July, 2011.

Here is the SSS statement released this afternoon: "Consequently, on 4th August, 2011,

35,551 AIDS Victims In C/River

EMMA UNA/Calabar

At least 35,551 persons are currently confirmed to be HIV positive in Cross River State. This figure is obtained from tests conducted in hospitals and HIV test centres and other medical facilities across the state.

The Director General of the State Action Committee on Aids, (SACA) Dr Irene Aniyom made the disclosure in Calabar on Monday while interacting with journalists on the campaign against the HIV pandemic after the signing of the Anti-Stigmatisation law by the Cross River State Governor, Mr Liyel Imoke.

Dr Irene said the signing into law the bill on anti-stigmatisation is a major achievement which will address issues related to HIV/AIDS scourge in the state. "Although this anti-stigmatisation law is a major achievement, it is however, the beginning of a long journey towards the reduction of stigma and discrimination in the state".

She revealed that records have proven that people living with AIDS suffer all forms of dis-

confidence of the people in the nation's democracy," Okonjo maintained.

He also urged the administration to develop governance performance indicators for all levels of government.

Also speaking at the briefing, a community youth leader, Ekechukwu Christian, advised that "community based organisations should be fully integrated into government decision making processes that affects them to aid good governance".

CEYDAR, Kenneth Okonjo, made this call in Lagos at a media briefing on the state of the nation.

Okonjo stated that good fiscal policies, full budget implementation, strong anti-corruption drive, and sustainable power generation were necessary for a meaningful governance.

"President Jonathan should quicken the transformation process of the power sector, and ensure greater accountability that would deepen the

confidence of the people in the nation's democracy," Okonjo maintained.

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"Meanwhile, a nondescript building where the Improvised Explosive Devices (I.E.Ds) are assembled has been uncovered at an area popularly known as Chechnya, Hayin-Uku village in Tafa LGA, Niger State.

"Among items recovered in the merchandise of death are: one gas cylinder, one battery connected to a detonator, two damaged detonators, one locally made revolver, one gun butt, two knives; ten GSM handsets with SIM cards, one ceiling fan coil; two laptop computers, 37 unused metallic oil filters; two metallic filters primed for bombing, two metallic cylinders, one clock connected to a primed bladeless ceiling fan with 9 volts batteries ready for use, some pieces of shrapnel, a Honda Civic car with Borno State registration number AG 94 MNG, 200 pieces of detonators, some detonating cords (red colour); a Sony remote control, five battery chargers; and a black bag containing detonating cables."

"The five (5) suspects all confessed that the main supplier of the explosive materials used for their bombing operations is a miner from Nasarawa State who the Service eventually arrested on 30 August, 2011.

"They also confessed that they took part in the killing of four policemen at a check-point at Dakwa-Deidei in Bwari Area Council of the FCT on 22nd May, 2011.

"Investigation has indeed revealed that the suspects belong to the Boko Haram cell operating in the Suleja-Abuja axis which is under the direction

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Protesting Ex-Militants Block East/West Road

OKAFOR OFIEBOR/
Port Harcourt

At least 1,000 ex-militants from Bayelsa, Rivers and Delta led by General Para Ekiye as early as 5 a.m. today blocked the East/West road at Mbiama Junction, Bayelsa State, protesting neglect by the Presidential Committee on Amnesty Programme.

Thousands of motorists and early travellers along the major East/West road were stranded during the protest.

Speaking to P.M.NEWS on phone this morning, General Para Ekiye confirmed the peaceful protest.

He said further: "We are tired of being neglected and being tossed around by the Federal Government through Honourable Kingsley Kuku, the Special Adviser to the President on Amnesty. We want our guns back since they don't want to rehabilitate us like they have done to others."

"As I talking to you now we are ready to die on this road until the Federal Government hears

Law Student

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and neck. He slumped and died instantly on the spot. His colleagues who witnessed the movie-like attack on Sunday ran for their dear lives and some students sustained injuries as they tried to escape from the attackers.

One of the students at the hostel, Emma Okoli, later ran to the Ekosodin Police Station but he did not meet any policeman on duty.

He went to the Edo State Housing Estate where he reported the matter to the police. They later arrived the scene where Ronald lay dead.

The police then removed the corpse to the University of Benin mortuary for autopsy.

An aunt to the late Ronald, Mrs. B. Obi said the killing

Armed Robbery

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as against 121 robbery and 30 kidnap suspects in July.

The records further showed that by mid-August, police had arrested 48 robbery and 22 kidnap suspects and by the end of the month, the number of armed robbery suspects skyrocketed to 270 persons while the number of kidnap suspects shut up to 108 during the period.

On casualties, the records showed that a total of 51 robbery suspects and 19 kidnap suspects

us. The police, the Joint Task Force are all here but we will not leave or fight them because we don't have guns. We just want to be heard and we will leave here."

When reminded that President Jonathan is just 100 days in office and his administration has had enough distraction from terrorist attacks and insecurity, Ekiye said: "We are the people who voted him in. We are neglected. Kuku and some of us fought together in 1991 in the Warri war. Today, he is oppressing us."

Despite several calls put across to Lt. Colonel Timothy Antigha, the spokesman of JTF for his reaction to this incident, his phone rang ceaselessly without any response.

At press time, vehicular traffic, social and economic activities were paralysed, while JTF and the police are said to be appealing to them to remove the blockades.

East/West road is the only major road that links states across the South-South geopolitical zone.

cannot be connected to cultism as the deceased was too gentle and fun-loving to be a cultist.

His father was said to be out of the country but his mother had been informed about the incident, it was gathered yesterday.

Contacted, the Edo State Commissioner of Police, CP David Omojola said he had not been briefed about the incident.

Meanwhile, many colleagues of the deceased expressed their shock and were upset on Monday when they were about entering the examination hall to write their final paper on Jurisprudence. His friends said he would have finished his Law studies in August.

As at the time of filing this report, many students had fled ~~from the University of Benin~~ ~~campus~~ ~~where Ronald~~ was killed out of fear of police harassment or further attack from assassins.

were "fatally wounded" while seven police officers were killed by criminals during the period under review.

Furthermore, the police said that 90 AK47 assault rifles, 34 stolen vehicles, motorbikes, hundreds of live ammunition, one laptop and 22 assorted GSM handsets were recovered from the suspects during the review period.

NAN recalls that the state Commissioner of Police, Mr. Suleiman Abba, had said that the force had resolved to "fight crime to the finish" in the state.

National Technical Certificate/ National Business Certificate Examination.

In the area of tertiary education, the governor said that the era of no subvention was gone, a development which according to him, "has plagued them for the past eight years in some cases."

He said about about N1 billion was paid between May and August this year to the state tertiary institutions.

Also, "our government has removed the 50 per cent increment in tuition fees earlier announced by the last administration and we further reduced the tuition fees by an additional 10 per cent."

The governor explained that there is need for some radical overhauling of the system so that government investments will be meaningful, adding "the state government will set up visitation/ fact finding panels for our higher institutions. The panel members will help to ascertain the true situation of things and make appropriate recommendations on the way forward."

Amosun said: "There is a peculiar situation in the state-owned tertiary institutions as the various unions which had their voice muffled in the past are now using the freedom in the present dispensation to agitate for payment of arrears of subvention owed them before our administration assumed office."

Surrender Your Guns, Amosun Tells Ogun Residents

ABIODUN ONAFUYE/
Abeokuta

Worried by the crime rate in Ogun State, Governor Ibikunle Amosun has ordered all citizens with arms to surrender them for re-certification, warning that those who failed to do so at a stipulated time would have themselves to blame.

The governor gave this directive at an interactive session with stakeholders as part of activities to mark the first 100 days of his administration in office.

Amosun who was responding to questions on the state of security declared that his administration could no longer tolerate the use of arms by unauthorised groups or individuals, stressing that there was need to have re-certification of all existing arms in the possession of the public to reduce crime rate in the state.

"I will want people to cooperate with us in the area of security. The report at my disposal is that many people are in possession of guns and they will be claiming to have licenses for them. We want them to submit the guns and reconfirm legality of that license else we will swoop on them as we do not want to turn our state into the haven of criminals. Enough is enough," Amosun declared.

He disclosed that the Federal Government has formally granted the request to have a joint patrol in the state, urging residents to be calm as there was no cause for alarm.

He added that the joint patrol team would be code named, "Operation MESSA."

As part of his administration's achievement in the last 100 days, Amosun disclosed that some money was paid to West African Examinations Council (WAEC), "to enable students in our schools sit for the last May/June school certificate examinations without any problems."

He added further that, "in order for us to be methodical in the implementation of our affordable qualitative education programme, we have paid N10 million to enable us benefit from the UNICEF sponsored project on the development of the state's strategic plan for the education sector."

He said government has also released grants to seven Technical schools and are in the process of re-equipping the schools to enable them be in a position to provide the much needed corps of artisans for industrialisation.

The state government also paid the fees for the final year students of the Government Technical Schools sitting for the