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HEARTLESS

...Robbers kill 85-year-old man, three others

By FAVOUR ONWUKA

Thursday, May 17, 2007

An 85-year-old man in the Oshodi area of Lagos, Pa Ahmoud Sulaiman, has been sent to his grave by robbers' bullets.

The bandits, in the operation described by many as gory, also killed three other victims and injured others when they invaded Afariogun area of Oshodi last week. Others killed during the robbery operation which lasted for four hours were, Desmond Uzoegbu, Rapheal Udeh and a student, simply identified as Oshodi.



•Alhaji Olanipekun •Photo: Sun News Publishing

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An eyewitness told **Daily Sun** that the robbery incident has brought tears and sorrows to many homes in the area as many people were said to have sustained injuries in their bid to escape the robbers' fury, while some of them were beaten to pulp by the bandits.

It was gathered that the robbers carted away money, handsets, jewelry and other valuables.

The robbers were said to have entered Afariogun area at about 1.00 am in three buses, armed with guns, machets, axes and other dangerous weapons, to attack and vandalize houses. The hoodlums had a field day as they operated freely

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and undisturbed from one street to the other. Residents complained that the police did not respond to the distress calls they made.

One of the victims, Moshood Olanipekun, who had a naming ceremony of his baby that fateful day, said the party ended before 9.00 pm adding that immediately it was past 1 a.m, they started hearing gunshots while the hoodlums broke into his house and held his wife hostage, shouting at her, "Madam, where is the money and the gold you wore, we were present at the party and we saw everything. They threatened to kill the baby if the woman refused to bring the money. They collected money, handsets, jewelry and left."

When they entered the house of Alhaji Ahmoud Sulaimon, they shot him. One of his grandsons who witnessed the shooting, told **Daily Sun** that the victim was sleeping when he heard a noise in the compound and thought his tenants were fighting. He was said to be coming out to know why they were fighting when one of the robbers shot him in the forehead and he died.

The story was the same at Adelaja Street, where the robbers shot dead one Desmond Uzoegbu from Imo State. According to James Ezenwa who lived with him, the robbers entered their house and demanded for money and handsets, which they gave to them, but they insisted that they should bring more. "All of a sudden, he called out to his colleague, 'Agbor, come; e be like say this one wan show himself." The colleague allegedly entered the house and shot Uzoegbu on his private part. He was said to have died on his way to the hospital. "We have taken his body to his hometown," he said.

The robbers from the pit of hell did not stop at that, as they went ahead and killed one Rapheal Udeh, a businessman at Ladipo market, who hailed from Enugu state. Daily Sun learnt that they shot him in the chest and he was rushed to High Rock Hospital, where doctors confirmed him dead.

Another victim, Isioma Odukola, who lost her pregnancy

that night as a result of shock was so weak to speak with **Daily Sun**. She said: "Please, I just lost my pregnancy that day as a result of shock and the beatings they gave me."

Rita, 25, could not speak to **Daily Sun** as she was in pains as a result of gunshot she received in her stomach and in one leg. Her mother who was severely beaten by the robbers said her son-in-law was shot in his hand.

Lawson Mosa, whose brothers were hospitalized after the attack said: "Where are we going? There is no security in this country and the police are not helping matters. Imagine, my two brothers, Peter and Patrick are lying critically ill at Petrus Hospital and Igbobi Orthopeadic Hospital, respectively."

Ambrose Nna, who said he had not been around for the past seven months and only came in that dreadful night, said he parted with all the money in his house, including hard currency.

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