

# Onitsha crisis: Why MASSOB is after us – AIYO

By ZIKA BOBBY

Members of the Association of Youths Organization (AIYO), in Onitsha have reacted to the bloody clash with members of

the Movement for the Actualization of the Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB), last Saturday alleging that fighters who killed four of their members were after them because they were gaining massive popularity and acceptability in Anambra State.

The group gave the names of the AIYO members who died during the clash as Chiemezie, Samuel, Emeka and Dragon. The group said many others were injured.

In a statement, the AIYO State Coordinator, Mr Chukwuemeka Oga, said that "at about 1.30a.m on Sunday, MASSOB stormed our Onitsha/Owerri office with over 500 members and destroyed our office, chairs, tables, laptops and fans and opened fire on our boys."

Oga dismissed an earlier report that they had a camp in the forest, explaining that the AIYO's office where MASSOB members attacked them was located in an open space near the Old Motor Spare Parts Market along Onitsha/Owerri Road.

He also debunked the allegation that they were kidnapping people into the forest and robbing and raping them, wondering whether anybody had reported to the police that members of AIYO harmed him.

He alleged that it was MASSOB members that forcefully extorted money from Onitsha traders, Okada riders and motorists, adding that the movement's activities had pitched them against the people of Anambra State, who had massively lost interest in MASSOB.

## ht award

the special guest of honour.

He thanked the governor for his support for the project and described the collaboration as an "icing on the cake" considering his unrivalled achievement in the health sector. Governor Obi had in the past seven years, developed many healthcare centres and hospitals in the state at both community and regional levels and capped it with the construction of the ultra modern university teaching hospital at Amaku.

Since the new  
man must now  
be George