

INSIGHT



The late Ndubuisi

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MURDERED BY VIGILANTE BOYS

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•Sad end of a young man killed by his kinsmen

The family of Sylvanus Agbo, from Umunkaka, Amukwa Ihe, in Nsukka Local Government Area of Enugu State is grieving over the gruesome murder of their 29-year-old son, Ndubuisi. Agbo, who is hypertensive, regretted that his son's brutal murder had aggravated

his poor health, even as he accused the village vigilance group of complicity in the crime.

Events that led to Ndubuisi's gruesome murder on September 18, accord-

ing to his father, started on September 1, around 8 pm along Orba Road, a store's throw from their family compound. The young man was said to have ran into the vigilante boys on his way home after closing for the day's business at Ikpa

market. He was said to have stopped over at a near-by beer palour to drink a bottle of beer after which he continued his homeward journey on his motorcycle. He was stopped by three members of a vigilance group and promptly arrested for moving during late hour.

The owner of the bar where Ndubuisi branched on his way, according to the distraught father, had gone to confront members of the vigilance group and reminded them that it was only past 8 pm and that other people were still moving around. It was gathered that they told him that Ndubuisi was their brother and that he should leave them, as they knew how best to handle the matter.

When the bar owner left, *Daily Sun* gathered, the vigilantes started beating Ndubuisi, who, in order to save his life, escaped. Unfortunately, he ran into the house of one man simply identified as Chikwado, who, rather than give him cover, gave him away.

According to Agbo, "the man gave him away to his tormentors. He informed them that his mother would let Ndubuisi out through the back door. They laid ambush for him. When he escaped and got to the road they waited, they attacked him again. They started beating him, but my son, bruised and bloodied, managed to escape again and ran into a banana."

Drama at his house

Daily Sun gathered that Ndubuisi's escape into the plantation did not deter the vigilante boys from their mission to kill. Agbo continued: "When he escaped, they came to my house at about 10:56pm. I asked them why they woke me up at that ungodly hour and they told me that they had tried to arrest my son on three occasions that night but he escaped on each occasion. I asked them what he did that they wanted to arrest him but they didn't tell me anything. By then, they had seized his motorcycle. My son told me that they wanted to snatch the N15, 000 he had on him and therefore, went out to confront them. They pounced on him as soon as he came out.

"As they were fighting, I called Ndubuisi's younger brother, Chukwuebuka, to separate them because I couldn't do that due to my age. When Chukwuebuka separated them, he asked them what Ndubuisi did but nobody provided an answer. My younger son went and retrieved his elder brother's seized motorcycle and returned home.

"In the course of the fight, one of the vigilante boys' mobile phones fell down. Ndubuisi seized the handset and insisted that unless they replaced his T-shirt, which was torn when they were beating him that night, he would not release the handset."

Visit to vigilante executive members

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