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## Cultists kill 15 in Rivers communities

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BY CHRIS ANUCHA, PORT HARCOURT ON AUGUST 1, 2014 ·

NATIONAL

The gale of killings in Rivers State communities has continued with the killing of about 15 persons in the early hours of yesterday, in Egi Clan in Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Local Government Area of the state.

The killings, suspected to be perpetrated by cultists, were said to have started in Obaji, where a killer-squad, in a convoy of about five motorcycles, shot and wounded one person. The victim did not die on the spot, but later gave up the ghost in an undisclosed hospital.

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From Obaji, the rampaging bandits moved to Ede community, where they shot and killed three persons.

Not yet done with the killing spree, the suspected cultists stormed Ngbu Umuohali Junction in the area, where they killed two natives of neighbouring Egbema community in Imo State, and wounded another person.

After Ngbu Umuohali, Daily Sun checks revealed, they moved to Obite and allegedly killed one person before moving to Egita community, where they killed about four persons. Thereafter, the killer group was said to have moved to Akbta community, where they also shot one person dead.

As at press time, the number of persons killed in Akabuka could not be ascertained but our source said no fewer than 15 persons were killed in the operation.

Members of the affected communities said they were confused, as they could not fathom the motive behind the mindless killings. However, some of those who confided in the reporter linked the attacks to cult activities.

Recall that only recently, three young men were murdered at about 1a.m. at Ihuowo community in

Ahoada East Local Government Area of the state. Similar incidents have also been recorded in Abuah

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Odua and some other places.

When contacted, the Deputy Police Public Relations Officer, Mrs. Grace Iringe-Koko, said the information was not correct, but promised to get back to the reporter. When she was not forthcoming, a text message was sent to her and she replied via a text message at about 6:04p.m., stating, "Nothing of such."

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