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Enugu family petitions police over son's murder by thugs

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BY OUR REPORTER ON OCTOBER 20, 2014 ·

NATIONAL

The Enugu State Police Command is investigating the murder of one Arinze Nwachukwu of Attakwu, Akegbe-Awkananaw in Nkanu West Local Government Area by youths suspected to be thugs to one of the senatorial aspirants in the state.

This was sequel to the petition written to the Commissioner of Police, Abubakar Adamu Mohammed by J.O. Mba Chambers on behalf of Mr. Solomon Kenechukwu Nwachukwu, the elder brother of the deceased.

The petition read in part: "Some bad boys whose identities are known, attacked Arinze Nwachukwu and inflicted machete cuts all over his body. Our client also informed us that his brother subsequently died in the hospital as a result of excessive bleeding from the machete wounds.

"The perpetrators of this wicked act are walking the streets (and) boasting that nothing will be done to them."

The late Nwachukwu's family implored the police to investigate the perpetrators and bring them to face the full wrath of the law when found culpable.

Checks revealed that trouble began when the Chairman of Nkanu West Council, Mr. Afam Okereke visited the community recently to meet with some youths in connection with an empowerment package he had initiated. It was gathered that while he was speaking, some youths in support of Chief Nwabueze Okafor in the forthcoming senatorial primaries of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) started singing his praise.

In turn, other youths who clearly outnumbered the other group, also started to pour adulation on the candidature of Mrs. Ifeoma Nwobodo, the Chief of Staff to Governor Sullivan Chime as the favourite to clinch the party's ticket.

A day after the incident, the two camps met again and it was gathered that arguments ensued as to the propriety of Okafor's supporters, who tried to block Okereke when he was about to leave the previous day. Following the

altercation, Arinze Nwachukwu was brutally wounded while one Uchenna Ani was shot. Ani is recuperating at the



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Sekinat Abdullahi

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University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital, Ituku, while Nwachukwu died. Both were said to be Mrs. Nwobodo's supporters.

A senior police officer said: "We've begun investigations into the complaints we received on the incident, which led to the death of that young man. We have some people who are being questioned, while we are on the trail of some of them on the run, including their leader, Mr. Monday (alias Agbowoko).

"We'll be interviewing other persons mentioned in connection with this matter. As we get closer to the 2015 general elections, the command will leave no stone unturned in the efforts to rid the state of political thugs and other undesirable elements, who may want to foment trouble."

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