How 24-yr-old party agent died in Imo

FROM GEORGE ONYEJIUWA, OWERRI

embers of the family of 24-year-old Ugochukwu Iwuezue, a native of Ezeuba village in Amala autonomous community in Ngor Okpala Local Government Area, Imo State, are still overwhelmed by the bitter apple served to them when security agents shot him dead during the just concluded presidential and National Assembly polls in the state.

On the fateful morning, the deceased, who was a party agent for the All Progressives Congress (APC) had gone to the central school at Amala, which is the

distribution centre for electoral materials for Ngor Okpala Ward 1, made up of Amala, Ntu, Alulu, Obokwe and Oburu.

Trouble started when the deceased insisted that no material would be distributed without the inclusion of the result sheets. It was gathered that an altercation ensued between him and the electoral officials. He was said to have mobilized other youths from his village who descended on the INEC officials and in the process their official vehicle was set ablaze.

It was further learnt that policemen at the centre were overwhelmed by the rampaging youths numbering over 600, compelling the policemen to send a distress call for reinforcement, which included the Army and DSS. However, on sighting the security agents, the deceased, it was alleged, snatched some electoral materials in the confusion and was given a hot chase by the security agents as he attempted to escape. In the process he was shot dead.

On that same day the Hon. Emeka Nwofor, who represents Ngor Okpala state constituency in the House of Assembly and the APC candidate was himself beaten up by soldiers when he went to Amala to find out what was amiss.

However, the Imo State governor, Owelle Rochas Okorocha, who lamented the situation promised to foot the burial costs of the deceased who died while working for the success of the party. He equally promised to give the bereaved family N2 million to cushion their loss.

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