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BY OUR REPORTER ON MAY 9, 2015

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FROM TONY JOHN, PORT HARCOURT

Armed men have killed seven persons in Kporghor Village in Tai Local Government Area of Rivers State.

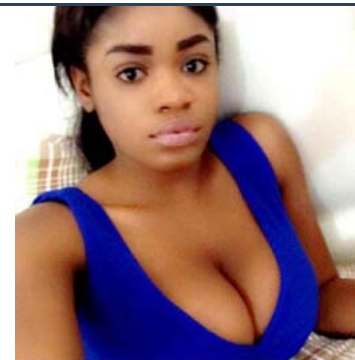
The victims, who were murdered two days ago at 10pm were Mr. Saturday Akpenee (Jnr), Miss Barisa Nkporbu, Mr. Ntormaa Nbeta, Mrs. Nneenewa Dimkpa, Mr. TamBari Kpaabe, Mr. Dimkpa Dimkpa and a house help to Mr. Friday Dimkpa, whose name was not immediately known.

Two other victims seriously injured in the attack are said to be in very critical condition at a hospital in the area.

Saturday Sun gathered that the victims, killed in an unprovoked invasion, were Kporghor natives, taking refuge in Baraobara since December 21, 2014, when their community was allegedly attacked and sacked by combined heavily armed attackers from neighbouring Okrika communities, particularly Wakama.

Reacting to the attack, the Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People (MOSOP), expressed outrage and condemned the unprovoked invasion and cold-blooded murder of innocent Ogoni people.

A statement issued yesterday, in Port Harcourt, by the Media/Public Affairs Advisor to the MOSOP President, Bari-ara Kpalap, called on security agencies to investigate the attack and urged that adequate



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security should be provided for the people and their hosts.

"MOSOP is, therefore, passionately calling on the security agencies, especially the police, to investigate this matter with a view to bringing the perpetrators to book. We would as well entreat the security forces to provide adequate security for the people of Kporghor and their hosts, including other Ogoni communities under threats of similar attack.

"We recall that in December 2014, several citizens of Kporghor village were killed; hundreds of houses and other property razed and the village sacked, when these Okrika attackers invaded the village.

"The displaced victims of this attack were since then harboured chiefly by the people of Baraobara. This sad incident was reported to the police. Since this unfortunate incident, no tangible step was taken by the security forces to protect the people".

MOSOP accused security agencies of lapses, which led to the attack, and their failure to address the matter earlier.

"It is, therefore, our position that the deceased and those maimed are victims of the state security lapses. For, if the security apparatus had proactively responded to reported threats and upped insecurity in the area, the current losses would have been prevented.

"For a long time, our communities have suffered these deadly, incessant attacks always perpetrated against us by our Okrika neighbours, who seem to have marked Ogoni for punitive, communal resolve. We have had violence and death inflicted on our people, our communities destroyed and our natives forced into internal refugees and our land violently grabbed by these same people."

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