

Gunmen kill trader in Cross River

From **Judex Okoro**, Calabar

AGAIN, tragedy struck the Igbo community in Cross River when one of their prominent sons, Chinaka Michael, was killed by gunmen in Ogoja Local Government Area of the state. (1)

His death came barely three weeks when another Igbo businessman, Mr. Francis Akanihu, was killed by gunmen at Obudu Local Government Area. (2)

Aknihu, 57, who deals in cocoa and chemicals, was reportedly killed by gunmen at his No 5, Port Harcourt Street, Obudu residence.

An eyewitness told *Daily Sun* that robbers struck at Chinaka's residence last Saturday, at about 2.00am and demanded a huge sum of money or else they will kill him.

The eyewitness, who simply gave his name as Justine Emenike, said the hoodlums, numbering about six, stormed the victim's room and ordered all occupants to lie down while they manhandled Chinaka.

Waiting in the sitting room, the eyewitness said Chinaka went into his bedroom with the intention of bringing out money but immediately took off from the back door but was immediately spotted by one of the robbers who mounted security.

On realising it was Chinaka who attempted to escape, the robber outside shot him in the stomach and beckoned on others inside to come out and they left the compound.

Emenike said just as the gunmen left Chinaka, his neighbours rushed him to the General Hospital, Ogoja, but, the doctors could not treat him and rather referred him to the University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital in Enugu State.

He was, however, said to have died on the way to Enugu due to excessive bleeding.

A source close to the Igbo community told *Daily Sun* that this is the second time gunmen have attacked him.

The state Police Public Relations Officer, Ms Irene Ugbo, said the attack and subsequent killing of Chinaka had not been reported to the command.

FECC: I didn't remove