

## Police arrest 16 NANS members for murder, armed robbery in Bayelsa

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**THE** Bayelsa State Police Command has arrested three suspects in connection with the death of Magam Elvis of the University of Uyo during elections for coordinators of the National Association of Nigerian Students (NANS) held at the Federal University, Otuoke (FUO) over the weekend.

The police also confirmed that they have in their custody eight students arrested for involvement in armed robbery and cultism.

Bayelsa State Commissioner of Police, Asuquo Amba, who paraded the suspects yesterday at the command headquarters, said it was disheartening that elections for NANS coordinators could turn bloody.

According to him, a situation where students representing universities and higher institutions in the South-South zone resorted to the use of firearms, leading to the death of a student, and students getting involved in robbery called for concern.

Amba expressed disappointment that in spite of the security deployed to the venue of the elections, firearms were smuggled in.

He said five suspects, Akpan, Aaron, Duff, Etefia and Akwaoso, all of University of Uyo, were arrested for attempting to kill Tonye Samuel of University of Port Harcourt during NANS registration at FUO.

"On Sunday, the command deployed 11 patrol teams, in conjunction with the Army/NSCDC/Otuoke Vigilante/University Internal security to FUO premises to provide security for the NANS national elections. The Vice Chancellor, FUO, Prof. Accra Seth Jaja, urged the students to be law abiding, saying only accredited delegates would proceed to the hall for the elections. Later, gunshots were heard from the crowd outside the hall. One Magam Elvis of University of Uyo died as a result of bullet wound injury. His body has been deposited at the mortuary for autopsy. Three suspects, Emmanuel, Obiakarije and Inbong have been arrested for the suspected murder," he said.

Amba also disclosed that NANS Bayelsa chieftain, with seven other suspects from Niger Delta University and Imo State Polytechnic allegedly hijacked a commercial vehicle from Ayo Kehinde and allegedly robbed him his Tecno phone and N50,000 cash.

He disclosed that two locally made single barrel pistol, two live ammunition, five .9mm live ammunition and two charms were recovered from the suspects.

Amba, who assured that the suspects would be charged to court at the completion of investigations, appealed to parents to discourage their wards from crime, as the police would ensure criminals faced the full wrath of the law.