

Gangsters' paradise

The other day, it was reported that a 'Lagos big boy,' Mark Osigwe, was shot dead by assassins in Imo State. The young man was said to have acquired a car and house for his parents recently.

One of his friends, Philip Anuolu, wrote on Facebook: "Finally, my man is gone. My heart is broken. Since, I have been trying to wake up from this afternoon dream but, finally, it's not a dream. Can't stop crying. RIP bro (Owerri has offended me)."

1 Imo equally offended the family and friends of a lady who was killed and dumped in a gutter on a street in Orsu area of the state on August 14. The killers were so heartless that they couldn't even preserve her dignity even in death. She was stripped naked like Eve in the garden. The killing came barely 24 hours after another lady was murdered and dumped on Port Harcourt Road in Owerri. The perpetrators of the crime must have come from the pit of hell. They removed her head and one of her breasts. It was indeed a gory sight.

On August 8, the Imo State Police Command nabbed one suspected cultist/ritualist, Nnamdi, at Egwe Town in Oguta Local Government Area. The 19-year-old notorious cultist was arrested in possession of 15 mobile phones, a gun and cartridge, three daggers and one short axe. He was said to be a thorn in the flesh of residents of the state.

3 The same day, residents of Owerri woke up to behold the lifeless body of a newborn baby dumped at a dustbin at Akwakuma Second Gate Junction, near Akwakuma Girls Secondary School. The evil act was believed to have been executed in the dead of the night.

A report said: "This thing happened last night. We were here till 11pm on Wednesday (August 7) and this abandoned child who was killed by her own wicked mother was not here. What is this world turning into? If the wicked mother could not nurse the child, why keep the pregnancy. Instead of allowing the baby to die by abandoning it, she could have been kind enough to drop the

Lady who allegedly cut boyfriend's



• Okorocho

child where the help of a Good Samaritan would come its way."

Speaking on the development, the chairman of the Nigerian Bar Association, Owerri branch, Damian Nosike, said: "the law is very clear on matters like this. The mother of the newborn knew that, by abandoning the child in an unkempt environment as a dustbin site, the child would die. It is clearly a murder case and highly condemnable."

* A U.S. soldier, Mr. Garrick Michael, found Imo cool for crime. So, he allegedly began defrauding ladies of huge amounts of money, promising to secure American visas for them. But on August 9, his cup ran over.

Kidnapping is becoming a pastime for hoodlums in Imo. Victims of recent abductions include Pastor Chinenye Akuchie, who was abducted on his building site at Okuku in Owerri West LGA.

Similarly, news of cult activities make the rounds in Imo regularly. Last month, a 23-year-old cult member and student of the Federal Polytechnic, Nekede, Obotiti, was paraded by the police and he told newsmen that, since his initiation into