## killed, Anglican bishop kidnapped in Rivers

From Tony John, Port Harcourt

A youth identified as Chibuike has been killed by suspected cultists in Choba community in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area of Rivers State. Daily Sun gathered that a woman was also shot by the bandits who invaded the area armed to the teeth.

Community sources said that Chibuike was killed on Monday night along Igbogo Road, in Choba. It was further gathered that the incident a occurred few hours after Choba chiefs and elders had invoked a strange deity in the land against killings, kidnapping and robbery activities in the area.

In another development, gunmen have abducted the bishop of Anglican Church Diocese of Ahoada, Rt. Rev. Clement Ekpeye. He was kidnapped on Tuesday night at the Bishop's Court, along Odiemerenyi Road, Ahoada East Local Government Area of Rivers State.

The police public relations officer in the state, DSP Nnamdi Omoni, confirmed the abduction of the cleric to journalists. He disclosed that men of the Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) have been deployed and mandated to ensure the rescue of the bishop.

Similarly, Omoni has confirmed the arrest and detention of the police officer that shot a passenger of a commercial bus at Rumuji, East-West Road, in Emohua Local Government Area of the state. The policeman, who was on a stop-and-search patrol in the Evekwu axis on the East-West Road alongside his colleagues, had shot a passenger who was travelling in a bus from Warri in Delta State to Port Harcourt.

Omoni said the cop has been handed

over to the Criminal Investigation Department, adding that Section 237 of Police Code, which borders on how an officer should use firearms, would be invoked on the suspect. He said the incident happened on December 11, adding that the victim has already been discharged from hospital.

Meanwhile, the youth leader in Choba, Francis Ihunda, who confirmed the killing of Chibuike to newsmen, described it as tragic. He noted that the gunmen, after killing their target, also raided a shop in the area and snatched a car from its owner at gunpoint.

Omoni said the police were not aware if any man was killed during the raid, even though he said a lady was shot by the gunmen, adding that she was currently recei treatment in an undisclosed hospital in the state.